

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLYQUESTION 1876

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(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 18-2023)

1876. Inkosi B N Luthuli (IFP) to ask the Minister of Police:

What steps has the SA Police Service taken to ensure the safety and livelihoods of small-, medium- and micro-enterprises in the (a) construction and (b) farming sector are protected as the latter is a great contributor to our economy while there has been a significant decline in domestic investment in the construction sector due to the rise of what has become known as the construction mafia, which is not a fight that provincial governments can win singlehandedly?

NW2127E

REPLY:

- (a) The South African Police Service (SAPS) Division: Detective and Forensic Services, Component: Organised Crime Investigation addresses the threat of construction mafias by means of projects and major investigations.

The following statistical information reflects the impact of the SAPS' response to construction mafias and addresses the threat by means of a conventional policing approach:

Period	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024
Reported cases	94	41	10
Arrests	88	18	6
Under investigation	28	19	4
Undetected	19	8	0
Cases to court	21	8	6
Withdrawn	22	6	0
Unfounded	2	0	0
Convictions	0	0	0

In addressing the identified syndicates involved in construction mafias, no charges were brought against the targets, in terms of the Prevention of Organised Crime Act (POCA), 1998, (Act No. 121 of 1998) prosecution.

- (b) **The National Rural Safety Strategy (NRSS) was adopted, in response to the threat that violent crime in rural areas poses to the rural community, economy, agriculture, food security, as well as the peace and stability of South Africa. It recognises the need for a national response to address crime in rural areas and the need to work with stakeholders, in and outside of government, in this regard.**

All serious and violent crimes are focus areas in the NRSS. The implementation of the Strategy will take place over a period of five years, commencing on 1 April 2020 and ending on 31 March 2025.

The NRSS encourages an integrated and multidisciplinary approach between the SAPS and other departments, to improve the safety and security of all persons living and working in rural areas, including the commercial and emerging farming sector. It further recognises the need to mobilise communities to work with the SAPS in the interests of community safety.

To strengthen the implementation of the NRSS at police station level, Rural Safety Coordinators were appointed to coordinate all activities within the rural policing area.

The implementation of the NRSS is coordinated in an integrated approach through the Joint Operational and Intelligence Structures (JOINTS) of the Justice, Crime Prevention and Security (JCPS) Cluster. The JOINTS Priority Committees for Rural Safety, have been established at national, provincial, cluster/district and police station levels.

The Rural Safety Priority Committees involve representatives from all relevant role players, including Government Departments, Organised Agricultural Unions, Civil Rights Organisations, Registered Labour Unions and Community Policing Forums (CPFs).

The Minister of Police hosted a National Rural Safety Summit, on 27 and 28 June 2022. Following the Summit, an integrated team was appointed to work with the SAPS to strengthen the implementation of the NRSS, focusing on

recommendations made by participants during the Summit. The team includes representatives from Organised Agriculture, Business, Academic Institutions, Traditional Leaders, Research Institutions, Community Police Structures, Labour Unions and Faith-Based Originations. The team identified priorities that will enhance the implementation of the NRSS and are working with the existing Rural Safety Priority Committees, towards the implementation of these priorities.

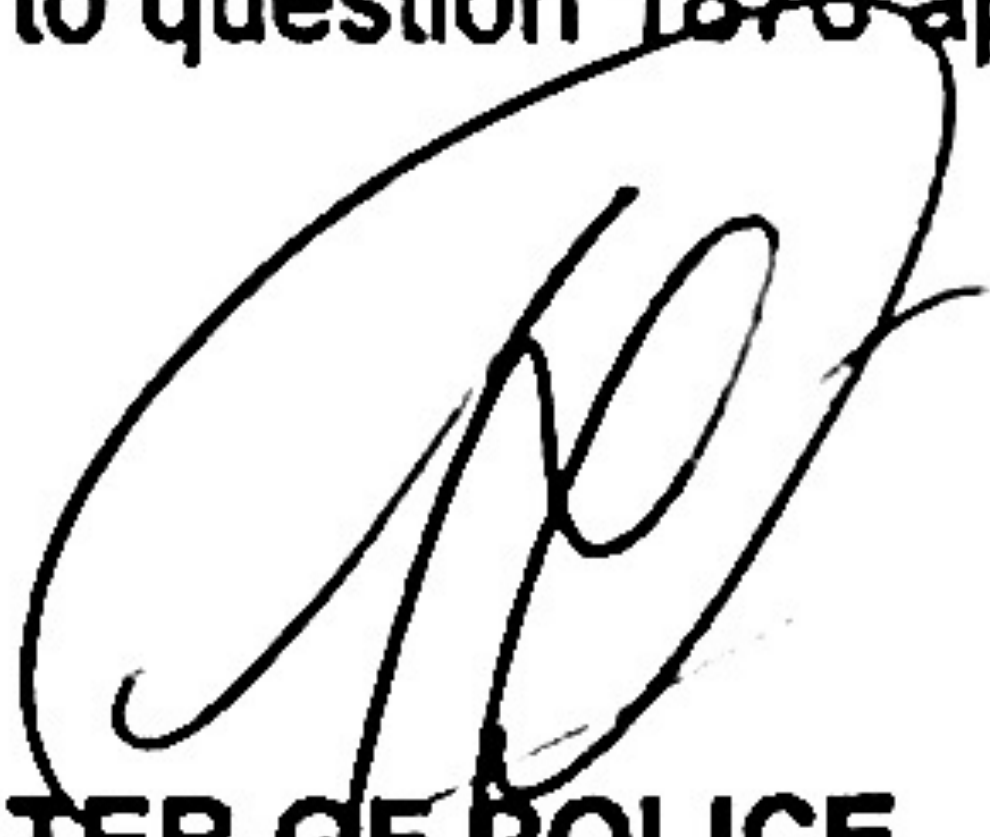
Reply to question 1876 recommended/~~not recommended~~



**LIEUTENANT GENERAL
ACTING NATIONAL COMMISSIONER: SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE
TC MOSIKILI**

Date: 2023-06-28

Reply to question 1876 approved/~~not approved~~



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

Date: 28/06/2023