
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL

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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA * Website: www.ecdoe.gov.za

**TO: ORGANISED LABOUR
SGB FORUMS
NAFCOCC
SCHOOL PRINCIPALS
EDUCATORS
PARENTS**

FROM: SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL

DATE: 29 SEPTEMBER 2020

**SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION VOWS TO DEFEND PROVISION OF QUALITY
PUBLIC EDUCATION FOR VULNERABLE AND NEEDY LEARNERS OF THE
EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE**

Dear Stakeholder,

- The eLearning project has featured prominently in Local and National media. The Department issued tablets to Grade 12 learners at Quintile 1 – 3 schools for the purpose of accessing virtual classrooms and host of additional curriculum resources published on Departmental websites.
- This has greatly assisted educators and learners to stay up to date with their curriculum coverage during extended school closures as a result of lockdown restrictions enforced during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Department of Education has been engaged in a court matter instituted by SITA against DEDEAT, the Department of Education, Provincial Treasury, Sizwe, MTN, and the Minister of Communications.
- The application faced by the Department was in two parts. In part A SITA applied for an interim interdict preventing the Department from further implementing the project and making payments to the service provider. In part B, the whole procurement process will be reviewed.

- On 29 September 2020, judgment was handed down in part A only. The court found that the applicant, SITA, has succeeded in proving the requirements for an interim interdict. Pending the finalisation of the review process in part B, the court has interdicted the Department of Education from implementing or further implementing the agreement and to make any payments to the service provider.
- It is important to note that no determination has been made as to the validity of the contract or any wrongdoing on the part of the Department.
- The Department is studying the judgment and taking advice from its legal team.
- An appeal is made to all SGB's, Principals, teachers and Grade 12 learners who have received Departmentally issued Tablets and sim cards, to maintain the safety of their devices until the matter is resolved.
- The Department will continue to fight for the right of all children to access quality basic education.
- Please do not hesitate to contact the Department, should you require further information regarding this matter.

Yours in education,



MR T KOJANA
SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL
DATE: 29/09/20