

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR ORAL REPLY
QUESTION 196

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DATE TO REPLY IN PARLIAMENT: 20-09-2006

Ms S N Sigcau to ask the Minister of Education:

- (1) Whether a newly erected senior secondary school in Thabankhulu has stood empty since 2002; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the reasons for the school not being utilised;
- (2) whether her department has made any progress with its objective of ensuring that no child shall learn under a tree instead of in a proper classroom; if not, why not; if so, what progress?

N1432E

REPLY:

- (1) I am told that the Dalindyabo Junior Secondary School is under construction in Thabankulu. Apparently there was a dispute over the roofing. However, the dispute has been resolved and the anticipated completion date is November 2006.
- (2) As indicated in my Budget Speech to the National Council of Provinces on 23 May 2006, provincial education departments reported to me that as at 30 April 2006 there would be no children schooling under trees. Monthly infrastructure reports confirmed the achievement of this goal.

We continue to make progress with regard to the provision of classrooms and schools. In the 2005/06 financial year we built 98 new schools and 5,222 classrooms at existing schools. We aim to complete 168 new schools in 2006/07 and 5,827 classrooms at existing schools. So far 12 new schools have been built in this financial year and 1,266 classrooms at existing schools.