

**480. Mr W M Madisha (Cope) to ask the President of the Republic:**

How does he explain the rationale behind his decision to relieve three eminent and respected black advocates (names furnished) from their duties at the Judicial Services Commission? NW537E

**REPLY:**

I am empowered by Section 178(1) (j) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, (the Constitution) as Head of the National Executive to designate four persons to serve on the Judicial Service Commission (JSC), after consulting the leaders of all the parties in the National Assembly.

Members of the JSC that I have designated serve until I replace them in terms of Section 178(3) of the Constitution. The three members served in that capacity since 2009 and I decided to replace them to enable others a chance to also serve on the JSC. I would also like to once more express my gratitude to the three members for the immeasurable contribution they have made during their tenure.