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**MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY:**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY:**

**Question Number: 1981**

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**NA IQP Number: 29**

**Date of reply: 11 October 2016**

**Mr J Vos (DA) to ask the Minister of Tourism:**

(1) (a) What amount in funding did his department provide for the Robben Island Museum in the (i) 2014-15, (ii) 2015-16 and (iii) 2016-17 financial years, (b) what was the funding used for, (c) how many visitors visited the specified museum in each of the specified financial years, (d) how much revenue was generated and (e) how many ferry boats were in operation in each of the financial years;

(2) whether any problems have been experienced with any of the ferry boats in the financial years; if so, what are the relevant details in each case?NW2292E

**Reply:**

**(1) (i) 2014-15**

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| 1. **Amount Funding** | 1. **Funding used for:** |
| R250 000.00 | **Interpretive Signage**  Interpretative Signage on the island and Nelson Mandela Gateway |

**(ii) 2015-2016**

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| --- | --- |
| 1. **Amount Funding** | 1. **Funding used for:** |
| R10 000 000.00 | **Destination Development**  As part of Destination Development, a three year Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) between the Department and Robben Island Museum (RIM) made provision for the transfer of funds for implementation of various initiatives that seeks to strengthen the product offering, promote job creation, increase revenue and ultimately enhance the overall visitor experience. These initiatives include:   * Capacity development of tourist guides, * Digitisation of the Mayibuye (Tapes) Archives, * Conversion of existing buildings into a visitor information centre, * Introducing additional food and beverage facilities (restaurant), * Developing a crafts centre to produce memorabilia for sale on the island, * Introducing an open day with free tours for South Africans, * Developing and enriching the narratives of the RIM App. * Project implementation commenced in the 2016/17 financial year. |
| R125 827.00 | **Capacity Building Programme**  Capacity building programme for front line staff at three World Heritage Sites, Robben Island Museum; uKhahlamba Drakensberg World Heritage Site and Richtersveld World Heritage Site aimed at enhancing the visitor experience |

**(iii) 2016-2017**

| **(a)Amount Funding** | **(b) Funding used for:** |
| --- | --- |
| R25 000 000 .00 | **Energy Efficient Project**  As part of a broader pilot initiative to retro-fit a number of identified iconic and strategic state-owned attractions with renewable energy generation solutions, the Department has appointed an Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) contractor to design, construct and commission a solar photovoltaic installation at Robben Island. |
| R 76 827.00 | **Service Excellence Programme**  The department is currently implementing the Service Excellence Programme at Robben Island. The aim of the programme is to ensure that service levels are improved at all service points. |

**Section 1. c, d and e**

Not applicable.

**Section 2**

Not applicable.

The management and daily operations of the Robben Island Museum resides within the mandate of the Department of Arts and Culture.