

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY**QUESTION 1920**

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 20 MAY 2022
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 18-2022)

1920. Dr P J Groenewald (FF Plus) to ask the Minister of Police:

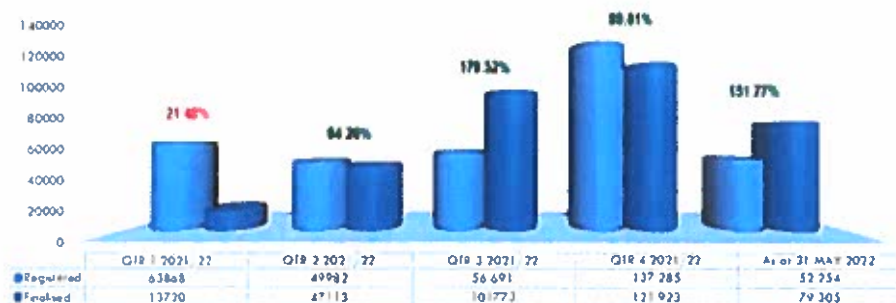
- (1) Since his reply to question 450 on 7 April 2021 on the violence against women and children, especially sexual offences, (a) in what total number of cases in each of the forensic laboratories of the SA Police Service are the results of DNA tests still outstanding and (b) for how long since 7 April 2021 in each case;
- (2) since 7 April 2021, what is the (a) scope of the shortage of reagens chemicals in each specified forensic laboratory and (b) reason for the specified shortage;
- (3) whether there has been any delays since 7 April 2021 with regard to the transport of forensic documentary evidence for DNA analysis; if so, (a) at which forensic laboratories and (b) what are the reasons for this;
- (4) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

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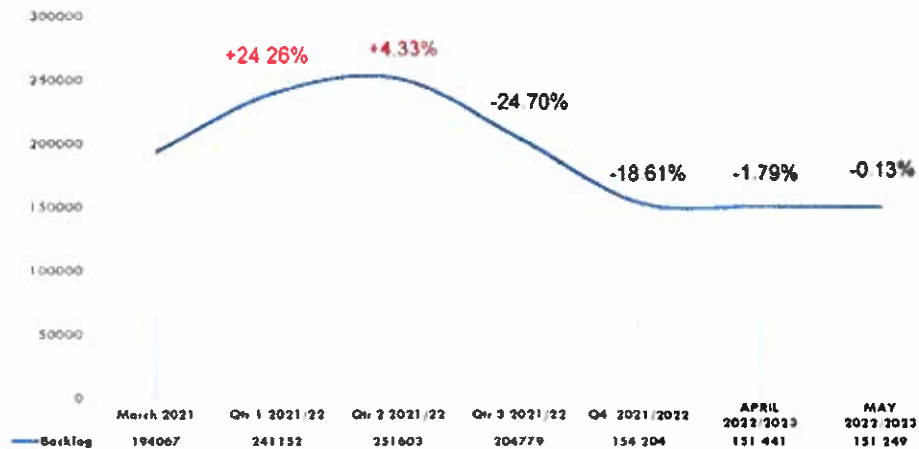
REPLY:

- (1)(a)(b) The information regarding the total number of cases, in each of the forensic laboratories of the South African Police Service (SAPS), of which the results of the DNA tests are outstanding and for how long, since 7 April 2021, is reflected below.

Biology Finalisation Rate, as at 2022-05-23



National Biology Backlog: from 2021-03-31 to 2022-05-23



Biology Backlog Status, per Laboratory, as at 2022-05-23

Biology					
Category	Biology EC	Biology KZN	Biology HQ	Biology WC	Total
Unclassified > 35 days	5 389	8 446	34 823	11 095	59 753
Routine > 35 days	2 325	566	10 715	3 599	17 205
DNA Intelligence > 90 days	1	0	14 935	11 962	26 898
Non routine > 113 days	0	0	3	20	23
RI Intelligence > 90 days	0	0	38 662	8 708	47 370
Total	7 715	9 012	99 138	35 384	151 249

- (2)(a)(b) All critical contracts for the procurement of consumables, repair, maintenance and calibration of equipment, were awarded and are in place. Currently there is no shortage of reagents and chemicals. The details are reflected below.

Reference	Description	Status
19/1/9/1/82TP(19)	Maintenance, repair, service and Calibration of Laboratory Instruments for FSL-Biology (this specification covers pipettes, biological safety cabinets, laminar flows, fume hood, TECAN liquid handler, laboratory fridge/freezers 3130XL and 3500XL Genetic Analysers, 7500. Two year contract.	Awarded on 2021-05-06 (Four suppliers / contracts)
19/1/9/1/99TP (19)	Removal of Hazardous Waste FSL. Two year contract.	Awarded on 2021-05-24 (One supplier / contract)
19/1/9/1/80TP (20)	Procurement of silica-membrane based purification kit for genomic DNA	Awarded on 2020-07-06 (One supplier / contract)

Reference	Description	Status
	- Biology Pretoria and Western Cape. Two year contract.	
19/1/9/1/05TP (21)	Maintenance repair and servicing of the crime index system instrument for forensic science laboratories. Three year contract.	Awarded on 2021-09-07 (One supplier/contract)
19/1/9/1/69TD (19)	Procurement of consumables for Biology (Pretoria and Western Cape). Two year contract.	Awarded on 2020-11-02 (Two suppliers / contracts)
19/1/9/1/79TD (19)	Procurement of consumables used in the semi-automated DNA Processing System (RI/CI) including validation and training. Two year contract.	Awarded on 2021-03-12 (Two suppliers / contracts)
19/1/9/1/24TR (20)	Procurement of manual and semi-automated DNA processing system for the Regional Laboratory Eastern Cape. Two year contract.	Awarded on 2021-04-30 (One supplier / contract)
19/1/9/1/09TP (20)	Rendering an archive and retrieval of forensic files service for two years.	Awarded on 2021-02-08 (One supplier / contract)
19/1/9/1/70 TD (20)	Maintenance, repair, service of the Reference Index Lane (RI-Lane) at Biology Pretoria and Western Cape, Thermo Fischer t/a LTC.	Awarded on 2021-11-24 (One supplier / contract)
19/1/9/1/69 TD (21)	Maintenance, repair and servicing of the Reference Index Lane (RI-Lane) at Biology Section, Pretoria and Western Cape, Promolab (Pty) Ltd t/a Separations.	Awarded on 2021-11-24 (One supplier / contract)
19/1/9/1/37 TD (21)	Supply and delivery of consumables for the SAPS Biology Section of the FSL at Plattekloof, Arcadia, KwaZulu-Natal and Port Elizabeth. Awarded to Promolab t/a Separations and Labchem (Pty) Ltd.	Awarded on 2021-12-13 (Two suppliers)
19/1/9/1/42 TR (21)	Once off supply and delivery of Capillary Electrophoresis Instruments including validation and training on a once off basis, as well a supply of consumables, servicing, maintenance and Support for a period of three years for Arcadia and Plattekloof. Component: FSL: Section Biology: Division: Forensic Services. The bid was advertised and closed. A demonstration was arranged with the supplier, on 2021-11-18 for the item on offer and the demonstration took place.	Contract awarded, on 2022-01-24 to the Supplier: LTC Tech SA (Pty) Ltd for the once off procurement of instruments and maintenance/support/ consumables, for a three year period
Eastern Cape DNA laboratory contract	Eastern Cape Project Milestone: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building plan submission on 2021-07-13. • On site construction started on 2021-10-13 and ends on 2022-06-29. • Temporary laboratory structures were constructed and utilised from 2021-11-13. • The project hand-over to LTC Installation & Commissioning of Equipment and Machinery, by 2022-06-29. 	Contract was awarded and the construction started, on 2021-10-13

- (3)(a)(b) There is no delay in the transport of documentary evidence for DNA analysis. As soon as a Forensic DNA match report is finalised, the report is immediately loaded onto the Integrated Case Docket Management System (ICDMS), to which investigating officers have access and are able to retrieve the Section 212 reports.
- (4) The Minister of Police will decide whether to make a statement, in this regard.

Reply to question 1920 recommended/~~not recommended~~



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

Date: 2022 -06- 15

Reply to question 1920 approved/~~not approved~~



**MINISTER OF POLICE
GENERAL BH CELE MP**

Date: 15/06/2022

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY**QUESTION 450****DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 26 FEBRUARY 2021**
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 4-2021)

450. Dr P J Groenewald (FF Plus) to ask the Minister of Police:

- (1) In light of the violence against women and children, especially sexual offences, (a) in what total number of cases in each of the forensic laboratories of the SA Police Service are the results of DNA tests still outstanding and (b) for how long in each case;
- (2) what is the (a) scope of the shortage of reagents chemicals in each specified forensic laboratory and (b) reason for the specified shortage;
- (3) whether there has been any delays, with regard to the transport of forensic documentary evidence for DNA analysis; if so, (a) at which forensic laboratories and (b) what are the reasons for this;
- (4) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

NW506E

REPLY:

(1)(a) The total number of cases of DNA tests results, in each of the South African Police Service (SAPS) forensic laboratories, which were outstanding, on 25 February 2021, is reflected in the table below:

Category	Biology Eastern Cape	Biology KwaZulu-Natal	Biology Head Office (Pretoria)	Biology Western Cape	Total
Unclassified > 35 days	3 155	4 458	24 948	12 443	45 004
Routine > 35 days	189	79	2 472	2 087	4827
DNA Intelligence > 90 days	0	0	23 853	12 002	35 855
Non routine > 113 days	0	0	16	14	30
RI Intelligence > 90 days	0	0	56 970	30 101	87 071
Total	3 344	4 537	108 259	56 647	172 787

(1)(b) The DNA cases are outstanding for between 36 and 1 027 calendar days.

Category	Biology Eastern Cape	Biology KwaZulu-Natal	Biology Head Office	Biology Western Cape
Oldest case	28 November 2019	10 February 2020	11 January 2019	5 April 2019

(2)(a) The shortage in consumables is mostly within the DNA analysis processing environment. The consumables to do DNA analysis and specific consumables related to the kits are not available. In the Western Cape, shortages are experienced, with regard to Quantification kits, Amplification kits, as well as Direct Amplification kits for the DNA analysis of bucal samples. In Pretoria, shortages are experienced, with regard to Quantification kits, as well as Direct Amplification kits for the DNA analysis of bucal samples. Challenges are also experienced in the procurement of certain Personal Protective Equipment (PPE's), e.g. gloves, due to price changes and longer lead times.

(2)(b) Specific contracts, with regard to consumables and the service, maintenance and calibration of equipment, are outstanding. The following contracts still need to be awarded for consumables and service, as well as the maintenance and repair of equipment:

- o **Contract for maintenance, service and repair of the Crime Index System 19/1/9/1/15 TP (20).**
- o **Contract for the procurement of consumables utilised in the semi-automated forensic DNA processing system (RI and CI) including validation and training (DNA extraction kits – semen and non-semen), DNA quantification kits, PCR amplification kits, etc.) 19/1/9/1/79 TD (19).**
- o **Contract for the maintenance, service, repair and calibration of laboratory instruments for FSL Biology (pipettes, biological safety cabinets, laminar flows, fume hood, tecan liquid handler, fridges/freezers, 3130XL and 3500XL genetic analysers, 7500 QPCR detection system, 9700 PCR thermocycler and the automated express extraction system 19/1/9/1/82 TP (19).**

(3)(a)(b) There is no delay experienced in the transport of documentary evidence for DNA analysis. As soon as a Forensic DNA match report is finalised,

the report is immediately published electronically and is made available to Investigating officers, from the Forensic Science Laboratory Administration System to the electronic case diary of the Investigation Case Docket Management System (ICDMS).

- (4) The Minister of Police will decide if he will make a statement, in this regard.

Reply to question 450 recommended/~~not recommended~~




**NATIONAL COMMISSIONER SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICES
KJ BITOLE (SOEG)**

GENERAL

Date: 2021-03-24

Reply to question 450 approved/~~not approved~~



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

Date: 06/04/2024