



THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S VISIT TO MARKING CENTRES



The Department of Basic Education is responsible for the administration and conduct of the National Senior Certificate (NSC) examination for all Grade 12 learners in the education system. Public examinations in South Africa are legislated by the Policy and Regulations for the Conduct, Administration and Management of Assessment for the National Senior Certificate.

Since its implementation in 2008, significant progress has been made to standardise examination systems and processes across all Provincial Education Departments (PEDs) to ensure a credible exit examination for all candidates at public and registered independent schools. The Regulations are intended to ensure that the principles of assessment, viz.: validity, reliability and fairness for all candidates are upheld in all processes in the examination cycle.

One such key process is the organisation and marking of candidates' scripts after the writing of the examination. Marking reliability is essential to ensure that markers' application of the nationally agreed marking guidelines is accurate, consistent and fair to all candidates in a high stakes public examination such as the NSC.

The outcomes of this examination are used by candidates to gain entry to higher learning or to access other training or employment opportunities. The NSC outcomes are also used as indicators of teachers' and schools' performance at provincial and national levels, as well as to monitor examination standards over time.

Given the high importance of marking the learners' scripts, the Director-General, Mr HM Mweli began his monitoring of marking centres throughout the country. The main purpose of the visits is to affirm the hard work of the officials and teachers at marking centres and to learn from his engagement so that future marking processes may be strengthened. This week the Director-General's visit to **Northern Cape** Province is featured.



basic education

Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S VISIT TO MARKING CENTRES IN NORTHERN CAPE

The Northern Cape Province has established three marking centres in Kimberly to run this year's marking processes. Approximately 900 markers were appointed to mark 139 000 scripts this year and are expected to conclude marking processes on 14 December 2017.

Markers continue to play a significant role in the education sector because they enable the Department of Basic Education (DBE) to achieve quality results. Various education stakeholders are currently working very hard to monitor the entire marking activities whilst ensuring that markers receive full support.

Basic Education Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mweli, who had already visited 65 centres across all nine provinces, paid a courtesy visit to Kimberly, Northern Cape Province to monitor the standard of marking in the province. The province has confirmed that most of the marking has already been completed. However, centre managers still have to ensure that all the marks are captured accurately before marking centres are officially closed.

In his visit to Kimberly marking centres, Mr Mweli conducted a walk-about to various rooms and addressed markers. "Markers in this country are highly valuable because they help the education sector to assess learners on their 12 years of schooling."

On behalf of the Minister, Mrs Angie Motshekga and Deputy Minister, Mr Enver Surty, I would like to appreciate the work done by markers in this country. Through your valuable contribution; we are assured that the standard of the NSC Examination will rise to the top," highlighted Mr Mweli.



PHOTOGRAPHIC
RECORD OF THE
DG'S VISIT TO
MARKING CENTRES
IN NORTHERN CAPE



The background of the entire page is a close-up, slightly blurred image of a test paper. It features a grid of circles containing letters (A, B, C, D, E) and numbers (47, 48, 49, 50). A yellow pencil is positioned diagonally from the top left, and a red pen is positioned diagonally from the top right. A large, faint red 'X' is drawn across the lower half of the page. The text 'DEPARTMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION' is centered in an orange banner.

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