**Memorandum from the Parliamentary Office**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 1373**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION OF INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 13/05/2016**

**(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER 14 OF 2016)**

**Prof B Bozzoli (DA) to ask the Minister of Higher Education and Training:**

(1) How many (a) student loans, (b) bursaries and (c) scholarships did the National Student Financial Aid Scheme allocate in each financial year since its inception in 2000;

(2) (a) how many of the specified student loans were converted into bursaries in each of the specified financial years, (b) what is the value of the loans that were converted and (c) why were the specified loans converted to bursaries;

(3) (a) how many of the specified student loans were written off in each of the specified financial years, (b) what is the value of the loans that were written off and (c) why were the specified loans written off?

**NW1521E**

**REPLY:**

**1.** The National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) awards loans and bursaries.

1 (a) The table below contains the number and value of NSFAS loans awarded in each year.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Loan Count** | **Loan Amount** |
| 2000 | 83 251 | R 510 829 288.31 |
| 2001 | 93 532 | R 635 091 084.88 |
| 2002 | 99 873 | R 733 474 559.16 |
| 2003 | 112 264 | R 893 672 471.50 |
| 2004 | 113 615 | R 984 527 910.26 |
| 2005 | 122 617 | R 1 214 620 227.23 |
| 2006 | 124 593 | R 1 379 965 435.06 |
| 2007 | 140 147 | R 1 682 353 956.38 |
| 2008 | 143 952 | R 2 117 714 766.07 |
| 2009 | 162 503 | R 2 818 220 031.70 |
| 2010 | 180 894 | R 3 343 869 489.05 |
| 2011 | 212 133 | R 4 561 359 562.01 |
| 2012 | 232 178 | R 5 871 489 880.57 |
| 2013 | 195 665 | R 4 774 601 486.18 |
| 2014 | 183 031 | R 4 728 234 783.76 |
| 2015 | 205 420 | R 4 850 127 272.07 |
| **Total** | **2 405 668** | **R 41 100 152 204.19** |

1 (b) The table below contains the total number and value of bursaries awarded each year.

Bursaries are made up of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) college bursaries and university bursaries.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Number** | **Bursary Amount** |
| 2000 | 72 037 | R 149 943 786.82 |
| 2001 | 80 512 | R 183 680 420.53 |
| 2002 | 86 146 | R 213 087 777.41 |
| 2003 | 96 552 | R 254 137 455.18 |
| 2004 | 98 732 | R 302 106 088.28 |
| 2005 | 106 772 | R 371 955 209.82 |
| 2006 | 108 294 | R 411 287 523.42 |
| 2007 | 125 436 | R 600 662 493.20 |
| 2008 | 155 376 | R 852 722 463.49 |
| 2009 | 193 394 | R 1 244 985 229.22 |
| 2010 | 212 709 | R 1 500 872 028.17 |
| 2011 | 291 613 | R 1 958 764 735.02 |
| 2012 | 298 149 | R 2 722 954 813.27 |
| 2013 | 153 561 | R 1 167 494 176.01 |
| 2014 | 333 675 | R 4 118 642 032.98 |
| 2015 | 311 811 | R 4 359 490 749.00 |
| **Total** | **2 724 769** | **R 20 412 786 981.82** |

2 (a) and (b) The table below shows the number and value of loans that were converted to bursaries in each year.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | 1. **Number** | 1. **Amount** |
| 2000 | 68 458 | R 149 288 662.92 |
| 2001 | 76 380 | R 186 408 596.40 |
| 2002 | 81 891 | R 215 272 969.58 |
| 2003 | 92 040 | R 258 980 651.84 |
| 2004 | 93 630 | R 310 057 061.77 |
| 2005 | 100 697 | R 355 264 477.79 |
| 2006 | 98 836 | R 374 521 400.27 |
| 2007 | 100 445 | R 422 391 156.18 |
| 2008 | 102 188 | R 522 126 444.81 |
| 2009 | 113 037 | R 604 648 198.34 |
| 2010 | 122 474 | R 725 761 024.53 |
| 2011 | 144 582 | R 1 093 215 271.78 |
| 2012 | 146 249 | R 1 275 849 187.29 |
| 2013 | 177 430 | R 1 800 387 465.35 |
| 2014 | 169 722 | R 1 815 074 609.61 |
| 2015 | 141 972 | R 1 963 029 274.43 |
| **Total** | **1 830 031** | **R 12 072 276 452.89** |

(c) Loans are converted based on the rules of the funder. The rules stipulate that if a student has passed a certain percentage of their registered subjects then a percentage will be converted into a bursary. The normal conversion allows for up to 40% of the loan amount to be converted into a bursary based on the percentage of subjects passed, pro-rated if a lesser number of subjects are passed. For the Department of Higher Education and Training Final Year fund, if all subjects are passed, 100% of the final year loan is converted into a bursary, otherwise the 60:40 ratio is applied.

(3) (a) (b) and (c)

The loan debt amount written off is set out in the table below and are predominantly for deceased debtors and non-paying loans with a balance of R50.00 or less. In prior years, loans for deceased debtors were only written off when NSFAS was notified by their next of kin. Since 2015, NSFAS only writes off loans for deceased debtors based on information received from the Department of Home Affairs.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | 1. **Number** | 1. **Amount** |
| 2000 | 266 | R 1 575 172.13 |
| 2001 | 302 | R 1 992 523.09 |
| 2002 | 214 | R 1 618 224.47 |
| 2003 | 667 | R 5 304 588.99 |
| 2004 | 451 | R 4 108 980.18 |
| 2005 | 581 | R 5 378 213.24 |
| 2006 | 400 | R 4 347 938.06 |
| 2007 | 4 598 | R 37 355 518.26 |
| 2008 | 358 | R 4 379 246.49 |
| 2009 | 396 | R 5 168 735.02 |
| 2010 | 276 | R 4 078 341.64 |
| 2011 | 230 | R 3 688 087.89 |
| 2012 | 130 | R 2 714 623.67 |
| 2013 | 944 | R 9 040 112.78 |
| 2014 | 9 613 | R 807 969.46 |
| 2015 | 63 327 | R 340 479 537.95 |
| **Total** | **82 753** | **R 432 037 813.32** |

COMPILER/CONTACT PERSONS:

EXT:

DIRECTOR – GENERAL

STATUS:

DATE:

QUESTION 1373 APPROVED/NOT APPROVED/AMENDED

Dr BE NZIMANDE, MP

MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING

STATUS:

DATE: