**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NUMBER: 3803**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 21 OCTOBER 2022**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NUMBER: 40 - 2022**

**3803. Dr M M Gondwe (DA) to ask the Minister of Social Development:**

(1) With reference to her reply to question 2094 on 30 June 2022, on what date were criminal cases opened against the 198 public servants whose information was received by the SA Social Security Agency (SASSA) from her department on 29 March 2022;

 (2) With regard to the level 13 public servant who benefited from the R350 Social Relief of Distress Grant, (a) in which provincial department is the employee in question currently employed and (b) what total amount did the specified employee benefit in this regard;

(3) what are the reasons that SASSA has not informed the relevant head of the provincial department that the employee in question is under investigation? NW4696E

**REPLY:**

1. Referral to law enforcement was done between 01 May and 30 June 2022. Referral was done to the South African Police Service Coordinators who were dully appointed to be the nodal points on the Project. The breakdown of cases referred is reflected on the table below:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Province**  | **Name of SAPS Coordinator to whom referral was made** | **Number of cases referred** |
| Gauteng | Colonel Naidoo | 14 |
| Northwest | Colonel Moahlodi | 21 |
| Limpopo | Brigader Ramokolo | 4 |
| Mpumalanga | Colonel Majola | 24 |
| Free State | Lt Col Mathakoe | 7 |
| KwaZulu-Natal | Colonel Narayan | 94 |
| Eastern Cape | Colonel Dyasi | 34 |
| **Total** | **198** |

(2)

(a) The public servant occupying a level 13 position who benefitted from the R350 Social Relief of Distress is employed at Limpopo Provincial Department of Transport and Community Safety.

(b) The total amount the specified employee benefited in this regard is R350.00

(3) SASSA did in fact inform the province, through a letter dated 14 July 2022 addressed to the Director-General: Limpopo Office of the Premier, requesting for his intervention and coordination to institute disciplinary action and recovery/acknowledgement of debt from the officer. The letter was acknowledged by the Office of the Premier on 19 July 2022. A follow up letter was sent at the beginning of October 2022 for a status update, and SASSA is still awaiting a response.