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**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 01/2021**

**47.  Ms M R Mohlala (EFF) to ask the Minister of Basic Education: to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

What (a) are the reasons that teacher assistants have not been paid in KwaZulu-Natal for the past three months and (b) steps has she taken to resolve the specified matter?

**Response**

a)What  are the reasons that teacher assistants have not been paid in KwaZulu-Natal for the past three months

The teacher assistance were employed in December 2020. The province reported that the delay in payment of stipend is that the PED experienced a challenge with monthly cashflows received from their Provincial Treasury . The Provincial Treasury is allocating cashflow to the Provincial department amounting to 8.33% of the annual budget.

b)What steps has she taken to resolve the specified matter?

The Department is conducting weekly meetings with PEDs to provide assistance and guidance. The PED reported that they  engaged  with the Provincial Treasury, and  the funds will be released to Districts on 11 and 18 February 2021. It is envisaged that the outstanding stipends will be finalised by 20 February 2021. The matter pertaining to February and March stipends is being attended to by the PED with the Provincial Treasury.