**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 2467**

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**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 29/2017**

**2467. Mr G A Gardee (EFF) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

How many educators will be trained in the next five years for (a) primary and (b) high school level? NW2724E

**REPLY**

The Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) is responsible for the funding of teacher education, the development of policies that regulate the offering of teacher education programmes by Higher Education Institutions, to monitor and support the implementation of policies and to support capacity development at universities. Twenty-three (23) universities in the country are involved in teacher education.

The DBE, through the Funza Lushaka bursary programme, has made a considerable contribution by improving the attractiveness of teaching as a choice for many South African youth. The merit-based criteria for awarding the bursary have contributed to a higher calibre of students entering Initial Teacher Education programmes. The Funza Lushaka bursary programme is targeting to award a total of **65,500** bursaries for initial teacher education over the next five (5) years. It is estimated that **31,750** Funza Lushaka bursaries will be awarded for the training of primary school teachers and **33 750** Funza Lushaka bursaries for the training of high school teachers.