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**1451.  . Ms R N Komane (EFF) to ask the Minister of Basic Education: to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

Given that several learners are not fed at schools due to the challenges faced by the National School Nutrition Programme and noting that most service providers throughout the Republic, particularly in KwaZulu-Natal, have still not received payment, (a) what are the causes of such challenges and (b) by what date does she envisage the situation will be addressed, as most learners cannot concentrate at school due to poverty?

**Response**

(a) Government aims to pay all service providers within a 30 day time period. The late payment in KZN is related to difficulties experienced in that province linked to the inability of a service provider to fulfil its obligations in terms of a recent tender.

(b) The NSNP in the provinces, has since been stabilised; and feeding in schools has been fully restored.