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Department:
Trade, Industry and Competition
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO. 2376

Mrs N L Hlazo-Webster (BOSA) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

With regard to the total number of SA Film and Television Production Incentive applications that has been approved by his department but remain unpaid, what total number of (a) direct production jobs and (b) indirect sector jobs are estimated to be at risk as a result of such unpaid rebates? NW2504E

REPLY:

(a) With regard to the total number of direct production jobs (1 662) associated with approved but unpaid applications, it is important to note that these figures are based on estimates provided at the application stage. As such, they represent projected employment outcomes linked to approved productions, rather than actual jobs created to date.

These projected job figures should therefore be regarded as contingent, as they are subject to the successful completion of productions and the subsequent submission and verification of valid claims. The actual number of direct production jobs will only be realised and confirmed during the claims stage, where reported employment is assessed against supporting documentation and contractual requirements.

Accordingly, the reported number of jobs should not be interpreted as jobs already created but rather as anticipated employment outcomes, conditional upon the fulfilment of all production and claims processes.

(b) With regard to indirect sector jobs that may be perceived to be at risk as a result of unpaid rebates, it is important to clarify the structure of the funding model. The incentive operates primarily on a reimbursement basis, whereby the approved claimant bears the responsibility to fund production activities upfront, including payments to suppliers and service providers. These costs are only reimbursed by the department upon the submission and verification of valid claims.

In limited instances where milestone payments are applicable, the department may co-fund production activities up to a maximum of 40%. However, such payments remain subject to contractual conditions and are ultimately reconciled against the final claim, which must substantiate all incurred expenditure.

Accordingly, the risk to indirect sector jobs is not inherently embedded in the non-payment of claims, as the obligation to remunerate suppliers rests with the production company in the first instance. Any potential impact on indirect employment would therefore be influenced by broader production-specific or market factors, rather than the timing of rebate disbursements alone.

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