

## NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR ORAL REPLY  
QUESTION 117

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**(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 21-2006)**

**DATE TO REPLY TO PARLIAMENT: 16-08-2006**

**Mr A M Mpontshane to ask the Minister of Education:**

Whether her department plans to investigate the allegations recently made by the National Teachers Union (NATU) that the no fee schools policy has seriously affected teaching at some rural schools and placed the lives of principals at risk; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

**N1097E**

**REPLY:**

No complaints had been lodged with my department or me. The administration of no fee schools is a provincial matter and is being managed by the KwaZulu-Natal Education Department.

I have, however, noted the concern raised by NATU at their national conference.

The department's payment of its no-fee contribution to some schools was delayed, partly because of late communication from schools on funding required for operating expenses and partly because of delays in schools setting up bank accounts.

The KwaZulu-Natal Education Department has assisted all non-section 21 schools to open bank accounts and the necessary transfers have been effected.

Section 21 schools have been instructed to account for their failure to submit audited annual financial statements and to submit annual financial statements on time in future.

The KwaZulu-Natal Education Department issued a press statement on 21 July 2006 to clarify policy around no-fee schools.