

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORAL REPLY

QUESTION 101.

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INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 05/2023

101. . Ms A M van Zyl (DA) to ask the Minister of Basic Education: to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

How does her department intend to deal with overcrowding in schools (details furnished) to maintain the focus on quality education and learning?

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Response

The Department intends to deal with overcrowding in schools through a programme called Special Intervention Programme on Overcrowding in Schools (SIPOS). The proposal involves the supply of additional classrooms to affected schools at a reduced cost and time, that it would normally cost and take when following conventional methods of procurement and appointing service providers to reduce overcrowding in schools through direct transfer and self-built classrooms. Discussions are at an advanced stage with Treasury for funding.

In the short term, we are continuing with the supply of mobile classrooms in affected areas. We are establishing satellite schools to accommodate unplaced learners. Some specialist rooms are temporarily used as classrooms to alleviate overcrowding until the self-built programme commences.