

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION 1502

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 29 APRIL 2022
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 15-2022)

1502. Mr F Jacobs (ANC) to ask the Minister of Police:

In light of the fact that by the end of June 2021 it was confirmed by the SA Police Service (SAPS) that there were 1 577 drug houses operating in the Western Cape, with 53% of them situated in Cape Town, and that the prevalence of illicit drug trade in the specified province and the rest of the Republic further threatens the cohesion of communities and, noting that on Friday, 8 April 2022, the Western Cape Provincial Police Ombudsman, Mr Oswald Reddy, published a notice in the Provincial Gazette announcing an investigation into police inefficiencies as it relates to their failure to combat the operation of drug houses in the province, what (a) has he found to be the impact of the efforts of the SAPS in closing down drug dens in the Western Cape and (b) is his and/or his department's position on the allegation that the SAPS has failed to close down the drug dens?

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REPLY:

- (a) When known drug outlets in the Western Cape are closed down by the South African Police Service (SAPS) and/or integrated law enforcement agencies, there tends to be a decrease in crime in that area.

- (b) The SAPS Western Cape has noted the notice, by the Office of the Western Cape Police Ombudsman, of the intention to investigate allegations of the SAPS' inefficiency, in relation to drugs in the province. The SAPS respects the rule of law and will cooperate with the intended probe.

The scourge of drugs and its manifestations, while concerning to all, requires a whole-of-society approach, inclusive of all government entities, as stipulated in the National Drug Master Plan, 2019-2024.


Reply to question 1502 recommended/~~not recommended~~


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

GENERAL

Date: 2022-06-15

Reply to question 1502 approved/~~not approved~~


**MINISTER OF POLICE
GENERAL BH/CELE, MP**
Date: 15/06/2022