

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION 1118.

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1118. Mr B B Nodada (DA) to ask the Minister of Basic Education: to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

(1) (a) On what date did her department install ventilated improved pit toilets at each school, (b) what total number of times has each toilet been de-sludged, (c) on what date (i) was the last and (ii) is the next desludging and (d) on what date was the last maintenance of each ventilated improved pit toilet;

(2) whether each of the ventilated improved pit toilets (a) has a door and (b) a stable structure; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

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Response

1 (a) The earliest record of the presence of ventilated improved pit latrines in schools is in the School Register of Needs Survey, which was released in August 1997, which indicated that at that time, 5% of schools in the country were using ventilated improved pit latrines. Currently, 8 376 schools across the country, have VIP latrines.

(b) (c) (i) (ii) (d) Schools are responsible for maintaining and desludging the ventilated improve pit latrines. Desludging can be carried out at different intervals depending on the usage of the facility. As a result, individual schools will de-sludge at different intervals.

(2) (a) (b) Yes. Each ventilated improved pit latrine, has a door and a stable structure as specified. These have to be regularly maintained by the school to ensure that they remain in pristine, hygienic and tidy state at all times.