PARLIAMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF THE WESTERN CAPE

=====================

QUESTION PAPER

WRITTEN REPLY

=====================

Note: * Indicates translated version.

FRIDAY, 7 FEBRUARY 2025

16. Mr N P Masipa to ask Dr I H Meyer, Minister of Agriculture, Economic Development and Tourism:

With regard to tourism figures for the period 2024/25:

(a) What is the detailed breakdown of tourism numbers in the province per region in terms of (i) domestic and international flights, (ii) bed occupancy rates and (iii) estimated cash flows generated by these tourists and (b) what challenges or issues have been identified by his Department that have an impact on the number of tourists visiting the province?

(16)

Response:

16 (a) What is the detailed breakdown of tourism numbers in the province per region in terms of (i) domestic and international flights, (ii) bed occupancy rates and (iii) estimated cash flows generated by these tourists and

According to data published by the Airports Company South Africa (ACSA, 2025), the following arrivals were recorded at Cape Town International Airport (CTIA):

Domestic Arrivals

- During the period January to December 2024, CTIA recorded a total of 3,639,305 domestic arrivals, which is a 6% increase from the 2023 period which recorded 3,446,101 domestic arrivals
- From April to December 2024, CTIA recorded a total of 2,739,252 domestic arrivals, which is a 3% increase from the 2023 period which recorded a total of 2,649,674 domestic arrivals

International Arrivals

- During the period January to December 2024, CTIA recorded a total of 1,425,059 international arrivals, which is a 9% increase from the 2023 period which recorded a total of 1,302,489 international arrivals
- From April to December 2024, CTIA recorded a total of 992,803 international arrivals, which is a 7% increase from the 2023 period which recorded a total of 924,710 international arrivals

According to ACSA data, the following arrivals were recorded at George Airport (GRJ):

- During the period January to December 2024, GRJ recorded a total of 408,545 domestic arrivals, which is a 5% increase compared to the 2023 period which recorded 389,891 arrivals
- From April to December 2024, GRJ recorded a total of 311,781 domestic arrivals, which represents a 4% increase compared to the 2023 period which recorded 298,360 arrivals

(ii) bed occupancy rates

- According to Smith Travel Research (STR) data, the average occupancy rate for the Western Cape was 73% over the period September to December 2024 which is consistent with the 2023/24 summer period (September – December 2023).

Bed occupancy	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average
2023/24	65%	75%	79%	73%	73%
2024/2025	68%	73%	79%	69,5%	73%

Source: STR, 2025

(iii) estimated cash flows generated by these tourists

- According to South African Tourism (SAT) data, the total foreign direct spend by international tourists in the Western Cape amounted to R16,1 billion between January and September 2024 while domestic spend totalled R10,2 billion during the same period (Please note that SAT will only release the updated Q4 figures at the end of March 2025).

(b) what challenges or issues have been identified by his Department that have an impact on the number of tourists visiting the province?

The following challenges have been identified by the Department that have an impact on international tourist arrivals and domestic tourist trips in the Western Cape:

- Visas for markets relying upon the eVisa system (which is not functioning optimally) and countries requiring visitor visas not currently serviced by the eVisa system. The Western Cape is particularly concerned about the challenges that visas hold in Africa, India and China which have been identified as high-growth potential markets.
- It is unofficially estimated that the province will miss out on 12 additional flight frequencies this summer due to restrictive bilateral air agreements.
- Reputational harm arising from safety incidents affecting international and domestic tourists.
- Supply and price factors concerning domestic seat availability and demand for local domestic airlines.

No 1 - 2025] TWEEDE SESSIE, SEWENDE PARLEMENT

PARLEMENT VAN DIE PROVINSIE VAN DIE WES-KAAP

====================

VRAELYS

SKRIFTELIKE BEANTWOORDING

====================

Nota: * Dui vertaalde weergawe aan.

VRYDAG, 7 FEBRUARIE 2025

***16. Mnr N P Masipa vra dr I H Meyer, Minister van Landbou, Ekonomiese Ontwikkeling en Toerisme:**

Met verwysing na toerismesyfers vir die tydperk 2024/25:

(a) Wat die gedetailleerde ontleding van die toerismesyfers in die provinsie volgens streek is ten opsigte van (i) binnelandse en internasionale vlugte, (ii) bedbesettingskoers en (iii) beraamde kontantvloei gegenereer deur hierdie toeriste en (b) watter uitdagings of kwessies deur sy departement geïdentifiseer is wat ŉ impak het op die getal toeriste wat die provinsie besoek?

<u>Antwoord:</u>

16 (a) Wat is die gedetailleerde uiteensetting van toerismesyfers in die Provinsie volgens streek ten opsigte van (i) binnelandse en internasionale vlugte, (ii), die bedbesettingskoers en (iii) die beraamde kontantvloei wat deur hierdie toeriste gegenereer word?

(i) Volgens data wat deur die Lughawensmaatskappy van Suid-Afrika (ACSA, 2025) gepubliseer is, is die volgende besoekersgetalle by die Kaapstad Internasionale Lughawe aangeteken:

Binnelandse Besoekers

- Gedurende die tydperk Januarie tot Desember 2024, het die lughawe in totaal 3 639 305 binnelandse besoekers verwelkom, wat neerkom op ’n toename van 6% van die 2023-tydperk, toe 3 446 101 binnelandse besoekers aangeteken is.
- Van April tot Desember 2024 het die lughawe in totaal 2 739 252 binnelandse besoekers aangeteken, ’n toename van 3% van die 2023-tydperk, toe ’n totaal van 2 649 674 binnelandse besoekers verwelkom is.

Internasionale Besoekers

- Gedurende die tydperk Januarie tot Desember 2024, het die lughawe ’n totaal van 1 425 059 internasionale besoekers verwelkom, ’n toename van 9% van die 2023-tydperk, toe ’n totaal van 1 302 489 internasionale besoekers aangeteken is.
- Van April tot Desember 2024 het die lughawe ’n totaal van 992 803 internasionale besoekers aangeteken, ’n toename van 7% van die 2023-tydperk, toe ’n totaal van 924 710 internasionale besoekers verwelkom is.

Luidens ACSA se data is die volgende besoekersgetalle by die George Lughawe aangeteken:

- Gedurende die tydperk Januarie tot Desember 2024, het die George Lughawe in totaal 408 545 binnelandse besoekers verwelkom, ’n toename van 5% in vergelyking met die 2023-tydperk, toe 389 891 besoekers aangeteken is.
- Van April tot Desember 2024 het die lughawe in totaal 311 781 binnelandse besoekers aangeteken, ’n toename van 4% in vergelyking met die 2023-tydperk, toe 298 360 besoekers verwelkom is.

(ii) Die bedbesettingskoers

- Luidens data van Smith Travel Research was die gemiddelde besettingskoers vir die Wes-Kaap 73% gedurende die tydperk September tot Desember 2024, wat ooreenstem met die 2023/24-somertydperk (September – Desember 2023).

Bedbesetting	Sep	Okt	Nov	Des	Gemiddeld
2023/2024	65%	75%	79%	73%	73%
2024/2025	68%	73%	79%	69,5%	73%

Bron: STR, 2025

(iii) Die beraamde kontantvloei wat deur hierdie toeriste gegenereer word

- Luidens data van Suid-Afrikaanse Toerisme (SAT), het die totale regstreekse buitelandse besteding deur internasionale toeriste in die Wes-Kaap tussen Januarie en September 2024 R16,1 miljard beloop, terwyl binnelandse besteding R10,2 miljard gedurende dieselfde tydperk gehaal het (Neem asseblief kennis dat SAT die opgedateerde K4-syfers eers aan die einde van Maart 2025 gaan vrystel).

(b) Watter uitdagings of kwessies is deur sy Departement geïdentifiseer wat ’n impak kan hê op die getal toeriste wat die Provinsie besoek?

Die Departement het die volgende uitdagings geïdentifiseer wat ’n impak kan hê op internasionale toeriste-aankomste en binnelandse reisigers in die Wes-Kaap:

- Visums vir markte wat op die eVisa-stelsel staatmaak (wat nie optimal funksioneer nie) en lande wat besoekersvisums vereis wat nie tans deur die eVisa-stelsel bedien word nie. Die Wes-Kaap is in besonder bekommerd oor die uitdagings wat visums inhou in Afrika, Indië en China, wat as hoëgroei potensiële markte geïdentifiseer is.
- Daar word nie-amptelik geraam dat die provinsie hierdie somer 12 bykomende vlugfrekwensies kan misloop weens beperkende bilaterale vlugooreenkomste.
- Reputasieskade wat spruit uit veiligheidsvoorvalle wat internasionale en binnelandse toeriste kan affekteer.
- Vraag- en prysfaktore in verband met die beskikbaarheid van sitplekke op binnelandse roetes en die vraag na plaaslike binnelandse lugdienste.