

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NUMBER: 392 [NW236E]**

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**392. Mr W M Madisha (Cope) to ask the Minister of Finance:**

- (1) What were the circumstances and rationale behind the decision of the National Treasury to refuse procurement deviations requested by the Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa (Prasa) in respect of the procurement of locomotive services to run its Shosholozza Meyl services during the 2017-18 festive season;
- (2) whether he has found that Prasa has complied with the National Treasury directive; if not, what is the position in this regard?

NW236E

**REPLY:**

- (1) The reason provided for deviation is that rail is a specialised field and in the market, there is only Transnet and Primifield who provide the services of leasing locomotives.

National Treasury did not support the request for deviation instead advised PRASA to advertise a bid for a least fourteen (14) days.

- (2) Yes, PRASA advertised the competitive bid on 12 January 2018 with closing date of 01 February 2018.

PRASA also reported in a letter dated 23 January 2018 that it leased 10 locomotives from Primifield through emergency deviation due to high peak period in December 2017.