

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN REPLY  
IQP 55  
FRIDAY, 20 FEBRUARY 2026

QUESTIONS	
<p><b>1728. Mr H Hendricks to ask the MEC responsible for Education:</b></p> <p><i>Noting that a total of 138 proposed replacement schools were reportedly budgeted for the 2025/26 financial year and subsequent to a response to Question 423 of IQP 16 dated Friday, 16 May 2025 wherein the department stated that on record it has 154 previously abandoned projects, with 86 which remain inactive and/or incomplete to date:</i></p>	
<p>(1) Whether he can kindly provide a comprehensive breakdown of the 138 proposed replacement schools budgeted for in the 2025/26 financial year, including (a) their current implementation status, (b) the stage and percentage of completion of each project, (c) the total budget allocated per project and (d) the amount spent to date in each instance;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It must be noted that the Eastern Cape is a disaster-prone province and as such, in February, June, and December, the Department is always faced with disasters affecting schools' infrastructure. These disasters affects the department's annual budget and projects have to be reprioritized.</li> <li>▪ 138 projects were identified for the 25/26Fy however, due to budgetary constraints, the department had to reprioritize the project list and streamlined it down to 86 projects in the 25/26FY (see attached Annexure A). Thus, 52 projects (Annexure B) were deferred to the outer years.</li> </ul>

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	<p>Below is the breakdown per a) current implementation status, c) total project, d) Expenditure to date.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="background-color: #D9E1F2;">a) Implementation Status</th> <th style="background-color: #D9E1F2;">No of Projects</th> <th style="background-color: #D9E1F2;">Total Project Cost (Contract Amount)</th> <th style="background-color: #D9E1F2;">c)Total Budget Allocated</th> <th style="background-color: #D9E1F2;">d)'Expenditure to date</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Stage 1: Initiation / Pre-Feasibility</td> <td style="text-align: center;">6</td> <td style="text-align: right;">201 171 872</td> <td style="text-align: right;">51 122</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1 820 695</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stage 2: Concept / Feasibility</td> <td style="text-align: center;">11</td> <td style="text-align: right;">888 539 664</td> <td style="text-align: right;">3 553 369</td> <td style="text-align: right;">18 118 271</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stage 4A: Design Documentation</td> <td style="text-align: center;">13</td> <td style="text-align: right;">909 434 024</td> <td style="text-align: right;">11 834 766</td> <td style="text-align: right;">42 841 111</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stage 5: Works</td> <td style="text-align: center;">35</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2 522 506 701</td> <td style="text-align: right;">592 719 363</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1 373 489 945</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stage 6: Handover</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10</td> <td style="text-align: right;">712 546 073</td> <td style="text-align: right;">104 503 474</td> <td style="text-align: right;">567 290 847</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stage 7: Close out</td> <td style="text-align: center;">11</td> <td style="text-align: right;">523 973 386</td> <td style="text-align: right;">7 540 189</td> <td style="text-align: right;">137 237 313</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Grand Total</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>86</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>5 234 198 334</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>720 202 283</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>2 003 560 869</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	a) Implementation Status	No of Projects	Total Project Cost (Contract Amount)	c)Total Budget Allocated	d)'Expenditure to date	Stage 1: Initiation / Pre-Feasibility	6	201 171 872	51 122	1 820 695	Stage 2: Concept / Feasibility	11	888 539 664	3 553 369	18 118 271	Stage 4A: Design Documentation	13	909 434 024	11 834 766	42 841 111	Stage 5: Works	35	2 522 506 701	592 719 363	1 373 489 945	Stage 6: Handover	10	712 546 073	104 503 474	567 290 847	Stage 7: Close out	11	523 973 386	7 540 189	137 237 313	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>5 234 198 334</b>	<b>720 202 283</b>	<b>2 003 560 869</b>
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<p>2) whether he can kindly indicate, of the 138 proposed replacement schools budgeted for the 2025/26 financial year, how many (a) have been fully completed and handed over, (b) are currently under construction, (c) have not yet commenced and (d) have been suspended, terminated or otherwise halted;</p>	<p>(a) During the 25/26FY, the Department completed 6 projects (see attached Annexure I)</p> <p>(b) 35 schools remain under construction (see attached list per (Annexure E)</p> <p>(c) Projects that have not commenced in respect to those under construction are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- As per the table in item 1, 52 projects have been deferred to the outer years due to budget constraints (see attached list Annexure B)</li> <li>- As per the table in item 1, 30 Projects have not commenced and are at various stages of planning (Stage 1 to 4) budgeted for in the 25/26 FY – (Annexure D)</li> </ul> <p>▪ 22 projects have been suspended and/or terminated (see Annexure)</p>																																								

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(d) whether he can kindly (a) provide the percentage completion status of each of the projects that remain under construction and (b) further indicate the projected completion dates for each;	<p>a) The attached Annexure E reflects progress status per project.</p> <p>b) On the same Annexure E, the completion dates are reflected.</p>
(e) whether he can kindly clarify, in respect of projects that have not commenced or have been halted, (a) the reasons for non-commencement or suspension, (b) whether contractors have been appointed in each instance and (c) whether any penalties or contract terminations have been instituted;	<p>a) 52 schools have been deferred to the outer years due to budget constraints as per item 2 c), 30 schools are at various stages of planning as per item 2c.</p> <p>b) These projects have not commenced as they are still in various stages of planning and others have been deferred per item 2c).</p> <p>Penalties are not applicable in this instance as projects are still in planning as only projects under construction apply penalties when they are late or where it is due.</p>
(f) whether he can kindly (a) provide the total expenditure incurred to date across the 138 proposed replacement schools and (b) indicate the (i) amount spent on completed projects, (ii) amount spent on projects that remain incomplete to date and (iii) remaining budget unspent to date;	<p>(a) As indicated on the table on item 1, only 86 projects have been budgeted for in the 25/26FY with expenditure amounting to R 2 003 560 869 incurred to date per Annexure C attached.</p> <p>(b) (i) R 375 998 493 was spent on the 6 completed projects per Annexure I (ii) R720 202 283 is the amount spent on the 35 projects that are under construction. (iii) as of 18th March 2026, the Education Infrastructure Grant, total budget was R 1 928 058 000 and the expenditure to date is R 1 925 357 866; therefore, a remaining budget of R 2 700 135 will be spent. The expenditure of R R720 202 283 forms part of the expenditure of R 1 925 357 866</p>
(c) whether he can kindly indicate, aside from replacement schools, (a) how many new schools have been constructed and completed over the last five financial years to date and (b) in respect of	<p>▪ According to Standardised Output Indicators (SOIs) from DBE New school is defined as a school that is newly established and registered under the South African Schools Act (Act 84 of 1996), with purpose-built facilities provided to accommodate learners. Scope of new schools includes construction of permanent</p>

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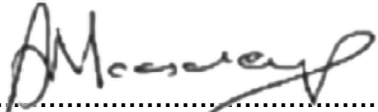
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<p>each such school, can he kindly provide the (i) name and location of the school, (ii) total budget allocation, (iii) amount expended to date (iv) date construction commenced and was completed;</p>	<p>(brick-and-mortar) facilities, or provision of Alternative Building Technology (ABT) facilities. Whereas replacement school is defined as a newly constructed school that replaces an existing school declared unsafe, structurally compromised or materially non-compliant with the Minimum Uniform Norms and Standards for Public School Infrastructure, or functionally inadequate to support effective teaching and learning (includes special schools). A replacement school may be built on the same site as the original or on an alternative site.</p> <p>(a) No new school has been constructed with brick and mortar but there is 1 new school Joe Gqabi SSS which was established and provided with prefabricated classrooms. Furthermore, 43 new schools( have been built that satisfies the term replacement school as outlined above, annexure H) in the last 5 years</p> <p>(b) (i) Joe Gqabi SSS in Maletswai, Joe Gqabi District  (ii) R 19,772,132.82  (iii) R 20,347,132.85  (iv) Start Date: 02 January 2024, Practical Completion date: 06 September 2024.</p>
<p>(d) noting that his Department previously accounted for 86 previously abandoned projects which remain inactive as per 2024/25, can he kindly indicate how many of the aforementioned projects remain inactive to date, specifically detailing (a) the amount expended to date, (b) the reasons for continued inactivity, (c) whether any contractor has</p>	<p>From the 86 projects, the department has completed 42 projects, 27 under construction 22 remain with terminated contracts in the process of being resuscitated.</p> <p>(a) The department spent R 154 134 227 to date on the terminated projects.  (b) Contractor terminations have been stated against each project where applicable on the attached Annexure F of the document.  (c) Also see attached Annexure F  (d) Anticipated dates for resumption are included on the attached Annexures.</p>

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been terminated or penalised and (d) the anticipated date for resumption or completion?	

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**MS SA MAASDORP**  
**HOD: EASTERN CAPE EDUCATION**  
**DATE: 24/03/2026**