**1147. Dr P J Groenewald (FF Plus) to ask the minister of Labour:**

(1) How many unemployed persons her department trained to instal solar energy systems in the 2015-16 financial year;

(2) whether the specified training of the specified unemployed persons has been completed; if not, why not, if so, give details;

(3) whether the specified persons are now being utilised for the installation of solar energy systems; if not, (a) why not and (b) for what purpose they are now being utilised;

(4) what was the total amount of the costs applicable to this training project;

(5) whether she will make a statement on the matter? NW1285E

**Minister of Labour replied:**

(1)There were 300 unemployed persons trained on installation of solar energy systems during the mentioned financial year.

(2) the specified training of the specified unemployed persons has been completed with 294 trainees having received their certificates.

(3) the purpose of the training programme for the unemployed is to enhance their chances of integration into the labour market, however, efforts are being made to link the trained unemployed to available opportunities.

(4) the total training costs were R18,675 Million, the training has been co-funded by the Unemployed Insurance Fund (UIF) and Energy and Water Sector Education and Training Authority(EWSETA)

(5) statements were made during Budget Vote Debates both in the National Assembly and National Council of Provinces.