

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR ORAL REPLYQUESTION 635

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(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 40-2023)

635. Mr A G Whitfield (DA) to ask the Minister of Police:

With reference to the VIP Protection Officers assigned to the Deputy President's protection team caught on camera assaulting members of the public, who are returning to work after their 60-days suspension, what (a) is the current status of the disciplinary action against each of the implicated officers and (b) steps has he taken to ensure that any officer who is being investigated for gross misconduct is suspended until the investigations have been finalised in order to protect members of the public and prevent the implicated officer from interfering with the investigation?

NO4762E

REPLY:

- (a) The investigation is complete, and in accordance with the South African Police Service (SAPS) Discipline Regulations, 2016, disciplinary hearings have been scheduled.
- (b) The SAPS Discipline Regulations, 2016, provides for the suspension of employees who are alleged to have committed serious acts of misconduct. The suspended employee is subjected to a disciplinary process, including an investigation, within 60 calendar days of such suspension. If the period of suspension lapses before the investigation or disciplinary process is finalised, the suspension will automatically be uplifted, in terms of the SAPS Discipline Regulations. The suspended employee must return to work, and an alternative placement is considered to prevent the employee from interfering with the investigation or disciplinary proceedings.

There are, however, a number of challenges, including case complexity and a lack of a dedicated discipline management capacity, which contribute to the investigations and/or disciplinary procedures not being completed before the suspension period ends.

The National Commissioner has approved the establishment of the dedicated capacity, in the form of Disciplinary Units, whose sole responsibility is to deal with all disciplinary matters, in the SAPS, in order to address this challenge.

Reply to oral question 635 recommended/~~not recommended~~



**GENERAL
NATIONAL COMMISSIONER: SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE
SF MASEMOLA (SOEG)**

Date:

Reply to oral question 635 approved/~~not approved~~



**MINISTER OF POLICE
GENERAL BHULE, MP**

Date: 08/11/2023