**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NO. 2261**

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**“2261. Dr A Lotriet (DA) to ask the Minister of Science and Technology:**

 **Whether (a) her department and (b) any entities reporting to her has paid out the remainder of any employee's contract before the contractually stipulated date of termination of the contract since the 2008-09 financial year up to the latest specified date for which information is available; if so, (i) what amount has (aa) her department and (bb) entities reporting to her spent on each such payout, (ii) to whom were these payouts made and (iii) what were the reasons for the early termination of the contracts in each specified case?”**

**NW2620E**

**REPLY**:

1. The department has not paid out the remainder of any employee’s contract before the contractually stipulated date of termination of the contract since the 2008-09 financial years.
2. The Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC); Technology Innovation Agency (TIA); Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf); South African Space Agency (SANSA) and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) did not pay out the remainder of any employee’s contract before the contractually stipulated date of termination since the 2008-09 financial year to date,only the National Research Foundation (NRF) had a payout.
3. (aa) Not applicable.
4. The NRF paid out the amount of R4,607,381.93 (R3,122,466.41 after tax).
5. The payout was made to Dr Gatsha Mazithulela, the previous vice-president of the National Research Infrastructure and National Research Facilities.
6. The decision for the early termination of Dr Mazithulela’s employment contract arose following a decision by the NRF Board to restructure the NRF business.