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**926. Dr W J Boshoff (FF Plus) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

(1)       Whether her department awarded any tenders connected to the Covid-19 pandemic; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what (a) are the names of the businesses to whom these tenders were awarded, (b) are the amounts of each tender awarded and (c) was the service and/or product to be supplied by each business;

(2)       whether there was any deviation from the standard supply chain management procedures in the awarding of the tenders; if so, (a) why and (b) what are the relevant details in each case;

(3)       what was the reason for which each specified business was awarded the specified tender;

(4)       whether she will make a statement on the matter?

**Response**

(1) The Department awarded a tender for the the provision of water tanks and water to 3 500 schools to alleviate the COVID 19 pandemic;

        (a)    Rand Water Board

        (b)    R600m

        (c)    Water tanks and water to 3 500 schools across the country

(2) There was deviation from normal tender processes

         (a)    Because of the emergency nature situation as the provision of water was a prerequisite to the reopening of schools.

         (b)    The procurement was done in terms of National Treasury Instruction No. 5 of 2020/2021, read with treasury Instruction 16A6.4 and National Treasury Practice Note 8 of 2007/2008.

(3)    The tender was awarded to Rand Water due to their proven track record of delivering huge projects within a short space and also because they are an entity of government through the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS).  To regulate the business relationship, a trilateral agreement (Implementation Protocol) was signed between the DWS, Rand Water, and the Department of Basic Education.

(4)   Yes, I will make a statement on this matter.