

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

QUESTION PAPER

NOTE:

1. † Indicates translated version of the question.
2. ★ Indicates a question for oral reply.
3. ■ Indicates a written question transferred for oral reply in terms of **Rule 231**.

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QUESTIONS FOR ORAL REPLY**TUESDAY, 5 SEPTEMBER 2023***Hair extension policy***★179. Ms N Ndongeni (Eastern Cape: ANC) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

Whether, in light of an incident at the Crowthorne Christian Academy in Midrand in Gauteng (details furnished), the confrontation regarding the learner's dreadlocks that the school deemed to be in violation of its 'no extensions' policy is in line with her department's prescripts; if not, how will this be addressed; if so, what are the relevant details? CO715E

*Schools to be energy resilient***★169. Ms D C Christians (Northern Cape: DA) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

Whether any plans and/or initiatives are in place to compel schools to be more energy resilient on a national level as loadshedding is depriving schools to function properly (details furnished); if so, what are the relevant details? CO705E

*Presidential Youth Employment Initiative***★180. Ms N E Nkosi (Mpumalanga: ANC) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

What has been the contribution of her department to the Presidential Youth Employment Initiative to alleviate the challenge of unemployment in general and the youth unemployment in particular? CO716E

*Science/Mathematics achievement gaps***★175. Ms S B Lehihi (North West: EFF) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

What recent interventions have been made to bridge the achievement gaps in Science and Mathematics among learners in the rural and township schools? CO711E

*National School Nutrition Programme***★186. Ms D C Christians (Northern Cape: DA) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

Whether, with reference to the unprecedented cost-of-living crisis and the dependence on the National School Nutrition Programme by learners (details furnished), the said programme will be expanded to provide two meals to qualifying learners on each school day? CO722E

*Decline in primary reading competency***★181. Mr M E Nchabeleng (Limpopo: ANC) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

Whether, in light of the report on Progress in International Reading and Literacy Study that was released on 16 May 2023, her department has any immediate plans to address the decline in primary reading competency in order to increase the literacy levels of learners in South Africa; if not, why not; if so, (a) what plans and (b) what are the further relevant details?

CO717E

■14. Ms D C Christians (Northern Cape: DA)—Basic Education. [Written Question No 261] [Replied to – 29 August 2023]*Eviction of NSFAS students***★182. Mr I Ntsube (Free State: ANC) to ask the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation:**

- (1) Whether, with reference to media reports that more than 300 students from the Cape Peninsula University of Technology who are funded by the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) were evicted from private residences as a result of unpaid accommodation fees, he and/or his department has engaged the relevant stakeholders to attend to this matter; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether any actions will be taken with the NSFAS cap of R45 000 on accommodation in order for students not to experience problems in the future; if not, why not; if so, (a) what actions and (b) what are the further relevant details?

CO718E

*Funding discrepancies at Sol Plaatje University***★170. Ms D C Christians (Northern Cape: DA) to ask the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation:**

- (a) How has the funding discrepancies at the Sol Plaatje University in the Northern Cape occurred where 107 students from the National Student Financial Aid Scheme were defunded halfway through the academic year and (b) how were the students who did not qualify awarded funding at the said institution?

CO706E

*Effects of climate change***★183. Mr E Z Njadu (Western Cape: ANC) to ask the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation:**

Whether, with South Africa having experienced devastating floods in KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape in particular, the Department of Science and Innovation and its entities have any mitigation plans to minimise the effects of climate change in the future; if not, why not; if so, (a) what plans and (b) what are the further relevant details?

CO719E

*Electricity at Umfolozi TVET college***★174. Ms S A Luthuli (KwaZulu-Natal: EFF) to ask the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation:**

What interventions have been made regarding the Nkandla Campus of the Umfolozi Technical Vocational Education and Training College which has been without electricity since 20 July 2023 as a result of an outstanding electricity account with the municipality? CO710E

*Safety and security of female students***★171. Ms D C Christians (Northern Cape: DA) to ask the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation:**

What steps will he take to improve the safety and security of female students at higher education institutions (details furnished)? CO707E

*Initiatives to fight unemployment***★184. Mr M E Nchabeleng (Limpopo: ANC) to ask the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation:**

- (1) What has been the contribution of the higher education sector to the initiatives by the Government to fight unemployment;
- (2) whether there are any plans to enhance the skills development for unemployed youth; if not, why not; if so, (a) what plans and (b) what are the further relevant details? CO720E

Questions for oral reply transferred for written reply in terms of Rule 228(5):

★172. Ms S A Luthuli (KwaZulu-Natal: EFF)—Basic Education.

★173. Mr K Motsamai (Gauteng: EFF)—Basic Education.

★176. Mr M S Moletsane (Free State: EFF)—Basic Education.

★177. Mr M S Moletsane (Free State: EFF)—Higher Education, Science and Innovation.

★178. Mr K Motsamai (Gauteng: EFF)—Higher Education, Science and Innovation.

★185. Mr M R Bara (Gauteng: DA)—Higher Education, Science and Innovation.