



**PARLIAMENT**  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
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Inkatha Freedom Party  
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25 June 2020

**Honourable Thandi Modise**

Speaker of the National Assembly  
Republic of South Africa  
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Cape Town  
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**Subject: Urgent Motion for debate of National Importance (Rule 130 of the 9<sup>th</sup> edition rules of the National Assembly).**

Dear Honourable Speaker,

I write to you on behalf of the Honourable SL Ngcobo, MP a member of the Portfolio Committee on Basic Education representing the Inkatha Freedom Party. We note with serious concern the continued phased-in approach to the reopening of schools by the Department of Basic Education, with grades six and eleven preparing to return to schools throughout the country next week.

Our primary concern is the health and wellbeing of the learners and their families which we believe remains at great peril and risk at the majority of schools in South Africa, due to non-compliance with COVID-19 safety protocols as gazetted by the Department of Basic Education.

In support of this we note the already current high number of COVID-19 infections [both learner and teacher] at our schools with just Grades seven and twelve having returned to school.

We should not be placing the lives of learners and teachers at any risk whatsoever, and believe in the circumstances that the reopening of schools has been premature, and accordingly request that this matter be tabled in the National Assembly for urgent debate.

In this regard we refer you to rule 130 (1) which deals with Urgent Matters of National Public Importance and which warrants the urgent call for the house to debate at its next available sitting.

Speaker, it is our hope that you share the sentiments of importance surrounding this matter and we look forward to your favourable response for this urgent request.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'N. Singh', is positioned above a horizontal line.

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**Mr N Singh, Chief Whip**  
**Inkatha Freedom Party**  
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