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NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION 1306

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(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 19/2013)

Mr D C Smiles (DA) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

Whether the national task team to strengthen the implementation of the mathematics, science and technology strategy has been established; if so, (a) when, (b) what are its full terms of reference, (c) what are its targets and (d) what are the time frames for the targets? NW1636E

REPLY:

- a) Yes, the Ministerial Committee was established.
- b) The team has investigated the implementation of Mathematics, Science and Technology programmes in provinces in order to:
 - Identify what has not been implemented and the reasons for non-implementation;
 - Identify strengths and weaknesses of implementation of programmes and plans;
 - Monitor Grade 9 interventions, use of workbooks and teacher resource centres, Dinaledi schools as well as the competence of Mathematics, Science and Technology teachers;
 - Make recommendations on the nature of support that the national department could provide to provinces.
- c) The Task Team has investigated the implementation of Mathematics, Science and Technology programmes in provinces and presents a report on their findings to the Minister of Basic Education. The Task Team has investigated the implementation of Mathematics, Science and Technology programmes in all provincial Departments of Education including Dinaledi schools.
- d) The Task Team concluded its work in June 2013 and presented its report both to the Minister and a Round Table of MST practitioners, NGOs, academic teacher unions, learner organizations, parents associations, MST teachers, departmental officials, etc.