REPLY:

The Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure:

(1)(a) The infrastructure maintenance backlog currently stands at approximately R30 billion, as outlined in the table below. This backlog spans across various categories namely functional, office, residential, and water treatment works; under the custodianship of the Department. It is important to note that this figure reflects backlog calculations based on only 56,000 properties for which the Department receives user charges. A more detailed explanation is provided in response to question (1)(c)(i). DPWI is however not responsible for the maintenance of dams.

User Department	Number of buildings	Extent	Estimated cost of Refurbishments required now
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES			
AND THE ENVIRONMENT	1,621	293,948	793,221,504
SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE	13,183	3,995,917	8,779,813,563
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE	24,260	6,099,643	4,104,595,167
DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND SANITATION	2,480	378,985	831,025,726
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES	12,282	4,109,274	8,409,719,482
SOUTH AFRICAN REVENUE SERVICE	60	146,460	370,459,583
DEPARTMENT OF SPORT, ARTS AND CULTURE	433	286,122	705,802,728
DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR	105	138,949	407,956,336
NATIONAL TREASURY	1	17,025	-
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT	1,460	1,173,578	4,614,918,987
DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS	147	105,952	315,200,567
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, LAND REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT	214	103,698	209,024,684
DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY	23	4,359	13,421,161
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	5	1,240	2,917,286
SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIAL SECURITY AGENCY	31	9,070	19,184,458
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	2	11,158	117,114,421
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING	106	29,743	70,719,826
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS & INFRASTRUCTURE	1	55,412	197,010,334
Total	56,414	16,960,533	29,962,105,812

(1)(b) This question is addressed in the response to (1)(a) above. To elaborate further, the DPWI provides accommodation to various client departments, including those listed in the table, in accordance with their specific requirements, be it functional, office, or residential needs.

The Department implements Repair and Refurbishment (R&R) projects annually across the majority of its client departments. Despite these ongoing efforts, the significant maintenance backlog is estimated at R30 billion, and will require substantial capital investment to address the current poor condition of many state-owned facilities.

As previously indicated, this backlog is calculated based on 56,000 properties where user charges are collected. However, the DPWI's Immovable Asset Register contains approximately 81,000 properties, meaning the maintenance backlog for the remaining 25,000 properties is yet to be quantified. Given the R3.27 billion allocated to the Property Management Trading Entity (PMTE) for 2025 for infrastructure projects, it is estimated that eliminating the backlog on the currently assessed 56,000 properties could take two decades.

DPWI, however, is cognisant of the current budget pressures in Government as a whole and is in the advanced stages of introducing alternative service delivery improvement strategies such as Refurbish Operate Transfer, Build Operate Transfer, establishment of Project Management Units' (PMU's), operationalisation of a panel of contractors (Grades 6 to 9), internal project management capacitation, ERP for Project Management and operationalisation of panel of Consultants.

The overall condition of the 81,573 properties is shown below:

Building	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Total
Condition						
No of Buildings	586	10 633	62 998	5 591	1 765	81 573
Proportion	1%	13%	77%	7%	2%	100%

(2)(a)(b) For the 2024/25 Financial year under review the department completed 77 infrastructure projects for the period between 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025. The detailed list of the projects and expenditure is provided in Annexure A.

(3)The expenditure for the infrastructure project was within the authorized approved budget as indicated in Annexure A

MR. MACPHERSON, MP

MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

DATE: 19 AUGUST 2025