**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NUMBER: 3432 [NW4093E]**

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**3432. Mr R A Lees (DA) to ask the Minister of Finance:**

(a) What were the (i) total amounts and (ii) breakdown of the specified amounts spent on the *New Age* newspaper by the SA Airways (SAA) Group in the (aa)(aaa) 2010-11, (bbb) 2011-12, (ccc) 2012-13, (ddd) 2013-14 and (eee) 2014-15 financial years and (bb) since 1 April 2015 and (b) what was the total amount spent on the *New Age* newspaper by the SAA Group (i) in the specified financial years and (ii) since 1 April 2015?

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**REPLY:**

(aa) SAA started buying The New Age newspaper in March 2011. SAA spent a total amount of R55,200.00 for the Financial Year 2010/11 on The New Age newspaper. During this period, the newspaper was only supplied onboard. The quantities were 24000 copies per month at a cost per copy of R2.30.

(bb) During the Financial Year 2011/12 SAA spent a total of R1, 864 560.00. For the period April to November 2011, the applicable quantities were 24000 copies per month at a cost per copy of R2.30 for onboard use only. For the remainder of the Financial Year, the quantities increased from 24000 per month to 154 000 copies per month at a cost per copy of R2.31 with the newspaper supplied to domestic onboard, Lounges and Airports.

(cc) During the Financial Year 2012/13 SAA total spend on The New Age newspaper was R4,268,880 00. The applicable quantities per month were 154 000 copies at cost per copy of R2.31.

(dd) During the Financial Year 2013/14, SAA total spend on the New Age newspaper was R4, 268 880.00. The applicable monthly quantities and cost per copy remained the same as the previous Financial Year.

(ee) During the 2014/15 Financial Year, SAA total spend was R2, 439 360.00 for the entire Financial Year. SAA spent R1067 220.00 for the first three months period (April to June 2014) of Financial Year 2014/15. For the second semester (July 2014 to March 2015) of financial year 2014/15, the quantities delivered to SAA reduced from 154 000 copies per month to 66000 per month with this newspaper being made available only onboard, as a complimentary item. A total spend of R1, 372 140.00 was incurred on The New Age newspaper for the July 2014 to March 2015 period at a cost per copy of R2.31

(i) The April 2015-March 2016 financial year to date spent as at end August 2015 is R762 300.00. The applicable monthly quantities are 66000 copies at cost per copy of R2.31.