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PASSENGER RAIL AGENCY
OF SOUTH AFRICA

Media Statement

08 October 2025

2024/25 Group Performance: A Defining Year of Growth, Improvements and Turn Around.

Johannesburg, PRASA Umjantshi House - The Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa (PRASA) has released its 2024/25 Group Annual Report, and proudly announces that the organisation has achieved an overall performance level of 93%, up from 87% from the previous year. This is the highest in more than a decade and marks an upward trajectory in performance in three consecutive years against our Annual Performance Plan (APP).

In another historic milestone, PRASA has received an Unqualified Audit Opinion from the Auditor-General for the first time in 9 (nine) years. This achievement follows years of adverse findings - four years of Disclaimer opinions (2019–2022) and two years of Qualified opinions (2023–2024).

Overall, these achievements not only improve on the preceding financial year but also continue the upward trajectory established since 2021/22, signalling that PRASA's recovery and rebuild programme is delivering tangible results for commuters and the economy.

“To date, PRASA has successfully moved 77 million passengers across 35 of the 40 operational corridors, safely, with commuters now accessing services through 313 stations that have been recovered and rehabilitated to basic functionality.”

Key Performance Highlights Contributing to the 93% achievement include:

- Operational Lines: 35 of the 40 service lines/corridors recovered and restored, to date since 2021/22 FY. 6 (six) lines recovered in the period under review
- Modernised fleet: 268 of the new modern Electric Multiple Units (EMUs) accepted cumulatively under the fleet renewal and modernisation programme (60 in 2024/25).
- Point of entry/Access: 46 stations revitalised, surpassing the target of 40, bringing the total of recovered and operational stations to 313 out of 468 commuter stations.
- Frequent Services: New signalling infrastructure commissioned on three priority lines in KwaZulu-Natal and the Western Cape, improving train frequencies and headways between trains to deliver reliable and efficient services.

Signalling Commissioned lines include:

- Langa – Nyanga, and Nyanga – Sarepta (Western Cape)
- Durban – Merebank (KwaZulu-Natal).
- Cape Town to Simonstown (Completed in 2023/24 FY)
- Pretoria to Mabopane (Completed in 2023/24 FY)

“Our overall performance is aligned with our key strategic focus to deliver an excellent passenger service, grow gross commercial revenue, modernise operational assets, and expand the business by exploring other business opportunities.”

PRASA Rail Division: Delivering on our mandate, driven by commitment

The PRASA Rail Division is the heart/cornerstone of our operations and the reason why we exist – to move people, efficiently and affordably.

- PRASA's commuter service exceeded expectations, recording 77 million passenger/commuter trips against a target of 64 million.
- A total of 208,000 train trips were scheduled, achieving a 91% on-time performance and limiting cancellations to just 3%.
- By the end of March 2025, PRASA had received a total of 268 new trains, with 60 trains delivered in the 2024/25 financial year and over 70% deployed in the Regions.

PRASA, however, remains the most affordable mode of transport, offering relief to millions of South Africans during a difficult economic climate.

Commitment to Safety and Security

- PRASA recorded 259 safety occurrences, far below the target of 372, translating to 0.34 incidents per 100,000 passenger trips compared to the 0.58 threshold.
- Security-related incidents also declined, with 929 cases reported, well under the limit of 1,450.

The modern EMUs, affectionately known as Isitimela Sabantu, with enhanced comfort and safety features, have significantly elevated the commuter experience, while visible onboard security continues to boost commuter safety.

Group Capital Programme: Driving Jobs and Economic Impact

21 billion in capital investments, resulting in over 84 000 jobs created and job opportunities, contributing towards economic stimulation.

PRASA is pleased to also announce that we have successfully spent on our full capital allocation, breaking away from a history of underspending and slow project execution.

PRASA's capital spending for the period under review is at R21 billion, exceeding the annual budget allocation of R11.6 billion by R9 billion.

Not only did our capital investment help accelerate our recovery and modernisation programme, but also created and sustained 12,988 direct jobs. More importantly, this investment induced 71,730 additional job opportunities across the economy, bringing the total job impact to 84,718 jobs created and job opportunities during the year, contributing towards economic stimulation.

Commercial Revenue Growth

Our Rail + Property Strategy is the cornerstone of our diversified revenue for long-term financial sustainability, expected to grow revenue from our property portfolio to R2,5 billion.

PRASA's diversified revenue streams and commercialisation drive, now positioned in our subsidiary, Intersite Asset Investments (from 1 April 2025), is central to delivering long-term financial sustainability through our property portfolio under our secondary mandate

In 2024/25, commercial income reached R708 million, surpassing the budget of R675 million by 5%.

Flagship Achievements include the Cape Town Station Mixed-Use Development, The Lab on Park Student Accommodation in Braamfontein, Goodwood Social Housing in Cape Town, Dieprivier affordable housing.

Our Transit Oriented Development approach to property developments with our partners will continue to be a significant driver of growth and future revenues. 24 out of 26 development leases finalised, are in the pipeline and worth approx. R7.8 billion.

Greening our Rail Future:

Intersite is advancing PRASA's commitment to innovation and environmental sustainability through renewable energy integration. A flagship project, the 1 MW PV rooftop plant at Durban Station, is now in construction.

Audit Findings

PRASA has achieved a significant governance milestone, receiving an **unqualified audit opinion for the first time in nine years**. This outcome reflects the organisation's progress in strengthening financial management, governance and accountability, while improving on consequence management to improve our audit outcomes. PRASA is now focused on closing remaining audit findings, strengthening supply chain controls, and fully embedding consequence management systems to ensure sustainable governance standards that stand the test of time.

Collectively, these measures demonstrate PRASA's determined trajectory of reform and commitment to restoring trust and delivering on its mandate.

The PRASA Board of Control welcomes the performance report and the Unqualified Audit Opinion. "These milestones reflect visible year-on-year improvements over the last three financial years, stronger consequence management, and the oversight role we played diligently in line with our fiduciary duties", says Board Chairperson, Nosizwe Nokwe-Macamo.

"Achieving 93% performance is not just a number, nor a small feat. It is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our employees across every region and division. It reflects the discipline, resilience, and teamwork that have gone into turning the tide at PRASA", says Group CEO Hishaam Emeran.

Looking Ahead

PRASA is entering the next phase of its turnaround journey with a renewed focus on optimising services to enhance the commuter experience.

Over the coming years, the agency will prioritise expanding train services to improve access, continue upgrading track quality to enable faster journeys, and installing modern signalling systems to cut waiting times from an hour to as little as 10 minutes on high-demand corridors.

The reopening of remaining metro stations, the introduction of modernised ticketing solutions such as tap-and-go payments, and the continued growth of the EMU fleet, including the much-anticipated milestone delivery of Train 300, marking the halfway point of the 600-train target by 2035, will further expand our services, improve convenience, and strengthen PRASA's commitment to safe, reliable, and accessible rail transport for all South Africans.

"This has been a defining year for PRASA. We did not just deliver on our promises, we exceeded them," concludes Emeran.

Issued by:
PRASA Board and Executive Management

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