



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



E&ST

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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 3606 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above question by Mrs C N Z Zikalala (IFP) is attached for your consideration.

ACTING DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 09/12/11

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED ✓

MRS B E MOLEWA, MP
MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DATE: 20/12/11

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO. 3606

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 18 NOVEMBER 2011
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 40)

3606. Mrs C N Z Zikalala (IFP) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) Whether any officials in her department (a) have been investigated, (b) are currently under investigation and (c) have been charged for alleged (i) corrupt or (ii) fraudulent activity; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether any disciplinary action has been taken against employees of her department for (a) fraud and/or (b) corruption; if so, (i) how many instances of disciplinary actions have (aa) been finalised and (bb) not been finalised and (ii) in each case, (aa) what sanctions have been meted out and (bb) how long has it taken to finalise such disciplinary actions;
- (3) Whether she has found that her department has adequate investigative capacity inclusive of manpower and infrastructure in respect of disciplinary proceedings; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

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REPLY:

- (1)(a) Yes, there are officials that have been investigated.
- (1)(b) Yes, there are officials who are currently under investigation.
- (1)(c)(i) No, there are no officials who have been charged for alleged corruption.
- (1)(c)(ii) Yes, there are officials who have been charged for alleged fraudulent activities. During the period, April 2009 to November 2011, there were fifteen (15) cases of fraud reported relating mainly to fraudulent Subsistence & Travel claims, Social Grant and fraudulent qualifications; all the offenders were found guilty and dismissed, save for the Fraudulent Social Grant cases wherein the DPSA gave a directive that offenders be given a final written warning and suspension without pay not exceeding three (3) months.
- (2)(a) Yes, disciplinary action has been taken against employees of the Department for fraud and corruption.
- (2)(b)(i)(aa) To date fifteen (15) cases have been finalised.
- (2)(b)(i)(bb) Falls away.
- (2)(b)(ii)(aa) To date there has been a total of ten (10) dismissals, five (5) final written warnings coupled with suspensions without pay for a period not exceeding three (3) months.
- (2)(b)(ii)(bb) At Labour Relations it takes an average of three months from the date of investigation to the completion of a disciplinary hearing, including sanction.

- (3) Currently the Directorate: Employee Relations structure comprises of 4 investigators including a Director Employee Relations, who conduct all the investigations and assist line managers to initiate the disciplinary proceedings and enquires as is prescribed by Resolution 1 of 2003.

However, it is only some instances when expertise is sourced from sister Departments within the Public Service, which may lead to delays as case progression is determined by their availability.

The Department is currently conducting a functional analysis on the viability of continuing in this manner, which the Business Process Re-engineering Committee will be considering.

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