

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY
QUESTION NUMBER: 2489 [NW3085E]
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2489. Dr M J Figg (DA) to ask the Minister of Finance:

With regard to the R10,4 billion over three years allocated for (a) job creation, (b) small enterprise development and (c) youth employment, which was announced by the former Minister of Finance in his budget speech in February 2011, (i) what amount has been spent to date, (ii) on what projects has the money been spent and (iii) how many jobs have (aa) directly and (bb) indirectly been created from this budget allocation to date?

NW3085E

REPLY:

Jobs Fund: R9 billion

The Jobs Fund is a R9 billion employment creation programme launched by the Minister of Finance in June 2011. The fund aims to support self-sustainable job creation initiatives and improve the employment prospects of the unemployed, especially young people and women. To date, the fund has allocated an amount of R4.96 billion in grant funding on 93 approved projects. A total of 56 356 placements into current vacant positions have been created and 185 615 beneficiaries receive work-related training through projects

National Youth Development Agency: R1.2 billion

The National Youth Development Agency received allocations of R1.2 billion as a transfer payment from government as a contribution towards operations. These allocations support the NYDA in the provision of non-financial, concessionary finance services and grants to youth entrepreneurs and contribute to enhancing the youth outreach programmes, implementation of education and skills development programmes as well as the dissemination of policy information and communication of general government services affecting the targeted groups.

To date, the agency has supported 142 youth-owned enterprises with grant funding and rendered 63 834 business support services to the youth to enhance their economic participation, which has contributed to the creation of 84 495 direct jobs. The NYDA does not measure indirect jobs created from its activities.

In line with its educational and skills development, the NYDA through the Solomon Mahlangu Scholarship Fund, a partnership with the Department of Higher Education supports deserving youth by offering bursary and scholarship opportunities to undertake studies in engineering, tourism, ICT, agriculture, law and development. Through the partnership, the agency has supported 257 young people with bursaries to further their studies. The agency has also supported over 11 107 young people through the matric re-write programme.