**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 235**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION OF INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 17/02/2017**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 02/2017**

**235. Ms D Carter (Cope) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

(1) What total number of students (a) were granted bursaries from the Funza Lushaka Bursary Scheme in the 2016 academic year and (b) who graduated were placed successfully within the public school system in each province in the specified year;

(2) were sufficient funds budgeted for the intake of new teachers in 2016; if not, why not;

(3) were all new teachers paid in the month that they started teaching; if not, (a) why not and (b) by what date will they receive their payment; if so, what are the relevant details;

(4) in the event where teachers did not receive their salaries in January 2017 and February 2017 due to nonpayment, will the tax be calculated and deducted on the basis of (a) their monthly salary or (b) the lump sum received as salary and back-pay? NW251E

**REPLY**

1. (a) **14 343** Students were granted bursaries from the Funza Lushaka Bursary Scheme in the 2016 academic year;

(b) Placement of Funza Lushaka graduates is an ongoing process as it part of the processes of the filling of posts in schools. As at the middle of February 2017, the placement status in each province was as follows:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **PED** | **Placed** | **Unplaced** | **Total Allocation** |
| **Eastern Cape** | 433 | 128 | 561 |
| **Free State** | 294 | 6 | 300 |
| **Gauteng** | 810 | 44 | 854 |
| **KwaZulu-Natal** | 996 | 45 | 1 041 |
| **Limpopo** | 377 | 10 | 387 |
| **Mpumalanga** | 375 | 5 | 380 |
| **North West** | 216 | 0 | 216 |
| **Northern Cape** | 137 | 6 | 143 |
| **Western Cape** | 430 | 219 | 649 |
| **Grand Total** | **4 068** | **463** | **4 531** |

(2) The determination of the educator post basket for each province is an annual process which is determined by balancing both the curriculum needs and the available budget or affordability. An affordable post basket is then allocated accordingly also taking into account factors such as prevailing allocation levels and targeted learners to educator ratios. All posts are distributed to schools using the post provisioning model and there is no specific allocation for new teachers. It is also important to note that the process of declaring posts is subject to consultation with the Teacher Unions and School Governing Bodies.

(3) The National Department does not routinely collect this operational data as it is not required to report on the indicators prioritised for monitoring at national level. The information will be requested from provinces and supplied accordingly once obtained.

 (4) The standard practice for tax calculation is to calculate tax based on a monthly salary. This is to ensure income is placed in an appropriate tax bracket.