DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of the Secretary

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PRESS RELEASE

Department dismisses claims of Grade 12 examination paper leakage

The National Department of Education has dismissed claims circulating on social media that the 2026 Grade 12 national examination papers have leaked.

Secretary for Education. Dr Uke Kombra confirmed that the papers shared online are fake.

Dr Kombra clarified that the Measurement Services Division (MSD)which oversees national examinations, has checked the images circulating online and confirmed that they do not contain genuine examination papers.

"The security of examinations, from question writing to printing and distribution to the provinces is well secured, and any leak during this period is almost impossible.

I want to encourage the public and education authorities not to panic but to remain vigilant," Dr Kombra said.

The Secretary also urged students and parents not to fall prey to rogue groups or criminals selling fake examination papers for money.

"The Department has systems in place to identify whether examination cheating has occurred.

Examinations will be declared null and void if a school is caught cheating.

Students will not be certificated, and teachers involved will be terminated," Dr Kombra said.

MSD continues to monitor information received, analyse reports and investigate possible breaches to protect the integrity of the national examinations.

He also stressed that provincial education authorities, Provincial Education Advisers, inspectors, examination supervisors and school administrators must take responsibility for securing examination papers once schools receive them.

Dr Kombra said schools and education authorities must uphold honesty and ensure students sit their examinations fairly, without unauthorised access to examination papers.

The Department confirmed that Grade 10 examinations concluded last week without major issues. Grade 12 examinations continue on Monday, October 12, while Grade 8 examinations begin next week.

The Department urges students to remain calm, focus on their examinations and avoid sharing unverified information online.

Parents, teachers and the public should rely on official Department updates and report any credible information about examination breaches to the relevant education authorities.

The Department remains committed to protecting the integrity and fairness of the national examination process.

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Authorized for release by:

DR. UKE W. KOMBRA, PhD, OBE.
Secretary for Education