

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
QUESTION FOR ORAL REPLY
QUESTION NUMBER: 153 [NO1629E]
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★153. Dr D T George (DA) to ask the Minister of Finance:

Has any modelling been done to determine the impact of the current economic growth rate on the rate of unemployment; if not, why not; if so, what are the (a) relevant details and (b) steps that have been identified to be taken to stimulate economic growth?

NO1629E

REPLY:

Yes, modeling work has been done to determine the impact of the current slowdown on the rate of unemployment. It is estimated that the unemployment rate has increased by 0.7 percentage points. The impact of the current economic growth rate on the participation rate in the labour force has been small. Government's efforts to create employment through various programmes, in an environment of difficult economic conditions, has minimized the negative impact coming from the slow economic growth on the unemployment rate. According to the Quarterly Labour Force Survey, the economy created 764 000 jobs over the period June 2012 to June 2014. The growth rate of employment was higher than the growth rate in economic activity.

The steps that have been identified to stimulate the economy are outlined in the medium term strategic framework (MTSF) of government