

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION 3291

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(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 40/2012)

Mrs H H Malgas (ANC) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

Whether it is required of all provinces to print question papers for the National Senior Certificate examinations in-house; if not, what are the policy requirements in this regard; if so, when will all provinces be expected to comply? NO4047E

RESPONSE

The current Policy on Conduct, Administration and Management of the NSC examinations, does not prescribe in-house printing. However, it does prescribe the standards relating to the quality of printing. The DBE has nonetheless, encouraged PEDS to establish secure in-house printing facilities. Six of the nine PEDs have in-house printing facilities, except for the Eastern Cape, Free State and Limpopo provinces. Eastern Cape utilizes the services of a private service provider and the DBE is satisfied with the security and quality of the printing. Limpopo utilizes the services of Government Printers and Free State utilizes the services of SITA in the province. All provinces comply with the Norms and Standards for Printing, Packing and Distribution of question papers. Based on the provincial budgets, the move to in-house printing will be introduced over the next few years. The Regulations on the NSC examinations are being amended to include in-house printing facility and this will ensure that all PEDs comply.

