



**Mr. VRP. Skosana
Gauteng Legislature
Private Bag x52
Johannesburg
2000**

Question 5.FN002

Dear Secretary

According to the Finance committee's oversight reports on the Provincial Adjustment Appropriation Bill for 2015/16 Financial Year dated 02 December 2015 – Vote 14 the Gauteng Provincial Treasury received an upward adjustment of R24 909 000 from R584 362 000 to an adjusted appropriation of R609 271 000 Million, of which an amount of R50 Million is allocated to the Gauteng Provincial Treasury to provide for the strategy and plan for bidding and hosting of major events in Gauteng and for profiling Gauteng as a major sport events destination. During the recent budget hearings held by Minister Gordhan with all MEC's of provinces he indicated that no additional money will be allocated to provinces for major sport events. Could the MEC please indicate:

Question 1

Whether the department will continue to use the additional R50 million to provide a strategy and plan for bidding of major sport events in Gauteng and profiling Gauteng as a major sport events destination in light of tight fiscal conditions and Minister Gordhan's view that no additional funding will be made available to provinces for major sports events;

Answer

On the 24th February 2016 Minister Gordhan announced the following key measures agreed with Provincial MEC's for Finance to address expenditure management and service delivery improvement challenges;

- Containment of administrative personal expenditure while protecting education and health service staff.
- Improved revenue collection.
- Rationalisation and closure of redundant, underperforming programmes and entities.
- Intensification of cost containment measures in keeping with national guidelines.

Nowhere does the Honourable Minister announce a moratorium on financing major sporting events. On the 22nd February 2016 the Honourable Premier Makhura announced that the provincial government is planning to seriously engage the sporting fraternity to cement relations through a shared vision and common programme. This will help to unlock and enhance the potential of sport in our economy as an important contributor to the re – industrialization of our province. The major sporting events the Premier announced that provincial government will continue to support are; Gauteng Marathon, Nelson Mandela Sport & Cultural Day, Soweto Marathon, Under 17 Future Champions, Gauteng Champion Parade, the 1 Cup Game, Wheelchair Tennis South Africa, Soccerex Africa Forum as well as the South Africa, Johannesburg and Tshwane Open.

On the 08th March 2016 I will table the Provincial Appropriation Bill and Budget Speech. I therefore request the Honourable Member to respect Legislature proceedings and direct her questions on 2016/17 Budget, and related cost cutting provisions at the appropriate time.

The department of Economic Development is the custodian of the Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions (MICE) which was adopted by the Executive Council on the 21st January 2015. Details of individual sports events supported by the Gauteng Provincial Government Can be obtained from the Department of Sports, Arts and Culture.

Question 2

If yes to (i), then please provide details;

Answer

Please see answer (1) above.

Question 3

If no to (i), then why not;

Answer

Please see answer (1) above.

Question 4

Whether the department has already started with a strategy and plan as mentioned in (i);

Answer

Please see answer (1) above.

Question 5

If yes to (iv) then please provide details;

Answer

Please see answer (1) above.

Question 6

If no to (iv) the why not;

Answer

Please see answer (1) above.

Question 7

Whether the department will make use of external sources to develop the strategy and plan;

Answer

Please see answer (1) above.

Question 8

Please give a breakdown of exactly how the R 50 million will be spend for this project; and

Answer

32.3 million will be transferred to the Department of Sports, Arts and Culture to support competitive sports events 16.5 million will be transferred to Department of Economic Development for the use by the Gauteng Tourism Agency to support events that attract tourism to Gauteng. All these events chosen support the outcomes of the Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Events (MICE) Strategy and meet the evaluation criteria laid down in this strategy.

Question 9

Please indicate expected finalization date of the project?

Answer

Please see answer (1) above.

Regards


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Ms. Barbara Creecy
MEC – Department of Finance

Date: 26/2/2016 .