

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

FOR WRITTEN REPLY QUESTION 171

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Mr E M Sogoni to ask the Minister of Education:

- (1) (a) What is the reason for the delay in paying educators in the Eastern Cape consistently and (b) how is this problem being addressed;
- (2) Whether her department is taking any steps against the responsible officials in this regard; if not, why not; if so, what steps?

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REPLY:

(1) (a) The delay in the payment of educators in the Eastern Cape is mainly due to administrative breakdown, but it is complicated by the historical resistance to the efficient deployment and usage of personnel. This has led to the employment of temporary educators who expect to be retained in these positions even when no funded vacancies exist.

(b) Government deployed a national task team to the Eastern Cape to assist in resolving various problems. One of these involved ensuring that post provisioning is dealt with according to accepted national guidelines and norms, and as determined by the budget allocation and affordability. In addition the Department contracted a service provider to improve corporate service functions.

(2) Senior officials have been disciplined for poor service delivery, and other investigations are still underway. They will be completed before the end of the financial year, and necessary disciplinary action will be taken. A district director in Lusikisiki has also been suspended pending the finalization of an investigation into administrative non-compliance.