

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 659.**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION OF INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 28/02/2025**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 05/2025**

**659. Ms P Marais (EFF) to ask the Minister of Basic Education: to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

- (1) Whether she and/or her department is responsible for giving the guidance to special needs schools on the leasing of their property such as apartments; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so,
- (2) whether she has been informed that the principal of a certain special needs school, leases the apartments, that are supposed to accommodate staff, to members of the community, leaving the under-paid staff members of the school vulnerable; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so,
- (3) whether she will commission an investigation into the specified allegations; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

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#### **Response**

(1) The leasing of property by special needs schools falls under the jurisdiction of Provincial Education Departments (PEDs). The Department of Basic Education (DBE) has not yet developed specific guidelines for the leasing of property by special needs schools.

(2) The Minister of Basic Education and the DBE have not received any queries or reports regarding this matter.

(3) Given the above, the question in relation to the specific special needs school falls under the executive authority of the MEC for Education in the relevant province. The Honourable Member is kindly requested to refer the question to the MEC for Education in the relevant province as per section 92(3)(b) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa and Rule 134 (5)(b) of the National Assembly Rules.

Upon receipt of specific details regarding the matter, the DBE will refer the issue to the relevant PED for further investigation.