



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



EdTM

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MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION ★73 FOR ORAL REPLY

A draft reply to the above mentioned question asked by Ms N K Bilankulu (ANC) is attached for your consideration.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE: 29/09/2014

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

**MRS NP MOKONYANE
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION**

DATE: 09.09.14

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO ★73

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 26 AUGUST 2014
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 11)

★73. Ms N K Bilankulu (ANC) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

With reference to the World Toilet Summit held in Durban from 3 to 6 December 2013 which emphasised and committed itself to proper health and hygiene education of communities that will guarantee the sustainability, need for change and encourages support and the sense of ownership to communities, how far she has taken steps to educate the communities in this regard; if not, (a) why not and (b) when does she intend to start with it; if so, in which provinces has the education of communities started?

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REPLY:

For every sanitation project, Health and Hygiene education is part of the process. In terms of the sanitation policies, Health and Hygiene Education should be mainstreamed in all sanitation projects that are implemented and funded by Government and it should be done in three stages namely prior, during and post project implementation.

The purpose for that is to ensure communities know the importance of good sanitation, general hygiene and cleanliness and to understand the role of good sanitation in prevention of sanitation related diseases. The Department continuously monitors the sanitation programmes of municipalities to ensure that they comply with Government policies including the policy on Health and Hygiene Education.

In addition to sanitation project linked Health and Hygiene Education the Department in partnership with the Department of Health conducts Health and Hygiene campaigns at certain periods in parts of the country that are likely to experience cholera outbreaks. In this regard during the Easter Pilgrimage of the Zion Christian Church in Morija, Health and Hygiene campaigns are conducted whenever there is a threat of cholera outbreak.

Schools are also visited during special sanitation commemoration days like Sanitation Week and World Health days to teach learners about the importance of good hygiene.

The normal routine for Health and Hygiene education is the responsibility of the Department of Health, however the Department works closely with the Department of Health and other sector role players to ensure that good Health and Hygiene is practiced to improve the quality of health of all South Africans.

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ANNEXURE A