

**FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 580**

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**Dr J C Kloppers-Lourens (DA) to ask the Minister of basic Education:**

- (1) With reference to the senior certificate results for each of the past five years up to 31 December 2008, which have been the (a) six high performing districts, (b) 60 average districts and 13 districts that needed recovery intervention;
- (2) Whether her department has implemented any recovery interventions; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NW646E

**REPLY:**

**Question 1**

Education in South Africa is administered through 82 districts spread in 9 different provinces. With reference to this question the districts will be classified as follows:

- (i) High performing districts: those that have consistently obtained between 75-100% pass rate over the last five years.
- (ii) Average districts; those that have consistently obtained between 50 – 74.9% over the last five years.
- (iii) Districts that needed recovery intervention: those that have consistently performed below 60% in the last five years. These districts are considered to be districts at risk, therefore require special intervention.

- (a) The table below presents the list of the high performing districts over the last five years:

Province name	District name	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004
FREE STATE	XHARIEP	75.76	75.8	78.6	83.3	77.12
GAUTENG	GAUTENG WEST DISTRICT	82.2	78.9	87.5	77.95	81.66
GAUTENG	SEDIBENG EAST DISTRICT	81.91	86.8	82.5	80.09	79.77
KWAZULU-NATAL	UMLAZI	75.15	75.3	77	61.52	83.39
NORTHERN CAPE	NAMAQUA	90.38	85.5	84.3	88.27	90.17
NORTHERN CAPE	SIYANDA	76.26	72.8	74.5	80.94	86.66
WESTERN CAPE	BREEDE RIVIER/OVERBERG	87.23	79.7	83	85.82	85.86
WESTERN CAPE	CENTRAL METROPOLE	77.26	84.4	85.3	69.95	83.82
WESTERN CAPE	NORTHERN METROPOLE	76.79	82.8	87.5	86.43	87.66
WESTERN CAPE	SOUTH CAPE/KAROO	77.26	83.1	84.7	84.74	88.93
WESTERN CAPE	WESTCOAST	89.43	82	85.9	89.38	89.99

- (b) The following districts as presented in the table below have consistently obtained between 50 – 74.9% over the last five years.

Province name	District name	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004
EASTERN CAPE	CRADOCK	63	65.6	64.1	62.1	58.58
EASTERN CAPE	EAST LONDON	60.52	56.2	65.2	58.5	58.79
EASTERN CAPE	GRAAFF-REINET	70.1	64.7	68.7	66.7	71.89
EASTERN CAPE	GRAHAMSTOWN	66.63	51.8	64.7	54.3	63.6
EASTERN CAPE	UMTHATHA	51.68	57.3	61.7	55.5	51.85
EASTERN CAPE	QUEENSTOWN	58.16	61.6	62.6	63.1	57.56
FREE STATE	THABO MAFUTSANYANA	68.44	64.8	73.3	70.7	71
KWAZULU-NATAL	ILLEMBE	51.14	63.6	62.6	66.06	68.31
KWAZULU-NATAL	OTHUKELA	58.98	62.5	61.9	55.7	68.16
KWAZULU-NATAL	VRYHEID	56.02	62	61.1	73.86	73.15
LIMPOPO	GREATER SIKHUKHUNE	54.96	52.5	51.3	58.37	67.16
LIMPOPO	MOPANI	69.22	55.2	55.9	68.91	72.67
LIMPOPO	VHEMBE	65.38	60	55.9	65.14	69.93
LIMPOPO	WATERBERG	70.11	55.8	55.7	62.04	69.51
NORTH WEST	BOJANALA EAST REGION	58.45	62.5	64.8	62.86	62.86

NORTH WEST	BOPHIRIMA REGION	66.88	62.1	61.9	51.47	56.28
NORTH WEST	CENTRAL REGION	59.42	57.1	58.5	54.53	60.3

It must be noted that there are several districts that are regarded as average in terms of their performance in that they have demonstrated fluctuating performances between the years. **Annexure A** provides a list of all districts performances in the last five years.

- (c) In terms of the districts that required the recovery plan, the Department of Education declared that all districts should develop their district improvement plans and implement the recovery programmes to improve schools thereby the overall district performance. However, special attention would be given to all districts that have consistently performed below 60% in the last five years. There are only nine (9) districts that have consistently obtained below 60% over the last five years.

Province name	District name	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004
EASTERN CAPE	BUTTERWORTH	36.78	46.1	58.5	49	45.88
EASTERN CAPE	IDUTYWA	32.94	55	55	44.1	38.11
EASTERN CAPE	FORT BEAUFORT	43.25	51.5	53.1	55.2	53.97
EASTERN CAPE	KING WILLIAMS TOWN	47.75	52.6	51.5	47.7	47.12
EASTERN CAPE	LIBODE	51.95	58.3	53.6	43.9	39.81
EASTERN CAPE	LUSIKISIKI	37.05	44.5	44.5	42.7	38.2
EASTERN CAPE	MT FRERE	39.51	44.7	48.9	49.5	46.94
EASTERN CAPE	ENGCOBO	33.14	52.8	55.8	54.8	45.74
EASTERN CAPE	STERKSPRUIT	50.77	54.7	48.4	45.2	37.75

## Question 2

The Department of Education is continuously engaged with programmes to improve the quality of learner achievement at all grades. The National Strategy for Learner Attainment (NSLA) has become the flagship programme in all provincial education departments. This strategy was launched by the Minister of Education, Ms Naledi Pandor, MP, in 2004, as a transversal programme, to raise the level of achievements of

all learners across the system. The NSLA consists of planned and sustained sets of related operations, projects and activities, with short and long term objectives of raising learner performance and ensuring improved quality learner achievement in all schools.

In keeping with the relevant prescripts of the National Education Policy Act (1996) as well as the *Education Laws Amendment Act 31(2007)*, all provinces have identified underperforming schools and developed Provincial Improvement Plans which are aligned to the main objectives of the National Strategy for Learner Attainment (NSLA). The *Education Laws Amendment Act, section 58 (b)*, which was promulgated in October 2007, specifically addresses the role of the Heads of Departments in identifying underperforming schools and developing provincial strategies to address under performance in schools. Provinces have ensured that all schools, particularly schools that have performed under 60% have developed their school improvement plans and the implementation of these plans are being monitored and supported by the districts. All provinces have allocated dedicated financial and human resources to address the objectives of the NSLA.

To support the implementation of the new curriculum and to ensure high levels of achievement in Grade 12, the Department of Education is also conducting, *inter alia*, the following activities:

- (a) All schools that are underperforming have been visited by departmental officials including the senior management of the province. In many cases officials of the department including the senior management have been allocated a school to adopt and mentor.
- (b) Capacity development workshops on management and leadership are being conducted for the principals of underperforming schools. In cases of schools that are serial underperformers mentorship programmes have been instituted.
- (c) Provinces have appointed additional subject advisors to strengthen onsite support to teachers in the area of curriculum implementation with specific focus on content knowledge.
- (d) The Department of Education are monitoring if the exemplar question papers provided to schools for all subjects to assist teachers and learners in their

preparation for the examination are being used in their daily teaching and learning.

- (e) Provincial education departments have successfully reduced the backlog in physical infrastructure and in the provision of textbooks. In many schools, each learner has a textbook for each subject.
- (f) The first edition of Study Mate, which is free, was distributed to schools via the provincial and district offices at the beginning of the second term. This edition is a survival kit for Grade 12 learners and consists of tips by expert subject specialists on how to approach the examination. It also consists of the examination timetable and other hints and tips.
- (g) The Department of Education and Independent Newspapers has produced the second edition of Study Mate which consist of examinations of November 2008 and the supplementary National Senior Certificate examination papers with memoranda. The tabloid books were made available in June 2009 directly from Independent Newspapers.
- (h) DVDs with expert teacher and Department of Education curriculum specialists will assist learners with examination papers, explain common mistakes and give useful tips. These will be available as a package with Study Mate (Past papers).
- (i) The Department of Education together with SABC launched Matrix Uploaded, a programme for Grade 11 and 12 learners in Mathematics, Mathematics Literacy, Physical Science, English (First Additional Language), Accounting, Life Orientation and Life Sciences on SABC 1, Monday to Friday, from 14h00 to 15h00 which started on 1 st June 2009.
- (j) The Department of Education has collaborated with Liberty Life and Independent Newspapers to produce a new edition of Maths 911 for Grade 11 and 12 Learners. 125 000 of these books will be sponsored by Liberty Life and distributed free to 125 000 learners nationally. Parents can purchase these books directly from Independent Newspapers.
- (k) Further support for the Maths 911 books will be available in the weekly Matric Matters which appears in the Independent Newspapers and on the Mindset Channel on DSTV.

- (l) The Department of Education together with AVUSA media will publish a 48-page tabloid book comprising exemplar examination papers for Grade 12 learners. This will be available in October 2009 in the Sunday Times.

## ANNEXURE A

Province name	District name	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004
EASTERN CAPE	BIZANA	29.32	42.6	52.2	60.4	57.98
EASTERN CAPE	BUTTERWORTH	36.78	46.1	58.5	49	45.88
EASTERN CAPE	COFIMVABA	35.26	56	61.1	58.4	45.47
EASTERN CAPE	CRADOCK	63	65.6	64.1	62.1	58.58
EASTERN CAPE	IDUTYWA	32.94	55	55	44.1	38.11
EASTERN CAPE	EAST LONDON	60.52	56.2	65.2	58.5	58.79
EASTERN CAPE	FORT BEAUFORT	43.25	51.5	53.1	55.2	53.97
EASTERN CAPE	GRAAFF-REINET	70.1	64.7	68.7	66.7	71.89
EASTERN CAPE	GRAHAMSTOWN	66.63	51.8	64.7	54.3	63.6
EASTERN CAPE	KING WILLIAMS TOWN	47.75	52.6	51.5	47.7	47.12
EASTERN CAPE	LADY FRERE	46.27	48.5	63.2	56.5	46.94
EASTERN CAPE	LIBODE	51.95	58.3	53.6	43.9	39.81
EASTERN CAPE	LUSIKISIKI	37.05	44.5	44.5	42.7	38.2
EASTERN CAPE	MALUTI	47.5	55.4	65.1	56.2	45.52
EASTERN CAPE	MT FLETCHER	48.71	60.3	68.4	68.7	53.15
EASTERN CAPE	MT FRERE	39.51	44.7	48.9	49.5	46.94
EASTERN CAPE	UMTHATHA	51.68	57.3	61.7	55.5	51.85
EASTERN CAPE	ENGCOBO	33.14	52.8	55.8	54.8	45.74
EASTERN CAPE	PORT ELIZABETH	68.58	54.8	67.5	69.6	75.78
EASTERN CAPE	QUEENSTOWN	58.16	61.6	62.6	63.1	57.56
EASTERN CAPE	QUMBU	37.89	53.2	73.4	55	48.35
EASTERN CAPE	STERKSPRUIT	50.77	54.7	48.4	45.2	37.75
EASTERN CAPE	UITENHAGE	63.01	66	74.5	73.7	78.27
FREE STATE	FEZILE DABI	65.55	63.5	68.8	78.1	
FREE STATE	LEJWELEPUTSWA	70.21	70.3	65	77.3	79.77
FREE STATE	MOTHEO	73.38	77.3	78.9	80	82.44
FREE STATE	THABO MAFUTSANYANA	68.44	64.8	73.3	70.7	71
FREE STATE	XHARIEP	75.76	75.8	78.6	83.3	77.12
GAUTENG	EKURHULENI NORTH DISTRICT	80.62	78.7			
GAUTENG	EKURHULENI SOUTH	75.11	65.5			
GAUTENG	GAUTENG EAST DISTRICT	69.69	70.1			
GAUTENG	GAUTENG NORTH DISTRICT	73.48	73.2	82.1	72.53	80.54
GAUTENG	GAUTENG WEST DISTRICT	82.2	78.9	87.5	77.95	81.66

GAUTENG	JOHANNESBURG CENTRAL	73.31	71.7	53.4		
GAUTENG	JOHANNESBURG EAST DISTRICT	81.2	84.7		81.36	
GAUTENG	JOHANNESBURG NORTH DISTRICT	72.72	75.5	76.1	66.91	73.57
GAUTENG	JOHANNESBURG SOUTH DISTRICT	69.91	71.3	83	70.25	70.15
GAUTENG	JOHANNESBURG WEST DISTRICT	81.39			84.53	81.91
GAUTENG	SEDIBENG EAST DISTRICT	81.91	86.8	82.5	80.09	79.77
GAUTENG	SEDIBENG WEST DISTRICT	60.11	58.1		56.16	70.66
GAUTENG	TSHWANE NORTH DISTRICT	78.05	70.7		74.65	80.11
GAUTENG	TSHWANE SOUTH DISTRICT	83.11	86.5		85.99	85.7
GAUTENG	TSHWANE WEST	82.1	73.2	91.8		
KWAZULU-NATAL	AMAJUBA DISTRICT	60.77	63.6	71.1	74.38	77.36
KWAZULU-NATAL	EMPANGENI	47.86	58.9	60.2	60.87	69.1
KWAZULU-NATAL	ILLEMBE	51.14	63.6	62.6	66.06	68.31
KWAZULU-NATAL	OBONJENI	38.77	47.3	49.3	69.19	62.76
KWAZULU-NATAL	OTHUKELA	58.98	62.5	61.9	55.7	68.16
KWAZULU-NATAL	PINETOWN	62.91	69.2	74.8	66.07	81.94
KWAZULU-NATAL	SISONKE	43.56	57.9	67.9	77.15	71.26
KWAZULU-NATAL	UGU	57.19	63.4	63.8	71.9	77.4
KWAZULU-NATAL	UMGUNGUNDLOVU	64.46	67.9	69.7	77.78	75.88
KWAZULU-NATAL	UMLAZI	75.15	75.3	77	61.52	83.39
KWAZULU-NATAL	UMZINYATHI	48.84	58.8	54.3	65.24	
KWAZULU-NATAL	VRYHEID	56.02	62	61.1	73.86	73.15
LIMPOPO	CAPRICORN	63.08	63.1	63.2	70.01	76.53
LIMPOPO	GREATER SIKHUKHUNE	54.96	52.5	51.3	58.37	67.16
LIMPOPO	MOPANI	69.22	55.2	55.9	68.91	72.67
LIMPOPO	VHEMBE	65.38	60	55.9	65.14	69.93
LIMPOPO	WATERBERG	70.11	55.8	55.7	62.04	69.51
MPUMALANGA	BUSHBUCKRIDGE	28.5	49.5			
MPUMALANGA	EHLANZENI	60.1	68.4	66.4		61.94
MPUMALANGA	GERT SIBANDE	54.81	63	65		66.17
MPUMALANGA	ENKANGALA	59.11	62.3	64.5		60.7
NORTH WEST	BOJANALA EAST REGION	58.45	62.5	64.8	62.86	62.86
NORTH WEST	BOJANALA WEST REGION	70.57	74.4	75.3	69.09	72.7
NORTH WEST	BOPHIRIMA REGION	66.88	62.1	61.9	51.47	56.28
NORTH WEST	CENTRAL REGION	59.42	57.1	58.5	54.53	60.3
NORTH WEST	SOUTHERN REGION	74.32	78.2	77.3	73.85	73.37
NORTHERN CAPE	PRIXLEY KASEME	70.04	68.8	70.4		
NORTHERN CAPE	FRANCES BAARD	72.89	67.7	78.8	72.63	80.18
NORTHERN CAPE	NAMAQUA	90.38	85.5	84.3	88.27	90.17
NORTHERN CAPE	KGALAGADI	63.22	65.8			
NORTHERN CAPE	SIYANDA	76.26	72.8	74.5	80.94	86.66
WESTERN CAPE	CAPE WINELANDS	84.25				89.99
WESTERN CAPE	BREEDE RIVIER/OVERBERG	87.23	79.7	83	85.82	85.86
WESTERN CAPE	CENTRAL METROPOLE	77.26	84.4	85.3	69.95	83.82
WESTERN CAPE	EASTERN METROPOLE	70.25	75.2	82.2	77.35	80.97
WESTERN CAPE	NORTHERN METROPOLE	76.79	82.8	87.5	86.43	87.66
WESTERN CAPE	SOUTH CAPE/KAROO	77.26	83.1	84.7	84.74	88.93
WESTERN CAPE	SOUTHERN METROPOLE	72.79	77.7	77.6	76.21	80.83
WESTERN CAPE	WESTCOAST	89.43	82	85.9	89.38	89.99