**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NO. 4361**

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**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER 49 – 2022**

**4361. Ms T A Khanyile (DA) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:**

(a) What is the current backlog across all visa categories, (b) what has been the average response time for each visa category and (c) by what date does his department envisage to have cleared the current backlog with regard to all visa categories? NW5485E

**REPLY:**

1. The current backlog across all visa categories is **56543.**
2. The average response time varies for different visa categories; there are different turnaround times for applications listed in the departments APP and those that are not listed in the APP.
* The turnaround time for applications for critical skills visas is 4 weeks, as indicated in the APP. Currently the average response time is 4 to 10 weeks.
* The turnaround time for business and general work visas is 8 weeks, as indicated in the APP. Currently the average response time is 8 to 14 weeks.
1. The department envisages to have cleared the current backlog by June 2024 for all categories of visas.

**END**