

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**DUE TO PARLIAMENT: FRIDAY, 9 JUNE 2023**

**“1978. Mr K Ceza (EFF) to ask the Minister of Small Business Development:**

**What steps of intervention has she taken to prevent small businesses based in townships and owned by women and youth, from closing down as a result of power outages?” NW2230E**

**REPLY:**

I am advised follows:

The Department of Small Business Development (DSBD) has put together a loadshedding relief package called the Power Purchase Product (PPP) to be implemented through its agency Small Enterprise Finance Agency (**sefa**). The PPP is financial package which aims to assist small and medium enterprises across South Africa who have been severely impacted by loadshedding**. The programme will support these enterprises with a blended loan facility of up to R1 million. An amount of R 490 million is allocated inclusive of Seda support to product markets.** The blended facility will be utilised for the acquisition of alternative energy sources as well as related working capital.

As part of our medium to long term strategy, a separate request was submitted to the National Treasury to allow non-Banking Financial Institutions such as the Khula Credit Guarantee to participate in the Bounce Back Scheme so that funding support to enterprises can be maximised.