

**FOR WRITTEN REPLY
QUESTION 1416**

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

- (1) Whether it is compulsory for Grade 12 learners with Mathematics to write Question Paper 3 when they intend to enrol for engineering degrees; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) how many learners with Mathematics were registered for the 2009 National Senior Certificate examination;
- (3) what is the (a) percentage of registered learners and (b) statistical racial breakdown according to (i) black, (ii) white, (iii) coloured and (iv) Indian learners who opted to write Mathematics Question Paper 3?NW1772E

Reply

- (1) It is not compulsory for Grade 12 learners to write Paper 3 when they intend to enrol for engineering degrees. Learners who have passed Mathematics P1 and P2 are eligible for engineering degrees because the concepts covered in both papers sufficiently prepare learners for degree purposes. Learners who have written Paper 3 show potential for higher order Mathematics and may have an advantage for engineering studies.
- (2) 297443 learners have enrolled for Mathematics in the 2009 National Senior Certificate examination.
- (3) (a) 2.09% of the total registered candidates and 4.08% of those writing Mathematics. 12 136 of learners are registered to write Maths paper III.
(b) (i) 5 793 full time black learners are registered to write Maths paper III.
(b) (ii) 3 708 full time white learners are registered to write Maths paper III.
(b) (iii) 918 full time coloured learners are registered to write Maths paper III.
(b) (iv) 1 606 full time Indian learners are registered to write Maths paper III.