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

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 02/2021**

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

Whether her department has commenced with the recruitment process to fill vacancies of the 1 600 educators who succumbed to COVID-19; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

**Response**

The filling of vacant posts is an ongoing process to ensure that there is a teacher in front of every class.  Schools received their new post establishments for 2021 in September and October 2020.  All vacant posts that occurred as a result of the declaration of the new post establishments, and/or natural attrition, are filled continuously.  This would include all vacancies that resulted from the loss of 1600 educators, who succumbed to COVID-19.  The posts are filled in the order of priority, which involves the placement of educators declared in addition; placement on provincial and national bursary recipients; placement of young graduates; and lastly other unemployed educators seeking employment in public schools.