

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY**QUESTION 870**

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 17 MARCH 2023
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 10-2023)

870. Ms A M Siwisa (EFF) to ask the Minister of Police:

Noting the increase of alcohol consumption amongst underage children, what measures has he and/or his department put in place to enforce the law on access of alcohol and subsequent underage drinking of children?

NW976E

REPLY:

The sale of liquor to children under the age of 18 is regarded as a serious offence. The South African Police Service (SAPS), therefore, regularly monitors and conducts compliance inspections at licenced liquor premises, to enforce compliance by liquor license/permit holders, in accordance with relevant provincial liquor legislation.

The SAPS introduced measures encouraging the establishment of "good practices" and "Liquor Forums" at police station level, which are enablers to safer drinking behaviour and responsible trading. Continuous education, awareness campaigns and community outreaches are conducted to educate licensed liquor traders regarding the sale of alcohol to children, underage drinking and the dangers of alcohol abuse. This is a collaborative approach involving communities, Community Policing Forums (CPFs), the Department of Social Development, the Department of Basic and Higher Education, the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition, as well as the relevant Provincial Liquor Boards.

Crime prevention operations are conducted at both legal and identified illegal liquor outlets to ensure compliance with relevant liquor legislation. Illegal liquor outlets are closed and the liquor is seized and destroyed by the SAPS. A total of 10 178 illegal liquor outlets were closed by the SAPS, as at 31 December 2022.

Reply to question 870 recommended/not recommended


**NATIONAL COMMISSIONER: SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE
SF MASEMOLA (SOEG)**

GENERAL

Date: 2023-04-04

Reply to question 870 approved/not approved


**MINISTER OF POLICE
GENERAL BH CELE, MP**

Date: 11/04/2023