

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY**QUESTION 6**

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(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 1-2022)

6. Mr M G E Hendricks (Al Jamah-ah) to ask the Minister of Police:
[Interdepartmental transfer from the Minister in The Presidency with effect 14 February 2022]

- (1) Whether, in light of calls by the Portfolio Committee on Police for investigations into missing firearms at a police station in Johannesburg and the fact that this is not an isolated case, seeing that firearms stolen from police depots have landed in the hands of gangsters, the National Commissioner of Police will prioritise the investigations into the stolen firearms which contribute greatly to violent killings on the Cape Flats; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether an intelligence officer will be deployed to the police depots identified as hotspots for missing firearms; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (3) what turnaround strategy is there to encourage the public to report stolen firearms, as members of the public are often too afraid to report corruption at police depots;
- (4) whether his Office will refer cases of police officials who were previously accused of being involved in missing firearms for further investigation; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

NW7E

REPLY:

- (1) A capability on Weapons Control exists at Head Office level, at the Component: Counter and Security Intelligence, Division: Crime Intelligence, to manage intelligence collection, as well as the placement of field operatives and sources of information, relating to all threats involving the use of firearms and explosives, including the current threat of firearms being stolen from police stations, which poses a threat to the national security of the country.
- (2) The current Weapons Control capability, at Head Office level, coordinates with provincial role players and sources of information, to counter threats relating to firearms and explosives at local level. A proposal related to the establishment of a similar capability at provincial level, is currently under consideration.


- (3) The South African Police Service (SAPS), in line with Pillar 4 of the Government's Firearm Strategy, conducts firearms awareness programmes at schools, taxi ranks, flea markets, shopping malls, etc. Community members are encouraged to voluntarily and anonymously report criminal activities, involving illegal firearms at the Firearms, Liquor and Second-Hand Goods Call Centre: 012 353 6111, Crime Stop: 086 0010 111, the National Service Complaints Centre: 080 0333 177, the SAPS website and the mobile application "My SAPS".
- (4) When a report has been submitted for a missing firearm and the disciplinary and criminal case have subsequently been opened against the relevant SAPS official, the case is referred to the Independent Police Investigative Directorate (IPID), for investigation and recommendation. The SAPS' response will be dictated by the Independent Police Investigative Directorate's (IPID) recommendation.

Reply to question 6 recommended/~~not recommended~~


GENERAL
NATIONAL COMMISSIONER: SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE
K. STOLE (SOEG)

Date: 2022-03-15

Reply to question 6 approved/~~not approved~~


MINISTER OF POLICE
GENERAL BH CELE MP
Date: 16/08/2022