# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

**FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NO. 2421**

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**(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 23)**

**Mr P A van Staden (FF Plus) to ask the Minister of Health:**

(1) What total number of state mortuaries in each province are currently over capacity;

(2) what impact does load shedding currently have on the specified facilities;

(3) what is the total number of unclaimed bodies currently at state mortuaries in each province;

(4) whether he will make a statement on the matter? **NW2771E**

**REPLY:**

1. Table 1 below indicates the current status of overcapacity in state mortuaries, as provided by provinces.

Table 1:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Province**  | **Total number of State Mortuaries with over capacity** |
| **KwaZulu Natal** | None |
| **Limpopo** | 3 |
| **Mpumalanga** | None |
| **Northern Cape** | 1 |
| **Northwest** | None  |

1. Even though all facilities in provinces have a back-up generator capacity, there are however, there increased expenditure costs due to diesel and maintenance of generators and this has an impact somewhat.
2. Table 2 below indicates the current status of unclaimed bodies at state mortuaries as provided by provinces.

Table 2

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Province**  | **Total number of unclaimed bodies** |
| **KwaZulu Natal** | 1362 |
| **Limpopo** | 136 |
| **Mpumalanga** | 54 |
| **Northern Cape** | 51 |
| **Northwest** | 174 |

1. No. There is continuous are discussions between Forensic pathology service, local municipalities, South African Police service with regards to unclaimed bodies.

Responses are still awaited from the Eastern Cape, Free State, Gauteng and Western Cape Provinces. The updated information will be submitted as soon as it is received from these Provinces.

END.