**PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NO: 436**

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**QUESTION PAPER NO.: 07**

**Mrs van Dyk (DA) to ask the Minister of Communications:**

1)       What are the details of the (a) name of each consultant and/or contractor, (b) amount allocated to each consultant and/or contractor, (c) project each consultant and/or contractor will work on and (d) expected duration of each project her department budgeted for in the 2019-20 financial year;

(2)       Whether each project was or will be put out to tender; if not, in each case, why not; if so, what are the relevant details in each case;

(3)      Whether the relocation of her department’s offices will result in cost savings; if not, (a) why not and (b) why is her department relocating its offices; if so, what are the relevant details;

(4)      What amount did her department spend on offices in each of the past five financial years?

NW1410E

**REPLY:**

**I have been advised by the Departments as follows:**

In respect of the Department of Telecommunications and Postal Services:





2**.** All projects not yet contracted mentioned above will be put out on tender.

The contracts awarded to Broadband Infraco and SITA were not put out on tender because the department mandated its State Owned Companies to implement the projects on its behalf. The BBI and SITA contracts will run for 10 years, from 2018/19 to 2028/29.

3.  No cost savings will be realised.

(a) The Department is not relocating offices.

(b) The Department is not relocating offices.

4.  An amount of R90 million was paid with respect of the lease / rental of office accommodation as from April 2014 until March 2019.

In respect of the Department of Communications:

1.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No** | **NAME OF CONSULTANT**  **(a)** | **AMOUNT ALLOCATED**  **(b)** | **PROJECT WILL WORK ON**  **(c)** | **EXPECTED DURATION**  **(d)** |
| 1 | N/A – Consultant not yet appointed | R 400 000.00 | Conducting cost benefit analysis of the draft South African Audio Visual Content Growth Strategy. | 2 months |
| 2 | N/A – Consultant not yet appointed | R 300 000.00 | 4IR training for emerging content producers | Once Off |
| 3 | N/A – Consultant not yet appointed | R2 000 000.00 | Research and report on ID television set and decoders sold by retailers | 12 months |
| 4 | N/A – Consultant not yet appointed | R2 000 000.00 | Implementation evaluation of the Community Media Policy and Support Programme. | 12 months |

2**.** Projects 1-2 will not be put on tender because the amount is less than tender threshold of R500 000.00. RFQ process will be followed.

Projects 3-4 will be put on tender. Tender specifications have not been finalised.

(3) It is not known at this stage if the relocation will result in the cost savings or not as the discussions on the relocation and costs thereof have not commenced as yet.

(a) N/A

(b) The department is relocating because of the pronounced reconfiguration together with Department of Telecommunications and Postal Services to establish a new department.

(4) The accommodation cost over the past financial years are as follow:

2015/16 - R0.00

2016/17 - R0.00

2017/18 - R0.00

2018/19 - R250 271.49 per month (R3, 003 million for the year)

2019/20 - R256 666.00 per month (R1, 027 million for the 2019/20 financial year to date, i.e. April to July 2019). The amount will be paid per month until the integration of the merging departments is completed.

**MS STELLA NDABENI-ABRAHAMS**

**MINISTER**