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**49. Ms C V King (DA) to ask the Minister of Basic Education: to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

**How will budget cuts affect post provisioning norms?**

**Response**

Implementation of budget cuts will potentially have an effect on the number of posts declared and may result in increased learner to educator ratios and consequently larger class sizes. The impact will vary across provinces depending on their historical budget pressure circumstances. However, Provincial Education Departments are expected to implement measures to lessen the impact. These measures include improving efficiencies in the management of the movement of educators declared in addition to staff establishments and the speedy processing of ill-health and incapacity cases. Furthermore, the sector has noted that the average unit cost of an educator is declining and will continue as older and more expensive educators retire and are replaced by less costly younger entrants.