

**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE & MILITARY VETERANS**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**269. Dr P J Groenewald (FF Plus) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:†**

(1) Whether, with reference to her reply to question 4116 on 8 December 2015, the security clearance of the military judges in the Permanent Force has been completed in order to expedite their appointment; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant particulars;

(2) (a) how many cases in military courts are still in arrears and (b) what is or are the reason(s) for this;

(3) whether she will make a statement on the matter? NW273E

**REPLY**

Question 1. Yes, Defence Intelligence is in the process of vetting the outstanding security clearance applications of members to be assigned as Senior Military Judges and Military Judges.

Question 2(a). The number of outstanding cases in military courts is 2 176.

Question 2(b). The reasons for the number of cases in arrears in the military courts are (i)

 unavailability of witnesses or accused and (ii) finalisation of specialised

 investigations. The vetting back log also causes delay. No military courts were

 conducted to date for the FY 2015/16.

Question 3. No.