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**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NUMBER: 1751**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 04 JUNE 2021**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NUMBER: 16 - 2021**

**1751. Ms L H Arries (EFF) to ask the Minister of Social Development:**

What (a) total number of officials have been found to have colluded with nonprofit organisations to commit fraud in her department in the past five financial years, (b) action has been taken against the specified officials and (c) total amount was lost through this kind of fraud in the specified period?

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**REPLY:**

| Nr | Province | (a) total number of officials have been found to have colluded with nonprofit organisations to commit fraud in her department in the past five financial years | (b) action has been taken against the specified officials and | (c) total amount was lost through this kind of fraud in the specified period? |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Eastern Cape | During the past year financial years, investigations have been conducted on alleged fraud and mismanagement of funds by NPOs at the Districts. The findings are that, only project members found to have committed the alleged fraudulent activities. | Some of the cases have been reported to the SAPS, due to criminal elements in them. | Not applicable |
|  | Free State | There are no officials in the Free State Department of Social Development who have been found to have colluded with non-profit organisations to commit fraud in the past five years. | Not Applicable | Not Applicable |
|  | Gauteng | No officials have been found guilty to have colluded with Non-Profit Organisation to commit fraud. There are however cases that are currently being investigated in the Department as well forensic investigation reports which are under review. | Not Applicable, no officials have been found guilty to have colluded with Non-Profit Organisation to commit fraud | Not Applicable, no officials have been found guilty to have colluded with Non-Profit Organisation to commit fraud. |
|  | Kwa-Zulu Natal | One (1) official in the Department was found to have colluded with non-profit organisations to commit fraud in the past five (5) financial years. This happened in the financial year 2014/15 | The official was charged with misconduct, found guilty and dismissed from the Public Service in March 2018 | Total amount lost through this act was R438 380.00 |
|  | Limpopo | Zero | Not Applicable | None |
|  | Mpumalanga | No officials were found to have colluded with NPO’s to commit fraud in the past 5 years | Subsequently no action has been taken. | Not applicable |
|  | Northern Cape | The Northern-Cape Department of Social Development has no current knowledge on any cases of possible collusion and subsequently have no information to report | None | None |
|  | North West | The North West Provincial Department of Social Development does not have any recordings on its database of fraud related cases, any officials who have been reported or found to have colluded with nonprofit organisations to commit fraud in the past five financial years.  The Department have established a dedicated Risk, Fraud and Ethics Management unit, which maintains the database of any reported or allegations levelled against any official on incidents of fraud, corruption, mismanagement of funds allocated to NPOs for purpose of investigations. Should there be sufficient grounds to consider disciplinary steps, referrals are to be made to Labour Relations unit or the law enforcement agencies to take appropriate actions.  The Risk, Fraud and Ethics Management unit implement quarterly education and awareness programmes to capacitate both the funded NPOs and officials, to deter any possible temptations that would be in contrary with the applicable legislations | None | None |
|  | Western Cape | Zero – Noneto Western Cape Department of Social Development | Not Applicable | Not Applicable |