

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION 412.

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412. Mr N L S Kwankwa (UDM) to ask the Minister of Basic Education: to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

(1) With reference to the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture and her department on 4 September 2024, which seeks to revitalise school sports, arts and culture, particularly within historically disadvantaged and underprivileged communities, what progress has been made in the planning and preparatory phases to ensure the effective implementation of the specified initiative;

(2) what (a) structured mechanisms and (b) strategic interventions does her department intend to employ to operationalise the implementation plan, including (i) defined timelines, (ii) intergovernmental coordination and (iii) equitable resource allocation for the 2025-26 financial year and beyond;

(3) (a) what role will provincial departments, schools, civil society organisations and private sector stakeholders be expected to play in strengthening the initiative and (b) how will her department ensure meaningful collaboration to maximise its impact in underprivileged communities?

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Response

To give practical effect to the Memorandum of Understanding, the co-drafting of guidelines by both the Department of Basic Education (DBE) and the Department of Sports, Arts and Culture (DSAC) commenced with the formation of writing teams from both Departments. Inputs on the guidelines were sourced through engagements with the following:

- Provincial Education Departments (PEDs) and Provincial Departments responsible for Sport, Arts and Culture; and
- Extended Joint National Task Team (ExJNTT), which comprises officials from both Departments at national and provincial level, national federations, national school sport code structures, educator unions and School Governing Body associations.

The main objectives of the guidelines are:

- To guide and regulate regular participation of learners in school sport at lower levels and at a grassroots level;
- To increase participation in school sport within rural and disadvantaged communities; and
- To provide a platform for talent selection, as well as talent identification and development.

The DBE and DSAC are currently conducting Provincial Roadshows on the implementation of the guidelines to assist schools with participation in sport, arts and culture programmes. These Roadshows will be conducted until the end of the current financial year. Thus far, Provincial Roadshows have been held in the North West and Eastern Cape. Through the Provincial Roadshows, all 75 education districts will be engaged to ensure alignment at a school level.

The Provincial Roadshows are structured as follows:

- Day 1: Joint meeting between DBE, DSAC, the relevant PED, Provincial Sport Department together with their respective district officials that coordinate sport programmes; and
- Day 2: Joint meeting with all relevant stakeholders within the province.

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Provinces are then required to further engage with all their provincial relevant stakeholders and come up with plans and programmes in which schools can participate.

Working with DSAC and all relevant stakeholders, these plans and programmes must be developed to focus on the following indicators (as canvassed with all relevant role players and stakeholders through the Provincial Roadshows):

- Number of leagues (including matches) managed and coordinated at a local level;
- Number of festivals organised where leagues are difficult to be hosted on a regular basis due to, amongst other things, compromised transport and the vast distances between schools;
- Number of induction sessions, workshops and training sessions conducted for educators and volunteers; and
- Number of arts and cultural activities sessions conducted at a local level.

Once the Provincial Roadshows conducted with DSAC are concluded, provinces will submit their programmes of implementation to the DBE and DSAC. These programmes will be a product of engagements with all relevant stakeholders within the province.

The DBE and DSAC coordinate quarterly meetings of the Joint National Task Team (JNTT) and Extended Joint National Task Team (ExJNTT) to look at progress, as well as to work on the plans for the next quarter. The JNTT is comprised of officials from DBE, DSAC, PEDs and Provincial Departments responsible for Sport, Arts and Culture. The ExJNTT is composed of the same as mentioned above but with the addition of national federations, national school sport code structures, educator unions and School Governing Body associations.

The DBE further coordinates the South African Schools Choral Eisteddfod (SASCE) National Coordinating Committee (NCC) on a quarterly basis. This body is comprised of officials from DBE, DSAC, educator unions and sponsors (currently the Motsepe Foundation).

The major budget for the implementation of the School Sport Programme is with the DSAC through a conditional grant.

The main roles and responsibilities of the various stakeholders are:

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Stakeholder	Basic roles and responsibilities
DSAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Oversee and manage the planning and implementation of regular participation.· Fund the management and coordination of the regular participation.· Support schools with equipment, attire and other necessary requirements.· Coordinate and monitor federations in the implementation.· Jointly with DBE, monitor the Participation Organising Structure.
DBE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Assist in overseeing the planning and implementation of regular participation.· Manage and coordinate the implementation intra-school activities, Physical Education and ECD Programme.· Liaise with educator unions and School Governing Body associations to support educators in implementing regular participation.· Lead in coordinating educational campaigns, i.e. learner pregnancy and bullying.· Support the sourcing for schools of equipment, attire and other necessary requirements.· Coordinate and monitor school sport structures in the implementation of regular participation.· Jointly with DSAC, monitor the Participation Organising Structure.
Provincial DSAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Lead the implementation of regular participation by coordinating the logistics with the districts, school sport structures, federations and the Participation Organising Structure.· Liaise with federation and sister units, i.e. Academy, Community Sport & Club Development regarding talent identification and development.· Liaise with local municipality.· Liaise with Traditional council.
Provincial DoE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Lead the implementation of the regular participation by coordinating the logistics with the districts.· Liaise with school sport structures, educator unions and School Governing Body associations mainly on strategic matters.
Educator Unions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Support and guide the participation of educators in the School Sport programme.· Support the development of educators in the School Sport Programme.· Assist in the monitoring of the participation of educators in the School Sport Programme.

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School Governing Bodies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Support the implementation of school sport within schools.· Support schools in the implementation of intra-school matches.
School Sport Structures (SSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Manage and coordinate the implementation of regular participation.· Liaise with the Participation Organising Structure in the implementation of regular participation· Liaise with schools, educators, School Governing Bodies mainly on operational matters.
Sport Federations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Provide technical support and talent identification.
Provincial Sport Confederations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Assist in monitoring the sport federations.
Local Municipalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Provide sport facilities and related facilities.
Local businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Provide financial or in-kind support.
Other Government departments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Provide services related to their respective mandate, e.g., Department of Health, Department of Home Affairs, etc.
loveLife	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Provide Edutainment and coordinate with School Sport social awareness campaign.