

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 2867.**

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**2867. Mrs C C S Motsepe (EFF) to ask the Minister of Basic Education: to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

What steps is her department taking to ensure that all pre-schools, day-care centres and creches are no-fee schools?

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#### **Response**

In line with the principles of a function shift, which is purely an administrative process of moving a function from one department to another, the Early Childhood Development (ECD) function has been moved to the DBE along those same lines, and is being implemented as is. This means the DBE is providing ECDs, which are early learning programmes, and not schools, with the same support as that which was provided by the Department of Social Development (DSD). This support includes the provision of a subsidy to poor children attending these programmes. The DBE is however, in the process of planning for improvements in ECD, but these are dependent on the availability of funding.