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Department:  
Trade, Industry and Competition  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

### QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

#### QUESTION NO. 1915

#### **Mr M Khoza (EFF) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:**

In light of the evident governance failure and lack of accountability in the Dimbaza Industrial Park revitalisation project, (a) which is the single authority that is responsible for the project and (b) what concrete actions have been taken against officials implicated in negligence, mismanagement and/or corruption in the specified project? NW2128E

#### **REPLY:**

- (a) The revitalisation of Dimbaza Industrial Park is led operationally by the Eastern Cape Development Corporation (ECDC), under the strategic oversight of the provincial Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEDEAT). The partnership with **the dtic**, the Eastern Cape Provincial Government, and the Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality (BCMM), is aimed at strengthening governance arrangements to ensure clear accountability and coordinated implementation.
- (b) The Department takes governance matters seriously. However, the DEDEAT confirms that no substantiated findings of negligence, corruption, or maladministration have been confirmed in relation to the Dimbaza revitalisation project.

Where challenges have occurred, these have largely related to structural economic conditions, implementation complexities, and market constraints— rather than any



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wrongdoing. Oversight mechanisms remain in place, and governance continues to be strengthened as part of ongoing reforms.

### **Conclusion and Strategic Direction**

Dimbaza Industrial Park is not a failed project—it is a transitioning asset within a changing socio-economic landscape.

The current programme represents a deliberate and necessary shift toward:

- Demand-led industrialisation;
- Integration of industrial parks into district and regional economies;
- Development of MSMEs and township enterprises;
- Strengthening of local value chains;
- Crowding in private sector investment.

The vision is to transform Dimbaza into a functional, competitive, and inclusive industrial ecosystem that is aligned with economic realities and capable of sustaining long-term job creation.

This work is already in progress, and early indications show a more credible, market-aligned pathway to revitalisation. This approach positions Dimbaza to progressively increase occupancy, attract sustainable investment, and support long-term job creation.

**-END-**