**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 4099**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION OF INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 20/11/2015**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 50/2015**

**4099. Mr G R Davis (DA) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

(1) How many grade 11 learners in 2014 were progressed to grade 12 in 2015 in each province;

(2) of those progressed learners, how many have opted to complete their National Senior Certificate over a period of two years in each province;

(3) will the students who have opted to complete their National Senior Certificate over two years be excluded from the calculation of the National Senior Certificate pass rate in 2015; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details;

(4) have the content and specific requirements of the progression policy been finalised yet; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NW4971E

**RESPONSE:**

**Question 1**

 The number of learners that were progressed from Grade 11 to Grade 12 in 2015 is presented in the table below. In September 2015, the Department of Basic education (DBE) responded to a similar question presented by the Honourable Lovemore, and the figures have decreased since September 2015. It was indicated in the September response that those were preliminary figures, which had to be verified. The figures presented below are the verified figures.

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| **PROVINCE** | **PROGRESSION NO** |
| Eastern Cape | 12 618 |
| Free State | 8 172 |
| Gauteng | 8 501 |
| KwaZulu-Natal | 10 633 |
| Limpopo | 14 390 |
| Mpumalanga | 5 228 |
| North West | 3 673 |
| Northern Cape | 2 283 |
| Western Cape | 4 813 |
| National | 70 311 |

Data from National Senior Certificate (NSC) Main Frame Exam system as per 27 November 2015.

**Question 2**

The number of learners who have opted to complete their National Senior Certificate (NSC) examination over two years or more, will only be available after the writing of the examination and after the data has been captured on the system. This will provide the final number of learners who have in fact taken advantage of this opportunity.

**Question 3**

National and provincial pass rates are based on two aspects i.e. overall pass rates and subject pass rates. Given that these candidates would not have completed the full subject package as at the end of the 2015 NSC examination, they cannot be included in the determination of the overall pass rate, but will be included in the reporting of the subject pass rate. Therefore, these learners are not excluded from the reported data relating to the 2015 NSC examinations.

**Question 4**

 The specific criteria for the implementation of the Progression Policy has been approved by the Council of Education Ministers. The Department of Basic Education (DBE) has commenced with the finalisation of policy regarding this matter and the first step in the process is the call for public comments on the criteria. This will be completed by the end January 2016, and thereafter, the comments will be incorporated into the proposal and gazetted as policy by the Minister.