**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY:**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY:**

**Question Number: 1052**

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**Date of reply:**

**Mr M S F de Freitas (DA) to ask the Minister of Tourism:**

(1) What percentage of payments were paid to service providers and suppliers by her department (a) within (i) 30 days of invoicing, (ii) 60 days of invoicing, (iii) 90 days of invoicing and (iv) 120 days of invoicing and (b) above 120 days of invoicing in each month (i) in the past three financial years and (ii) since 1 January 2023 in each case;

(2) (a) what processes, procedures and mechanisms are in place to improve the total number of days it takes to pay invoices and (b) how will her department measure the improvement?

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**REPLY:**

(1) (a) I have been informed by the Department that the percentage of payments paid to service providers and suppliers are tabled below:

(i) **30 days of invoicing**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2020-2021 | 2021-2022 | 2022-2023 |
| 95,54%  | 99,98% | To be audited |

(ii) **60 days of invoicing**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2020-2021 | 2021-2022 | 2022-2023 |
| 0,020% | 1,98% | To be audited |

(iii) **90 days of invoicing**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2020-2021 | 2021-2022 | 2022-2023 |
| 0,000% | 1,001% | To be audited |

(iv) **120 days of invoicing**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2020-2021 | 2021-2022 | 2022-2023 |
| 0,000% | 0,78% | To be audited |

(b) Percentage of payments paid to service providers and suppliers by her department above 120 days of invoicing in each month:

1. – (iii) Payments above 120 days of invoicing for financial years 2020-21 and 2021-22 were at zero percent (0%).

 (b)(ii) Payments for 2022 – 2023 financial year are still to be audited.

(2) (a) **Processes, procedures and mechanisms are in place to improve the total number of days it takes to pay invoices**:

The Department is working on introducing automation for submission and tracking of invoices, so that all invoices are paid within 30 days as required by law.

 (b) **How will her department measure the improvement**.

Monthly monitoring will be conducted and consequence management will be introduced.