**Memorandum from the Parliamentary Office**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 3168**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION OF INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 28/08/2015**

**(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER 34 OF 2015)**

**Mrs C Dudley (ACDP) to ask the Minister of Higher Education and Training:**

1. Whether he is aware of students who graduated but did not receive their certificates at the Motheo FET/TVET College in Thaba Nchu between 2008 and 2010;
2. has the specified matter been investigated; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

**NW3707E**

**REPLY:**

1. There are no outstanding National Accredited Technical Diploma (NATED) Report 190/1 certificates, as these are issued within 3 months after the release of results as per the national policy.

There are however students who did not receive their National Certificate (Vocational) [NC (V)] certificates at the Thaba Nchu campus of Motheo Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) college for the period 2008 to 2010. The table below provides details on the number of outstanding NC (V) certificates:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Examination cycle** | **Level 2** | **Level 3** | **Level 4** | **Total** |
| 200811 | 2 | 8 | 0 | 10 |
| 200903 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| 200911 | 6 | 13 | 5 | 24 |
| 201003 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 17 |
| 201011 | 27 | 9 | 19 | 55 |
| **Total** | **52** | **33** | **29** | **114** |

1. Yes. The outstanding NC(V) certificates affect all public TVET and private colleges and are due to a consolidation error on the examinations Information Technology (IT) system managed and maintained by the State Information Technology Agency (SITA). Through the intervention made by my Director-General and the Portfolio Committee on Higher Education and Training, SITA has sourced additional project management and technical capacity from an outside IT service provider to eliminate the backlog and ensure that it does not recur. In accordance with the project plan tabled to the Portfolio Committee on Higher Education and Training in August 2015, all outstanding NC (V) certificates will be available at TVET college examination centres by January 2016.

The Department is intervening, on behalf of graduates being denied access to the workplace and/or higher education study programmes due to outstanding certificates, respectively in the following manner:

* Letters of verification are issued on request;
* Employers are contacted on behalf of students; and
* Higher education institutions are contacted on behalf of students.

Compiler/Contact persons:

Contact number:

DIRECTOR – GENERAL

STATUS:

DATE:

REPLY TO QUESTION 3168 APPROVED/NOT APPROVED/AMENDED

Dr BE NZIMANDE, MP

MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING

STATUS:

DATE: