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**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 17/2021**

**1875.  Mr B B Nodada (DA) to ask the Minister of Basic Education: to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

What is the total number of teacher cases that are still unresolved with the SA Council of Educators?

**Response**

**As at 31 July 2021, The South African Council for Educators still had a total of 826 cases that still remain unresolved and are still being processed.**

More resources are being deployed to deal effectively with the existing backlog that is a direct result of the negative effect of Covid 19 that has, to a large extent, made it extremely difficult to get access to victims and witnesses. Quite often this applies to learners who are restrained by their parents to participate on misconduct cases which are linked to educators. Such a development often leads to delayed resolution and finalisation of cases.

In addition, the fear by teachers and Presiding officers to travel during this pandemic, witness tampering and intimidation of complainants by accused educators has impacted negatively on SACE’s ability to clear cases as planned. These challenges are being addressed by seeking cooperation, implementing awareness programmes and encouraging the community to help in enforcing the code of professional ethics.