



MINISTRY OF ENERGY  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY QUESTION 1353

Mr M G P Lekota (Cope) to ask the Minister of Energy:

- (1) Whether her department has been (a) reducing the importation of refined petrol, diesel and other liquid fuels and (b) increasing the local production thereof in the period 1 May 2009 to 1 May 2012; if not, (i) what was the level of importation on a monthly basis and (ii) at what cost; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) to what extent has South Africa been able to reduce its dependence on foreign refineries for its liquid fuels requirement? NW1596E

Reply (1)

- (a) The Department of Energy does not import refined petroleum products. The importation of products is done by individual oil companies with the approval of the International Trade Administration Commission (ITAC) at the recommendation of the Department of Energy.
- (b) The South African refineries are currently operating at 80%-90% of their capacity. However even if they were operating at optimal levels, they will still not be able to meet local demand for petroleum demand, which has exceeded domestic supply.
- (i) and (ii) Only annual data could be furnished and is as indicated in the table below:

Product	2009		2010		2011		2012	
	Quantity	Rand	Quantity	Rand	Quantity	Rand	Quantity	Rand

		Value		Value		Value		Value
Petrol	1.98bn	R7.350bn	2.09bn	R8.6bn	2.42bn	R13.58bn	798.18M	R5.13bn
Diesel	2.31bn	R9.3bn	2.57bn	R11.8bn	3.75bn	R21.6bn	1.31bn	R8.80bn
Jet Fuel	107.2M	R392.4M	268.64M	R1.09bn	250.65M	R1.4bn	151.3M	R996.54M
LPG	38.406kg	R639.02M	3.75Mkg	R23.7M	19.67Mkg	R124.11M	6.56Mkg	R66.23M

M=million; bn=billion; kg=kilogram;

Petrol, diesel and jet fuel are in litres and LPG is in kilograms. The 2012 figures are until 04 April 2012.

## Reply (2)

As can be seen in the above table, the importation of petroleum products to South Africa are increasing annually. The country is a net importer and therefore relies on foreign refineries to meet local demand. The development of the Mthombo Project, PetroSA's new oil refinery initiative, is aimed, among other things, to reduce reliance on foreign refineries to meet local demand.