

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY QUESTION 131

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(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 3-2006)

Mr GQM Doidge to ask the Minister of Education:

(a)(i) Which schools and (ii) how many learners in the Alfred Nzo District Municipality will benefit from the provisions of the Education Laws Amendment Act, Act 24 of 2005, which will exempt poor learners from paying school fees, (b) what criteria will be used to determine which schools will qualify as no-fee schools, (c) what is the envisaged date of implementation of such provisions and (d) when will qualifying schools be declared no-fee schools?

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REPLY:

- (a) In Alfred Nzo District 342 schools educating 113,918 learners will become no-fee schools. The list of the 342 schools is attached in Annexure A.
- (b) The criteria are affordability and quintile placement. The Eastern Cape Education Department has decided to phase in no-fee schools over a two-year period. In the 2006 school year all schools in quintile 1 and in the 2007 school year all schools in quintiles 2 and 3 will be declared no-fee schools.
- (c) The planned date of implementation is 1 April 2006.
- (d) Qualifying schools will be declared no-fee schools on a voluntary basis from 1 April 2006, and in terms of law by 30 September 2006 for the 2007 school year.