### NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

## **FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

#### **QUESTION 2547**

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# 2547. Mr H A Shembeni (EFF) to ask the Minister of Police:

Whether the SA Police Service prioritised the investigations of the continued assassinations of the leaders of Abahlali Base Mjondolo in the eKhenana Commune in KwaZulu-Natal; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what (a) progress has been made in understanding the primary causes of the specified assassinations and (b) total number of persons have been arrested to date?

### REPLY:

NW3054E

Yes, all the cases, which are related to the assassinations of the leaders of Abahlali Base Mjondolo in the eKhenana Commune, Cato Manor, KwaZulu-Natal, are being prioritised by the South African Police Service (SAPS). The following cases are being investigated by a task team that is situated at the Ethekwini District Office:

- Cato Manor CAS 269/01/2020: murder.
- Cato Manor 159/8/2021: murder.

The following cases are being investigated, at police station level:

- Cato Manor 33/5/2022: murder.
- Mariannhill 280/6/2017: murder.
- Mariannhill 306/5/2018: murder.
- (a) The progress made in understanding the primary causes of the specified assassination motives in the Cato Manor case dockets, is as follows:

The eKhenana area situated in Cato Manor, KwaZulu-Natal, is under dispute. Two parties are claiming ownership of this area and the right to occupy the land. The one part in Abahlali Base Mjondolo, is under the leadership of Lindokuhle Mnguni (deceased), the murder case docket, namely - Cato Manor CAS 159/8/2021, refers.

The other part of Abahlali Base Mjondolo is currently led by Mr Mhlanganelo John Ngubane. Mr Ngubane has a pending murder case and he is one of the two persons charged for the murder of another member of the Abahlali Base

Mjondolo movement, Ms Nokuthula Mabaso. The murder case docket, Cato Manor CAS 33/05/2022, refers.

Another person involved in these murders, is Khayelihle Gwabuzela, who is the son of Mr Mhlanganelo John Ngubane. Mr Gwabuzela was arrested for the murder of another member of the Abahlali Base Mjondolo, namely Ayanda Ngila. The murder case docket Cato Manor CAS 71/03/2022, refers. Bail was opposed in this case and the accused is awaiting trial at the Westville Prison. The case docket is at court.

In the case of Cato Manor CAS159/8/2022, the deceased, Lindokuhle Mnguni, was a witness in the Cato manor CAS 71/3/2022. In the Cato Manor CAS 269/8/2022 and Cato Manor CAS 33/5/2022, both the deceased were actively involved in the Abahlali Base Mjondolo movement. Both the deceased were also witnesses in other cases. The motives in the Mariannhill murder cases have not been established as of yet.

A total number of seven persons have been arrested, to date. (b)

Reply to question 2547 recommended/npt recommended

COMMISSIONER: SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE

SF MASEMOLA

Date: 2022 -09- 1 6

Reply to question 2547 approved/not approved

MINISTER OF POLICE GENERAL BH CELF, MP