

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 1382**

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**(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 14-2022)**

**1382. Mr D F Mthenjane (EFF) to ask the Minister of Police:**

Which intervention measures has his department taken to combat (a) drug trafficking and (b) flourishing brothels across the Republic?

NW1674E

**REPLY:**

- (a) The South African Police Service (SAPS) has established the following intervention measures to combat drug trafficking:
- Bilateral meetings and Trilateral Planning Cell (TPC) engagements with the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries, to address drug trafficking.
  - Engagements with government departments, such as the Department of Health, the Department of Higher Education, the Department of Basic Education, the Department of Correctional Services and other stakeholders are held, to address drug trafficking in line with the Drug Master Plan.
  - Cross Border Operations are conducted and the 72 hour plan is activated in collaboration with the SADC countries, in line with the Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organisation (SARPCCO) treaties and agreements, to address transitional organised crime syndicates.
  - Drug trafficking cases are being dealt with through the Prevention of Organised Crime Investigation (POCA) approach, by means of major investigations and project driven investigations (undercover operations).
  - The South African Narcotics Enforcement Bureau's (SANEB), in the Directorate for Priority Crime Investigation (DPCI), focuses mainly on the following areas:
    - Major investigations pertaining to narcotics.
    - Projects pertaining to drug trafficking.

- Chemical monitoring programme, which has had an impact on both clandestine laboratories dismantled and overall drug-related operations.
  - In addition, the DPCI is measured on the performance indicator of percentage of clandestine laboratories dismantled with arrests. The performance indicator is monitored and reported on quarterly and is also encapsulated in the Medium Term Strategic Plan.
- (b) The SAPS deals with brothels, in terms of the current legislation, which includes the Sexual Offences Act, 1957 (Act No. 23 of 1957) that criminalises sex work and the operation of brothels and the Criminal Law (Sexual Offence and Related Matters) Amendment Act, 2007 (Act No. 32 of 2007) that specifies specific offences related to prostitution, in sections 11 and 17(1) to 17(5), as well as Section 23.

Police station commanders are required to identify and act against all criminality in their precincts, including brothels. To this end police stations are required to develop station intelligence profiles that identify such premises so that law enforcement actions and investigations can take place.

Brothels may also be linked to organised crime syndicates and human trafficking, in which case, projects are registered by the DPCI with the support of Crime Intelligence. Information from the public, in respect of the functioning of brothels may be reported to the SAPS Crime stop line or using the MYSAPS application. Any information received must be investigated by the SAPS and the requisite action must be taken.

The policing of prostitution or sex work is further guided by the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the Policing of Prostitution, issued in 2017, which addresses the SAPS responsibilities, as well as guidelines for dealing with sex workers, who may also be victims of human trafficking.

The SOP provides guidance, in respect of the relevant legislation, conduct of members, search, arrest and detention and specific provision for dealing with sex workers, who may be victims of human trafficking.

Reply to question 1382 recommended/~~not recommended~~



**NATIONAL COMMISSIONER: SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE  
SF MASEMOLA**

**GENERAL**

Date: 2022-05-09

Reply to question 1382 approved/~~not approved~~



**MINISTER OF POLICE  
GENERAL BH CELE, MP**

Date:

11/05/2022