

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 437.**

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**437. Mr S L Ngcobo (IFP) to ask the Minister of Basic Education: to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

(1) What is the budget allocation of her department to provide for (a) social workers and (b) psychologists to support schools;

(b) what number of (a) social workers and (b) psychologists are currently employed by her department to support schools?

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#### **Response**

Provincial Education Departments (PEDs) are responsible for the allocation of budgets for the employment of staff, including both teaching and non-teaching personnel. Approximately 4% of the total compensation of employee budgets is allocated to the employment of personnel in the category of public special school education by the PEDs.

The sector currently employs a total of:

- 677 social services professionals;
- 1,245 education therapists;
- 232 educational psychologists; and
- 54 education counsellors.