**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION631.**

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**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER:12/2020**

**631.  . Dr S S Thembekwayo (EFF) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

What plans does she have in place to monitor that all learners who are expected to continue with school work from home do their work?

**Response**

To ensure that learners continue to be supported while they are at home during the Lockdown, the sector put the following measures in place:

1. Schools and teachers **distributed and issued learners with printed materials** that included workbooks as well as work sheet to learners before the official closure of schools by government under Covid 19.
2. **Teachers planned work for learners and learners were issued with work** to be done while they are not at school. A call was made to parents to support, assist and supervise the learners to do their work during this period of uncertainty.
3. To ensure that **learners in underserved and remotest areas are not left out** we have taken advantage of Radio as a mass media tool, we are to this end working with **110 radio stations to broadcast lessons in all 11 official languages, for all grades and  subjects on specific topics.**
4. Of these **110 Radio Stations are 10 National Radio Stations, 10 Regional Radio Stations as well as 90 Community Radio Stations across all 9 provinces.** This approach ensures that the most disadvantaged learner in terms of socioeconomic status and well as geographic location sis not left behind**. These radio stations have listenership that runs into Millions. The Broadcast Schedules have been developed.**
5. Our approach in intervening as a Sector, as evidenced through Department of Basic Education (DBE) and Provincial Education Departments (PEDs) interventions is cross cutting as it does not only include Radio Broadcast Lessons **but also include, distribution of Printed materials, Websites with online content, dedicated portals, Online schools, TV Broadcast Lessons as well as live streaming of lessons on a daily basis.**
6. **A special TV channel has been designated**, in partnership with eMedia Investments, **to broadcast educational support for learners and teachers**, with special focus on Grade 12 on the OpenView HD (OVHD) platform – channel 122. This channel is available free of any subscriptions and will broadcast for a period of six months starting from 01 April to 30 September 2020.
7. **Educational content has been curated and uploaded on the DBE website** in such a manner that it is visible and clearly accessible when a user lands on the website