

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

NOTICE OF QUESTION

Honorable Mike Kavekatora (**Signature**):.....

I give notice that on **Thursday, 25th February 2016** I shall ask the **Minister of Education, Arts and Culture, Honourable Katrina Hanse-Himarwa**, the following questions relating to free secondary education:

The recent introduction of free secondary education in Namibia is a welcome move that has been delayed for over 20 years since the adoption of the Constitution of the Republic of Namibia in 1990. The Constitution considers education for all as a right. Needless to say, education is the key to Namibia's development, and is commonly referred to as the greatest equalizer..

Allow me Honourable Speaker the privilege to briefly explain the logic of my questions to the Honourable Minister. The Honourable Minister of Basic Education was recently quoted in printed media making comments on the grade 10 and 12 results if one compares last year's results to the previous year. In this regard the Honourable Minister was also quoted as suggesting that private schools should be factored out from public schools when a comparative analysis is done.

As much as we all support free education at secondary levels, one would not want free education to be equated to lowering of standard and quality. There are reasons to believe that free secondary education as recently implemented has resulted in a significant decline in a fee per learner ratio.

Honourable Minister Hanse-Imalwa, I would like to ask you the following questions:

1. Was there a study done before the implementation of free secondary education to determine and maintain an optimal level of fees per learner? If so, could the Honourable Minister provide the study report to the nation for scrutiny?
2. Can the Minister elaborate and explain to the nation why she thinks it is prudent and logical for the public schools not to be benchmarked against private schools?

I so move.