NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, WRITTEN REPLY, QUESTION 142

DATE OF PUBLICATION OF INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 17/06/2014

(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 01/2014) FIFTH PARLIAMENT

Ms J F Terblanche (DA) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

Response

1.

Year	1. (a) Irregular	1. (b) Wasteful
	The Department of Education entered into a contract with a service provider in 2008. The purpose of the contract was to provide basic literacy to illiterate adults in the country. The Department took over the contract during the functional split of the Department of Education. During the audit of 2010/11, it was established that not all the supply chain processes were adhered to. National Treasury was consulted on the matter and they confirmed the findings of the Auditor-General. Although the service provider did not follow the SCM processes to the letter, a fair, transparent and competitive bidding process was followed. No one benefited unfairly from this process. At the time of the audit, procurement for 2011/12 financial year was deemed as irregular expenditure according to National Treasury.	e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e
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Pr	ational Treasury issued the Preferential rocurement Regulations, 2011, which states that "nould and organ of state require the services that	Not applicable

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can be provided by one or more tertiary institutions or public entities and enterprises from the private sector, the appointment of a contractor must be done by means of a tendering process with effect from 7 December 2011." In order to comply with the requirements of Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act (5/2000) the Department went on tender to appoint Implementing Agents, Professional Service Providers and Contractors. The tenders were advertised on the 4 May 2012 and closed 1 June 2012. However, due to the volume of tenders received it was going to take the Department a long time to complete the process of evaluating the tenders received. What the Department did to ensure that the project is not compromised; a number of public entities, namely, DBSA, Mhlathuze, Coega, IDT an CSIR as well as provincial education departments and provincial departments of public works were appointed as Implementing Agents to continue with the project while the tenders were being finalised. This was done to ensure that there is a fair spread of allocation of contracts.

2013/14

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2. (a) and (b)(i)(aa) Description	(a)and (b)(i)(bb) Amount R'000	Financial year	(a)and(b)(i)(cc) Action	
Irregular	R 81 771	2010/11	There was no official liable and Treasury Approved condonation	
Irregular	R 74 820	2011/12	There was no official liable and Treasury Approved condonation	
Irregular	R 82 808	2012/13	The Department has made a request from Treasury for condonation.	
Irregular	R 675 337	2013/14		