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Department:
Trade, Industry and Competition
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO. 243

Testing backlog across laboratories

Ms J M Adriaanse (North West: DA) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

(a) What was the size of the testing backlog across laboratories of the SA Bureau of Standards at the time the Laboratory Recovery Plan was initiated and (b) what is the current backlog in terms of the (i) number of outstanding tests and (ii) average turnaround time for certification services? CW314E

REPLY:

I have been advised by the SA Bureau of Standards (SABS) as follows.

- (a) The testing backlog across the laboratories was 448 outstanding test reports as at the end of March 2024.
- (b)
 - (i) The current backlog is 177 outstanding test reports.
 - (ii) There has been an improvement of 17% on turnaround times during Q3 of the 2025/26 FY for both Laboratories and Certification.

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