

**MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS**



**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NO 1891**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION 13 MAY 2022**

**REPLY RECOMMENDED BY:  
MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS: MP**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

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**Mr S J F Marais (DA) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:**

(1) Whether, given the budget constraints and the current cost of employees to reach 79% of the approved budget for the 2022-23 financial year, she has considered the total freeze and salary increases similar to what was announced by the Commissioner of the SA Revenue Service (SARS) with regard to remuneration increases of SARS employees, even a cost of living increase; if not, why not; if so, what (a) remuneration increases have been agreed to, (b) are the merits and justification of the increases and (c) are the gross financial implications of the increases;

(2) (a) from which allocated and approved budget expenses will the reported R3 billion shortfall of cost of employees be funded, (b) what will the practical consequences of the increases be to the state regarding the Republic's defence capabilities and readiness and (c) how does she justify the increases?

**REPLY:**

1. (a)(b)(c) Salary increases of defence civilians on level 1-12 are decided at the Public Service Coordinating Bargaining Council (PSCBC) and for members of the regular force at the Military Bargaining Council (MBC) in consultation with the Minister of Finance. Salary increases of SMS members are decided by the DPSA in consultation with the Minister of Finance. Salary increase for the 2022/23 financial year will be decided at the salary negotiations due to take place during the course of the year.

2. (a)(b)(c) The DOD through the Ministerial Directive dated 31 March 2021, implemented HR cost-savings measures to reduce HR cost pressures with effect from 1 April 2022. The DOD has reprioritised its operating budgets to fund the Compensation of Employee (COE) shortfall as duly authorised by National Treasury (NT letter dd 22 June 2021).

In terms of the Defence Act, 2002 (Act 42 of 2002), the MOD & MV reached concurrence with the NT to fund the increases related to the collective agreement of Resolution 1 of 2021 (improvement of conditions of service). NT allocated Rb1.313 to the DOD to cover expenditure related to the increases.

  
(T.R. MODISE)

**MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS: MP**

**DATE: 19.05.2022**

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