# National Assembly Question No: 2500

**Mr C H H Hunsinger (DA) to ask the Minister of Transport:**

What (a) is the basis on which (i) the Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa (Prasa) and (ii) Metrorail are renting diesel locomotives from Transnet, (b) number of Transnet locomotives have been in use under the specified rental, lease and/or loan agreement conditions in the past 36 months and (c) operational costs on the Transnet locomotives were carried by (i) Prasa and (ii) Metrorail during the past 36 months? NW2921E

# REPLY

1. (i) & (ii) Leasing and usage of locomotives does not take place at PRASA Corporate, but happens at regional level.

Gauteng Metrorail is currently leasing shunting locomotives which are primarily supposed to be used for shunting operations in the marshalling yards at Wolmerton and Braamfontein depots.

The Eastern Cape service are operated with diesel locomotives as opposed to electrified motor coaches as PRASA has a 25KV AC overhead voltage as opposed to 3KV DC in other regions/provinces for commuter services.

In the Western Cape diesel locomotives are leased for hauling movements of train sets/wagons/coaches where no Over Head Traction Equipment is available to enable self powering of motor coaches. Metrorail also lease diesel locomotives for shunting purposes of coaches and train sets within the maintenance yards, other related depots as well as for train set rescue in section and emergency during incidents/accidents.

KZN Metrorail is currently leasing shunting locomotives which is primarily used for shunting operations in the Durban marshalling yard and in Springfield maintenance yard.

1. The number of Transnet locomotives that have been in use under the specified rental, lease and/or loan agreement conditions in the past 36 months are as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Region | Gauteng | Eastern Cape | Western Cape | Kwazulu-Natal |
| 2019/2020 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 1 |
| 2020/2021 | 4 | 10 | 1 | 1 |
| 2021/2022 to  date | 8 | 0 | 1 | 1 |

1. Operational costs on Transnet locomotives carried by (i) PRASA and (ii) Metrorail:
   1. Refer to response in (a)
   2. Operation cost per region

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Region** | **Amount** |
| Gauteng Region | R80,735,340-75 |
| Eastern Cape Region | R75,288,586-93 |
| Western Cape Region | R11,079,828-00 |
| Kwazulu Natal Region | R2,168,752-32 |