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**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NUMBER: 2265**

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**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NUMBER: 22 - 2021**

**2265. Ms L L van der Merwe (IFP) to ask** **the Minister of Social Development:**

In light of the fact that her department has noted that there is a fine line between adoption and the sale of a child, what total number of cases (a) is her department aware of where South African children have been trafficked through adoptions and (b) were intercountry adoptions? NW2573E

**REPLY:**

1. The department is not aware of any South African children trafficked through adoption. Thus, there is no statistics of children trafficked through adoption. The department only have statistics of children legally adopted through intercountry adoption.
2. There are three thousand three hundred and fifteen (3 315) intercountry adoptions recorded in the adoption register from 1 April 2004 – 31 March 2021. The following reflects the breakdown according to financial year:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Period** | **Intercountry Adoptions** |
| 1 April 2004 – 31 March 2005 |  239 |
| 1 April 2005 – 31 March 2006 |  248 |
| 1 April 2006 – 31 March 2007 |  256 |
| 1 April 2007 – 31 March 2008 |  231 |
| 1 April 2008 – 31 March 2009 |  218 |
| 1 April 2009 – 31 March 2010 |  234 |
| 1 April 2010 – 31 March 2011 |  200 |
| 1 April 2011 – 31 March 2012 |  194 |
| 1 April 2012 – 31 March 2013 |  177 |
| 1 April 2013 – 31 March 2014 |  212 |
| 1 April 2014 – 31 March 2015 |  250 |
| 1 April 2015 – 31 March 2016 |  187 |
| 1 April 2016 – 31 March 2017 |  149 |
| **Period** | **Intercountry Adoptions** |
| 1 April 2017 – 31 March 2018 |  153 |
| 1 April 2018 – 31 March 2019 |  151 |
| 1 April 2019 – 31 March 2020 |  156 |
| 1 April 2020 – 31 March 2021 |  60 |
| **TOTAL** | 3 315 |