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**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NUMBER: 843**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 12 MARCH 2021**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NUMBER: 8 - 2021**

**843. Mrs G Opperman (DA) to ask the Minister of Social Development:**

(a) With what amount is the SA Social Security Agency in arrears for hiring the offices in Williston in Karoo-Hoogland Local Municipality and (b) what are the reasons that they are behind in paying the rentals? NW1005E

**REPLY:**

1. The lease for the Williston Office is entered into and managed by the National Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (NDPWI). SASSA is the User Client. As a result, SASSA pays all the rentals payable to DPWI and not directly to the landlord. All amounts due for rental for this office have been paid to DPWI.
2. Payment was due and payable by NDPWI for the months of October, November and December 2020 respectively amounting to R28 339.95 (R9.446.65 per month). This balance was duly settled in February 2021 by DPWI.

It is reported that DPWI was paying the rental into the bank account of the deceased Lessor/Landlord. DPWI received an instruction from the Attorneys of the deceased Lessor/Landlord, to change the banking details accordingly. This was not done timeously and the payments were returned as this bank account was closed. Subsequently NDPWI processed the new banking details as instructed and has paid the outstanding amounts, thereby putting this matter to rest.