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Department:
Trade, Industry and Competition
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO. 426

Mr M J Cuthbert (DA) to ask the Minister of Trade and Industry:

What (a)(i) total number of persons have directly benefited from the Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment (B-BBEE) legislation since it was enacted in the 2003-04 financial year and (ii) is the total number of persons from the B-BBEE in terms of (aa) each of the department's 13 entities reporting to him and (bb) each entity's respective empowerment programmes and (b) is the total economic value generated in this regard considering the principle that once a person is empowered the person will always be empowered?NW606E

REPLY

The transformation policies of Government and the DTIC plays an important role in driving economic growth and redress of historic inequalities. BBBEE has evolved into a policy that has multiple objectives within an over-arching policy thrust:

- First, it is about redress to deal with the history of exclusion and the legacy it has left
- Second, it is also laying the foundation for deeper growth through greater economic inclusion, bringing talent that apartheid stunted and marginalized, and widening that talent pool of enterprise of black South Africans, of young people, of women;
- Third, it is now increasingly about addressing the vast inequalities in our society as a result of our history but also the consequence of many developments today across the world, in how globalization is playing out.

Parliamentary Question: NA PQ 426

The focus of BEE has expanded over the years, including:

- shareholding/equity in companies,
- skills development of workers,
- opportunities for enterprises through supply-chain development; and
- career advancement through inclusion of black South Africans, women and youth in management positions through industry and government.

Many community empowerment schemes have large numbers of members and beneficiaries.

Some BEE Foundations and Trusts provide bursaries to indigent students in communities; trade union empowerment schemes benefit hundreds of thousands of members and their families.

Skills development policies are available across companies and sectors.

In light of the broad scope of the empowerment framework, millions of people would have benefitted directly and indirectly, through bursaries, job opportunities, shareholding arrangements and skills programmes.

I have requested that a more comprehensive set of metrics be collected to quantify progress on specific areas. An initial focus has been on the equity impact of transformation policies and it is intended the information will be made available once completed, and released at the DTIC Budget Vote during 2020.

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