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Department:
Trade, Industry and Competition
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO. 4565

Mr S I Gama (MK) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

With reference to the industrial incentives and support programmes of his department, what total (a) amount his department spent on incentives, grants and other forms of support to businesses in the past three financial years, (b) number of (i) jobs were actually created and/or retained as a result and (ii) beneficiary companies failed to meet their commitments and (c) action was taken against the specified beneficiary companies? NW4911

REPLY:

- (a) Over the past three years, 2023/2024 to 2025/2026, R14.3 billion was disbursed through incentive grant funding to support businesses.
- (b)
- i) Over the same period, 37 000 new direct and permanent jobs were created by beneficiaries in the manufacturing, infrastructure and global business services sectors. As of 31 March 2026, beneficiaries reported 38 000 retained jobs.
 - ii) Over this period, 110 beneficiary projects were also cancelled across the incentives for projects not complying with the specific incentive guidelines, such as not submitting claims by the due date, not maintaining base-year employment, a delayed start of production or principal photography, failure to meet mandatory requirements or approval conditions, assets taken into production before submitting an application, co-funding not secured, failure to commence production due to financial constraints, and submitting falsified documents.



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- (c) Across all incentives, payments are only made when beneficiaries comply with all conditions agreed upon at approval. In cases where the full investment is not made, the beneficiaries are still paid but receive a lower amount than was approved. If other conditions are not met, such as the retention of jobs, the project is cancelled. Should there be a breach of the contract signed with the Department, such projects are referred to the Incentive Branch legal services for further processing. In the case of the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) Fund, where funds are disbursed to the zone rather than individual beneficiaries, if the individual investor no longer complies, the SEZ is expected to take reasonable measures to ensure that the funded infrastructure is utilised for its intended purpose.

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