**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY   
FOR WRITTEN REPLY   
QUESTION NO. 4678   
DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 02 DECEMBER 2022 (INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 51)   
  
Mrs C C S Motsepe (EFF) to ask the Minister of Health:**   
  
What measures have been taken by his department in each province to make provision for an increase in the number of porters in public hospitals? NW5801E   
  
**REPLY:**   
  
The National Department of Health can confirm that from the total of 3 510 posts for porters, 3 193 are filled. The 148 posts were filled during the current financial year 2022/2023 in the nine (9) Provincial Health Departments, respectively, as recorded in the PERSAL date set of 31 October 2022.   
  
Due to financial constraints, Provinces have implemented a systematic process of approving funding and advertisements of both health related and administrative posts by accounting officers in consultation with Provincial Treasuries. This process, supersedes filling of vacant posts to avoid exceeding Cost of Employment (COE) budgets. END.