**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 644**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION OF INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 30/08/2019**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 12/2019**

**644. Ms L L van der Merwe (IFP) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

With reference to the statement of the former President, Mr Jacob Zuma in his 2011 state of the nation address that all indigent school girls will receive free sanitary pads, (a)(i) what number of sanitary pads has been delivered to indigent school girls so far and (ii) in which provinces, (b) what number of indigent school girls have been identified by the Government as being in need of sanitary pads and (c) what is the time frame to ensure that all indigent school girls have access to sanitary pads? NW1694E

**RESPONSE**

Since the 2011 State of the Nation Address, the Presidency has established an interdepartmental coordinating mechanism to explore innovative means for implementing a sanitary dignity campaign, given the prevailing lack of resources in each department. The Department of Basic Education (DBE) continues to mobilise partners in business and civil society to support the cause of providing sanitary pads to leaners.