**Memorandum from the Parliamentary Office**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 1992**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION OF INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 30/06/2017**

**(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER 24 OF 2017)**

**Mr M S Mbatha (EFF) to ask the Minister of Higher Education and Training:**

Whether the Government intends to open teaching colleges such as Tshisimani Teachers College in Tshakhuma in Limpopo; if not, why not; if so, on what date?

**NW2207E**

**REPLY:**

It should be noted that the Tshisimani Teachers’ College in Limpopo is currently being utilised as a Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) college and also serves as a Circuit office for the Limpopo Department of Education and therefore is not available for use for teacher education.

The Department undertook a survey of former college of education sites to identify those that may be suitable for teacher education and post-school education and training more generally. The 2015 survey of 106 former college sites shows that 84 sites are being used for education delivery purposes, while the rest are mostly being utilised by government.

Government does not intend re-opening teaching colleges unless such a former college is identified as a feasible site for teacher education and funding is made available from the fiscus to recapitalise and ensure its operations.

It should be noted that the Department has been working on expanding teacher education capacity through a number of processes, including the re-opening of former teacher education college campuses in Mpumalanga, and the further development of former college of education sites in the Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal. These sites are campuses of universities.

COMPILER/CONTACT PERSONS:

EXT:

DIRECTOR – GENERAL

STATUS:

DATE:

QUESTION 1992 APPROVED/NOT APPROVED/AMENDED

Dr BE NZIMANDE, MP

MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING

STATUS:

DATE: