**DATE OF PUBLICATION OF INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 19/02/2021**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 02/2021**

**269.   Dr S S Thembekwayo (EFF) to ask the Minister of Basic Education: to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

Whether she has been informed that many public schools are still excluding learners on the basis of non - payment of school fees; if not, why not; if so, what steps has she taken to stop the practice and allow learners to receive education without any hindrances?

**Response**

I have been informed about the illegal practices by schools to collect school fees, and charge registration fees as a condition for learners to return to school.

I have instructed the Department to work with Provincial Education Departments to ensure that school principals and School Governing Bodies stop the practice.  Officials of the Department have been conducting interviews on various radio stations in the country, to inform parents about their rights on the demand by schools to charge registration fee.  Media statements, including statements on social media, have been issued on the matter, advising all affected parents to report such cases to the nearest provincial or district office for intervention.