



**forestry, fisheries
& the environment**

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Ref: O2/1/5/2

**MINISTER
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
(For written reply)**

**QUESTION NO. 2593 {NW2976E}
INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 27 of 2023**

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Mr N Singh (IFP) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

Whether her department shares a joint corresponding database with the SA Police Service and the Department of Justice and Correctional Services of all rhino poachers who have been arrested, referencing their trial and custody status, convictions and prison status and also their associates in order to understand the linkages and networks since rhino poaching has been declared a national priority crime; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

2593. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:

The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) is currently not sharing a joint corresponding database with the South African Police Service (SAPS), the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (DOJ&CD) and the Department of Correctional Services (DCS).

The National Integrated Strategy to Combat Wildlife Trafficking (NISCWT), which was approved by Cabinet in May 2023, outlines the importance of establishing such a joint and consolidated database /

information hub. The Department is in the process of developing an implementation plan for the NISCWT, which will include such initiatives.



MS B D CREECY, MP
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

DATE: 8/9/2023