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| **MINISTRY: COMMUNICATIONSREPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**Private Bag X 745, Pretoria, 0001, Tel: +27 12 473 0164 Fax: +27 12 473 0585Tshedimosetso House,1035 Francis Baard Street, Tshedimosetso House, Pretoria, 1000 |

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NUMBER: 345**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION: FEBRUARY 2016**

**Mr C MacKenzie (DA) to ask the Minister of Communications:**

(1) Whether the website of the Government Communication and Information System was allegedly hacked by a certain group (name furnished) in February 2016; if so, in each case, (a) was any restricted area of the website accessed, (b) was any data lost and (c) have any steps been taken to correct the vulnerabilities in the website; (2) whether any other websites of (a) her department and/or (b) entities reporting to her have been hacked over the past 12 months; if so, (i) which websites were hacked and (ii) on what dates respectively? NW355E

**REPLY: MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS**

(1) An unused sub-site on the Government Communication and Information System website that housed a redundant contact database was hacked exploiting an SQL injection vulnerability.

(a) No restricted area of the website was accessed. All the information on the sub-site database is public information and the log files of the content management system (CMS) of the sub-site database indicate that none of the exposed user information was used to log onto the CMS before the vulnerability was closed.

(b) No data was lost.

(c) The vulnerability was removed, all redundant accounts on the user table were locked and active accounts were reset.

(2) The Department’s website and the websites of the entities reporting to it have not been hacked over the past 12 months.

**MR DONALD LIPHOKO**

**DIRECTOR GENERAL [ACTING]**

**GOVERNMENT COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SYSTEM**

**DATE:**

**MR NN MUNZHELELE**

**DIRECTOR GENERAL [ACTING]**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS**

**DATE:**

**MS AF MUTHAMBI (MP)**

**MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS**

**DATE**