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Department:  
Trade, Industry and Competition  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

### QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

**QUESTION NO. 3331**

**DATE PUBLISHED: 27 SEPTEMBER 2022**

**Mr J N de Villiers (DA) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:**  
***[Interdepartmentally transferred from Small Business Development with effect Tuesday, 27 September 2022]***

Given that he has been in office for more than a year, what number of formal businesses and start-up companies, whose primary business operandi involve technologies related to mobile connectivity, artificial intelligence, big data analytics, machine-to-machine communication and the internet of things which make use of machines to optimise efficient manufacturing and the production of goods in the small, medium and micro enterprises sector have been registered in the past two financial years?      NW4136E

### REPLY

The Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC) informs me that it uses standard industrial classification codes (SIC) that does not include the level of detail set out in the question. For example, if a company's business is in the computer industry, it will be classified as Information and Communication Technology and will not be specific as to whether that entails Artificial Intelligence or Robotics etc. The Companies Act, 2008 (Act No. 71 of 2008), did away with the concept of primary business being contained in a Companies Memorandum of Incorporation and made same general.

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