**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 654**

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**654. 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**:

The Department of Basic Education does not have a programme on sanitary pads. As such, the data on sanitary pads offered in schools is not kept by the Department. In this regard, the question can be referred to the Department of Social Development and the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities who offer such programmes.