**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NO.925**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION: FRIDAY, 18 MARCH 2022**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER 11 – 2022**

**925. Mrs G Opperman (DA) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:**

(1) What total number of girls under the age of 18 years have been married in the past five academic years in the Republic;

(2) in which province and/or area has the practice of child marriage been the most prevalent? NW1160E

 **REPLY:**

1. According to the departmental records on the National Population Register (NPR) the total number of girls under the age of 18 years married in the past eight years to date is as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ACADEMIC YEAR** | **14** | **15** | **16** | **17** | **TOTAL UNDER-AGE MARRIAGES** |
| 2015 |   |   | 14 | 57 | **71** |
| 2016 |   | 1 | 5 | 56 | **62** |
| 2017 |   | 1 | 7 | 25 | **33** |
| 2018 |   |   | 11 | 16 | **27** |
| 2019 |   | 1 | 13 | 29 | **43** |
| 2020 |   |   | 8 | 21 | **29** |
| 2021 |   | 1 | 7 | 13 | **21** |
| 2022 |   |   |   | 1 | **1** |
| **TOTAL** |  | **4** | **65** | **218** | **287** |

1. The statistics above were recorded on the National Population Register (NPR) and were not registered per province. The statistics therefore only represent the total number of under-age marriages during the review period.

 **END**