

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORAL REPLY

QUESTION NO. 227 (N1541E)

Mr A C Steyn (DA) to ask the Minister of Housing:

- (1) Whether, with reference to a recent media report (details furnished), she has been informed of the Gauteng provincial government replacing backyard shacks with outbuildings at no cost to home owners; if so, from which budget are the funds for this project being sourced;
- (2) whether these home owners qualify for housing subsidies; if so, (a) according to which legislation and (b) what are the reasons for these home owners receiving additional homes before applicants who qualify for housing and who are on the relevant waiting lists;
- (3) whether the programme has been approved by her department; if not, why not;
- (4) whether the programme is implemented in any other province; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

Reply

- (1) Provinces have concurrent powers for housing. They even have powers to enact their own legislation on housing and fund these operations from their own fiscus. From the information supplied by the Honourable Member, it is quite clear that this is a provincial socio economic upliftment programme, driven by the Premier of Gauteng.

My suggestion is that the question be channelled through to the NCOP as the programme goes far beyond the issues of housing. I am certain that the NCOP is the best place to deal with the socio economic problems.

- (2) (a) Not applicable
(b) Not applicable
- (3) Not applicable
- (4) Not applicable