

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NUMBER 284

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MR L B LABUSCHAGNE (DA) TO ASK THE MINISTER OF FINANCE:

- (1) Whether, during the visit of the Vice President of China to South Africa in June 2004, or at any other time in 2004, the government of the People's Republic of China made an amount available to the Government; if so,
- (2) whether the money was accepted; if not, (a) why not and (b) who took the decision not to accept the money; if so, (a) what amount and (b) to which state department was it allocated;
- (3) whether the purpose of the donation was to assist the textile industry; if not, what was the purpose of the donation; if so, what conditions were attached to the donation;
- (4) whether the money has been utilised; if not, why not; if so, how?

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REPLY:

- (1) An Exchange of Notes was signed between the People's Republic of China and South Africa in June 2004 concerning the implementation of a human resource project. The support to be provided was to the value of RMB (Remnimbi) 5 million (an equivalent of R3.6 million) for the Human Resource Development project.
- (2) I accepted the support in the form of technical assistance. The funding was not allocated to a specific Department. At the annual consultation held on 11 November 2004, the Department of Trade and Industry indicated its interest in accessing the support.
- (3) The donation was made for purposes of Human Resource Development. The details of the projects are to be determined through a consultative process between the two Governments.
- (4) The funds have not been utilized as yet. Details of project proposals have still to be negotiated with the Chinese Government.

