

## **National Assembly Question2430**

**Dr H C van Schalkwyk (DA) to ask the Minister of Energy:**

What amount was (a) claimed by and (b) paid to (i) her and (ii) her deputy minister for subsistence and travel in each month in the 2010-11 financial year? NW2828E

### **Reply**

Ministers and Deputy Minister's travel and Subsistence are covered by public service rules and regulations. They are allowed to make subsistence and travel claims when fulfilling official duty away from their ordinary places of residence which are in Pretoria and Cape Town.

According to the South African Revenue Service, subsistence allowance is any allowance given to an employee or a holder of any office for expenses incurred or to be incurred in respect of personal subsistence and incidental costs. Therefore subsistence is paid to Ministers and Deputy Ministers to cover their personal subsistence and incidental costs while travelling.

Ministers and Deputy Ministers make subsistence and travel claims for expenses incurred while on official trips, which include, amongst others, international trips and those journeys away from their ordinary places of residence. These trips are undertaken to fulfil their ministerial duties, which include direct interaction with communities as a critical part of public participation programmes.

Departments ensure that mechanisms are in place to ensure these expenses are met within the requirements of rules and regulations.