

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION 2541. : [É382]

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2541. [É382]. Mr S L Ngcobo (IFP) to ask the Minister of Basic Education to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

[Question submitted for oral reply now placed for written reply because it is in excess of quota (Rule 137(8))]

(1) Whether her department is planning to rework its current special schools' model and/or strategy in order to provide learners who live with disabilities with effective, quality education that would ensure that they are active members of society with the same standard of living; if not, why not; if so, what has been the progress of her department with the implementation thereof;

(2) whether she has found that her department has sufficient educators who are adequately trained to effectively handle and/or deal with learners living with disabilities in both primary and high schools; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

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Response

(1) No, the implementation of inclusive education in South Africa is guided by Education White Paper 6. Education White Paper 6 states that special schools will not be abolished. Therefore, at this juncture, there are no plans to rework the model.

(2) Yes. Provincial education departments have trained 206 155 in specialised areas on inclusion from 2017. This means that more learners now have access to a teacher trained in the relevant specialised areas on inclusion. The training of teachers in specialised areas is an indicator in the Annual Performance Plan. Given the fact that the education system continues to grow, provincial education departments continue to train teachers in specialised areas.