**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY:**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY:**

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

What (a) number of officials were suspended with pay in (i) her department and (ii) South Africa Tourism in each month (aa) in the past three financial years and (bb) since 1 April 2022, (b) date was each official suspended in each case, (c) are the reasons for each suspension in each case, (d) is the current expenditure in each month in respect of each suspension and (e) date is it envisaged that each of the suspensions will be resolved? NW2077E

**REPLY:**

1. (i) **Department**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| (aa) 2019/2020 | (aa) 2020/2021 | (aa) 2021/2022 | (bb) Since 1 April 2022 |
| 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 |

(b)

1. 25/09/2019 to 31/12/2019
2. 04/10/2019 to 21/01/2020
3. 04/10/2019 to 21/01/2020
4. 04/10/2019 to 21/01/2020
5. 03/03/2021 to 03/05/2021

(c) Reasons for suspension:

1. To enable the department to investigate allegations of misconduct, create a conducive environment for the investigation and to avoid any possible interference and intimidation of witnesses.
2. To enable the department to investigate allegations of misconduct, create a conducive environment for the investigation, avoid possible interference with records or evidence and any tools or sources necessary for the investigation.
3. To enable the department to investigate allegations of misconduct, create a conducive environment for the investigation, avoid possible interference with records or evidence and any tools or sources necessary for the investigation.
4. To enable the department to investigate allegations of misconduct, create a conducive environment for the investigation, avoid possible interference with records or evidence and any tools or sources necessary for the investigation.
5. To enable the department to investigate allegations of misconduct, create a conducive environment for the investigation, avoid possible interference with records or evidence and any tools or sources necessary for the investigation.
6. Not applicable, no current expenditure since all suspensions were resolved within the prescribed 60 days’ timeframe in line with the Public Service requirements.

(e) Not applicable, as all suspensions were resolved within the prescribed timeframe of 60 days in terms of Public Service requirements.

1. (ii) **South Africa Tourism**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| (aa) 2019/2020 | (aa) 2020/2021 | (aa) 2021/2022 | (bb) Since 1 April 2022 |
| 1 official | None | None | None  |

1. One official was duly suspended on 01 April 2019.
2. The official was suspended pending investigations into allegations of misconduct against him. Allegations of misconduct were investigated and led to the issuing of disciplinary charges against the official. Disciplinary enquiry was conducted in the months of September, October and November respectively.
3. There is no current expenditure as the suspension was resolved.
4. Suspension was resolved on 13 December 2019 following conclusion of a disciplinary enquiry against the suspended official.