**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 2607.**

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**2607. Mr B B Nodada (DA) to ask the Minister of Basic Education: to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

(1). Whether her department has begun to develop a policy for home- schooling and virtual learning; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;

(2). whether, in light of the fact that COVID-19 has highlighted the need for more flexible and innovative teaching and learning methods, her department foresees online schools in the near future; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

**Response**

(1). There is a Policy on Home Education, which was promulgated in 2018.

(2). The department has developed a draft framework for the establishment of the online private and public schools. The purpose of the framework is to address the policy gap and provide guidance on the procedure for the establishment of the Online School. The framework has been shared with Provincial Education Departments for input and comments before it can be distributed to other stakeholders.