

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER

Note:

1. ★ Indicates an oral question.
2. † Indicates the translated version of the question.

Table of Contents

Minister in The Presidency.....	789, 793, 796, 803
Minister of Correctional Services.....	790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 799, 801
Minister of Defence and Military Veterans.....	790, 792, 794, 798, 800, 804, 805, 806, 807
Minister of Home Affairs.....	788, 789, 791, 793, 794, 796, 798, 799, 800
Minister of International Relations and Cooperation.....	789, 791, 792, 794, 796, 797, 798, 801, 802
Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development.....	790, 792, 794, 795, 796, 797, 802, 804
Minister of Police.....	788, 790, 791, 793, 795, 799, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL REPLY

WEDNESDAY, 14 MAY 2025

CLUSTER 1: PEACE AND SECURITY

★454. Mr S M Gana (Rise Mzansi) to ask the Minister of Police:

Given that the SA Police Service continues to see experienced and/or capable detectives resigning for better opportunities in the private sector which has resulted in a low detection rate for murder, rape and contact crimes and a high case load for detectives, what is the strategy of his department, including offering incentives, to (a) retain experienced and/or capable detectives and (b) increase the detection rates for murder and other serious crimes?

NO2570E

★455. Ms N V Mente-Nkuna (EFF) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:

- (1) Given that a significant number of citizens who depend on Home Affairs services reside in remote areas such as villages and townships and acknowledging that, due to high client volumes, many Home Affairs offices implement daily cut-off points that result in persons being turned away without assistance or their matters being resolved, what are the reasons that Home Affairs offices throughout the Republic are not more consistently utilising mobile units to deliver services directly to underserved communities, thereby addressing the persistent issue of long queues and unserved clients;
- (2) whether he will provide a firm and public commitment that no person will be turned away without being assisted at their local Home Affairs office particularly in high-demand areas, where many citizens are being turned away due to long queues; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO2571E

★456. Mr T P Mogale (EFF) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:

Whether, given the total number of deportations carried out by his department in 2024 and the fact that the Border Management Agency conducts its operations along a 10 km radius of the ports of entry leaving large sections of the Republic's borders unprotected and vulnerable to illegal immigration and the inflow of illicit goods, he will assure the nation that none of the persons who were deported were able to re-enter the Republic undetected; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO2572E

★457. Ms N M Mhlongo (EFF) to ask the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation:

- (1) Considering that Russia is the Republic's partner in BRICS+, what has been the position of the Government on hosting the President of Ukraine, Mr Volodymyr Zelenskyy, whose country has been a proxy in the war between The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation and the Russian Federation;
- (2) whether he has found that the hosting of President Zelenskyy has the potential to compromise the diplomatic relations with the Russian Federation in building a stronger BRICS+; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the reasons for this?

NO2574

★458. Ms N M Mhlongo (EFF) to ask the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation:

Whether, with reference to the devastating earthquake that occurred on 28 March 2025 in Thailand and Myanmar, the South African Embassy in Bangkok offered consular assistance by safely evacuating the 11 South Africans who were affected by the earthquake to a place of safety; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO2575E

★459. Mr C G Niehaus (EFF) to ask the Minister in The Presidency:

Whether, notwithstanding her reply to question 618 on 10 March 2025 and the evidence presented to the National Conventional Arms Control Committee (NCACC) following their meeting with the Joint Standing Committee on Defence on 4 April 2025 with regard to the NCACC's failure to ensure compliance with international arms control trade and treaty obligations, resulting in South African weaponry and munitions being used in conflict areas such as Ukraine, she intends taking urgent steps to stop such contraventions that risk damaging the Republic's diplomatic standing; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what steps?

NO2576E

★460. Mr C G Niehaus (EFF) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:

Whether the *Journey to Greatness* strategic positioning document, which is intended to modernise the SA National Defence Force (SANDF) as an updated review of the 2015 Defence Review, was submitted to the President, Mr M C Ramaphosa, by 31 October 2024 and shared with the Defence Committees, as she and her deputy repeatedly assured the Portfolio Committee on Defence and the Joint Standing Committee on Defence; if not, why were the Defence Committees not informed of the progress and/or delays; if so, why has Parliament's critical oversight role over the SANDF been disregarded by not sharing the document with the Defence Committees?

NO2577E

★461. Ms B K Diale (EFF) to ask the Minister of Correctional Services:

With the ongoing strain on the departmental budget, particularly regarding the provision of nutrition to inmates, what total amount (a) has his department spent on the nutritional programme over the past two financial years and (b) does his department envisage to spend in the current financial year?

NO2578E

★462. Ms B K Diale (EFF) to ask the Minister of Correctional Services:

What plans and/or strategies does his department have to maximise the utilisation of services by inmates to produce food for themselves, to enable his department to redirect funds to other essential programmes?

NO2579E

★463. Ms M R Mohlala (EFF) to ask the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development:

- (1) Whether the Director-General of her department is currently provided with personal security and/or bodyguards; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the reasons that necessitated such security measures;
- (2) whether this arrangement is standard for directors-general in other government departments; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO2580E

★464. Ms M R Mohlala (EFF) to ask the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development:

What plans and mechanisms does her department have in place to tackle the alarming systemic failures exposed by the recusal of a certain magistrate (name furnished) from a certain fraud trial (name and details furnished)?

NO2581E

★465. Ms L Mathys (EFF) to ask the Minister of Police:

Regarding the circumstances that led to the death and recovery of the bodies of Constables Boipelo Senoge, Linda Cebekhulu and Keamogetswe Buys who went missing while travelling from Bloemfontein to Limpopo on a Vala Umgodi operation assignment, (a) what was the nature of the assignment that was given to the fallen constables and (b) which areas were they assigned to deal with illegal miners?

NO2582E

★466. Ms L Mathys (EFF) to ask the Minister of Police:

- (1) Whether, in relation to the incident involving Constables Boipelo Senoge, Linda Cebekhulu and Keamogetswe Buys, he can confirm the exact time at which the signal from the tracking device on the police vehicle was lost while the constables were on their way to their assignment; if so, what are the relevant details; if not,
- (2) whether he will provide Ms L Mathys access to the records of the vehicle's tracking device as well as the mobile phone signal records of all the persons in the police vehicle, to determine the precise time and location at which the signal was lost and tracking became impossible; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO2583E

★467. Adv S Salie (Al Jamah-ah) to ask the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation:

What are the reasons that the (a) *White Paper on South Africa's Participation in International Peace Missions* has not been reintroduced and reconsidered by Parliament to reflect current policies and dynamics and (b) Government has not taken any steps to address the matter of South Africans working as mercenaries and/or serving in foreign military conflicts?

NO2586E

★468. Ms B E Machi (IFP) to ask the Minister of Correctional Services:

Following the ruling by the Constitutional Court affirming the rights of inmates to access study materials and use laptops for educational purposes, what are the relevant details of the monitoring systems that have been implemented to ensure that the specified access is not abused to commit further crimes and/or communicate unlawfully with individuals outside correctional facilities?

NO2587E

★469. Inkosi R N Cebekhulu (IFP) to ask the Minister of Police:

- (1) Whether, with the rising number of criminal cases and limited investigative capacity, any mechanisms are in place to ensure that open cases are properly followed up and do not simply fall through the cracks due to lack of manpower; if not, why not; if so, what mechanisms;
- (2) considering that recent budget cuts to the SA Police Service (SAPS) have affected the roll-out and adoption of modern policing technologies such as surveillance systems, forensic tools and digital case management systems, what are the further, relevant details of the plans that are in place to ensure that SAPS remains equipped to tackle crime in an increasingly digital age?

NO2588E

★470. Ms B E Machi (IFP) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:

Given the application from his department to separate from the State Information Technology Agency (SITA) due to recurring system failures and cost overruns, which have crippled the information technology (IT) modernisation efforts of his department, (a) what measures will his department implement to ensure a smooth and secure transition to private IT service providers without jeopardising national security and personal data protection and (b) how does his department intend to secure dedicated and sustainable funding to support the long-term stability of its digital transformation programme beyond the separation from SITA?

NO2589E

★471. Mr M A Mncwango (IFP) to ask the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development:

What measures will her department put in place to ensure that the outcomes of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Special Investigating Unit and the Legal Practitioners Fidelity Fund, particularly in the recovery of misappropriated trust funds, are enforced and monitored transparently across all provinces?

NO2590E

★472. Mr K P Sithole (IFP) to ask the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation:

Which new trade and/or investment agreements were discussed with China's Foreign Minister, Mr Wang Yi, during the bilateral meeting, particularly in the sectors of new energy, education and capacity-building?

NO2591E

★473. Inkosi R N Cebekhulu (IFP) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:

- (1) Whether the Department of Defence has updated the 2015 Defence Review and/or initiated a revised Strategic Defence Posture that aligns resources with current and future geopolitical risks (details furnished); if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) given the role of the SA National Defence Force in border safeguarding, how does the Government reconcile the funding shortfall with national security priorities such as curbing cross-border trafficking, illegal mining and/or insurgency spillovers from the Cabo Delgado region in Mozambique?

NO2592E

★474. Mr M V Daniels (PA) to ask the Minister of Correctional Services:

Whether the qualifying requirements for new recruits in his department are sometimes modified following a recruitment procedure to accommodate applicants who did not meet the requirements; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO2593E

★475. Mr M V Daniels (PA) to ask the Minister of Correctional Services:

Whether the qualifying requirement to pass of a fitness test within a specific amount of time or time limit during the recruitment procedure in his department has occasionally been altered to accommodate unsuccessful applicants; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO2594E

★476. Ms M L Mathopa (PA) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:

- (1) What is the number of foreigners who are employed by his department;
- (2) whether the specified foreigners are in possession of rare and critical skills that no South Africans have; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details? NO2599E

★477. Ms M L Mathopa (PA) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:

What (a) total amount has his department spent on deportation of illegal immigrants in the past three financial years and (b) number of illegal immigrants were deported? NO2600E

★478. Ms J S Peterson (PA) to ask the Minister of Police:

Regarding his oversight visits to various police stations where the conditions are dire, what steps and progress has been made to renovate the police stations and improve their condition? NO2602E

★479. Ms L M Ngobeni (Action SA) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:

- (1) Whether a certain person (name furnished) who actively advocates for the disintegration of the Republic, qualifies for citizenship of the Republic through naturalisation; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether the specified person's application for citizenship, relies on sections 5(d) and (e) of the Citizenship Act, Act 88 of 1995, which specifies that an applicant must be of good character and loyal to the Republic; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details? NO2603E

★480. Mr R A P Trollip (Action SA) to ask the Minister of Police:

With reference to his reply to question 220 on 28 February 2025, what (a) are the reasons that the Independent Police Investigative Directorate report into the Phala Phala farm break-in is still a classified incident and (b) justifies keeping the specified report from public and parliamentary scrutiny? NO2604E

★481. Ms D E James (Action SA) to ask the Minister of Correctional Services:

- (1) In light of the recent alleged beating to death of an inmate at the Goodwood Correctional Centre and the suspension of four correctional officers, what is the expected timeline for the pending investigation;
- (2) whether his department also laid criminal charges against the officers involved; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NO2605E

★482. Mr M Manyi (MK) to ask the Minister in The Presidency:

- (1) In light of the mandate of the State Security Agency (SSA) to detect and neutralise threats to national security, what measures has she implemented since 2018 to investigate and respond to the proliferation of unmonitored private airstrips and landing strips, particularly on remote farms, which are increasingly suspected of facilitating illicit cross-border activities (details furnished);
- (2) what number of such unregistered and/or lightly regulated landing strips has the SSA been informed of? NO2606E

★483. Ms M B Muhammad (MK) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:

- (a) What is the intended budget allocation of his department for deportations in the 2025-26 financial year and (b) what has he found to have been the impact on his department's current ability to execute deportations due to the National Treasury's non-approval of his departmental budget? NO2607E

★484. Mr S G Mwali (MK) to ask the Minister of Correctional Services:

- (1) How does his department manage the financial implications of incarcerating foreign nationals in prisons, given the strain on the fiscal framework of the Republic;
- (2) whether he intends to collaborate with other government departments and international organisations to address the root causes of the involvement of foreign nationals in crime to facilitate their repatriation; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details? NO2608E

★485. Mr W M Douglas (MK) to ask the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation:

Whether his department has considered temporarily reassigning administrative and support personnel from the OR Tambo head office to critical public-facing functions (details furnished); if not, why not; if so, what are the (a) timelines for reassignment and (b) categories of posts under consideration? NO2609E

★486. Mr W M Douglas (MK) to ask the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation:

Whether his department has undertaken or will undertake any cost recovery reforms, such as catering services, commercial partnerships and/or user-fee models at the diplomatic VIP lounges and consular service points of the Republic, particularly given the R3,17 billion salary bill which is 48% of the 2024-25 budget of his department and declining programme funding; if not, why not; if so, what are the implementation plans and expected revenue gains? NO2610E

★487. Mr E M Ntshingila (MK) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:

What (a) are the reasons for the delay on the return of the deployed soldiers in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and (b) interventions have been put in place to resolve the problems causing the delay? NO2612E

★488. Mr S Nomvalo (MK) to ask the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development:

Whether she has received a report on the relevant details of (a) the improper conduct of the prosecutors that led to the unjust acquittal of Timothy Omotoso and (b) any consequence management that the National Prosecuting Authority has put in place for adverse judgments against its prosecutors based on technical issues; if not, what is the position in each case; if so, what are the relevant details in each case? NO2613E

★489. Mr S Nomvalo (MK) to ask the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development:

- (1) What progress has been made with the filling of vacancies with competent staff as well as providing adequate resourcing levels to make the lower courts more effective and efficient by ensuring a system that functions properly and that is providing ordinary citizens with access to justice;
- (2) what steps have been taken to ensure that legislation to ensure the efficient operation of the lower courts, which has been delayed in the past year, is fast-tracked to ensure that it is not prejudiced, but processed with the priority that it should be accorded? NO2614E

★490. Mr D M Skosana (MK) to ask the Minister of Police:

(a) What is the name of each police station that will be involved in the pilot project regarding the digitalisation of police administration and automating police stations for efficiency purposes and (b) who are the contracted service providers for the specified project at this stage? NO2615E

★491. Mr D M Skosana (MK) to ask the Minister of Police:

Whether the SA Police Service (SAPS) has been investigating municipal authorities and their use of the Metro Police and the city's law enforcement officials in the eviction and demolition operations in informal settlements in the Western Cape with the purpose of evicting indigenous persons from their ancestral land in areas such as Kraaifontein, Ocean View, Khayelitsha, and Bishop Lavis (details furnished); if not, why not; if so, what (a) were the findings and (b) protective measures have been put in place to prevent unlawful evictions and the criminalisation of poverty in the City of Cape Town? NO2616E

★492. Mr C V Shongwe (MK) to ask the Minister of Police:

- (1) Whether his department will establish a fully resourced Anti-Gang and Gender-Based Violence Unit with integrated community trauma and forensic services in the 20 most violent precincts of the Western Cape; if not, why not; if so, what are the timelines for implementation;
- (2) whether his department will deploy more personnel, vehicles and equipment (details furnished), especially on the Cape Flats where the murder rate remains among the highest in the Republic; if not, why not; if so, what are the timelines for implementation? NO2617E

★493. Mr M M Gasa (MK) to ask the Minister of Correctional Services:

What (a) are the top three types of crime statistically linked to unemployment and poverty among incarcerated individuals and (b) percentage of the offenders are black men aged 16 to 49?

NO2618E

★494. Mr J S Ngubane (MK) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:

Whether there are any fences and/or high walls along the rivers bordering the Republic with neighbouring countries to prevent persons from swimming across and entering the Republic illegally; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO2619E

★495. Mr N Ndhlela (MK) to ask the Minister in The Presidency:

What (a) specific steps has she taken to ensure that the Republic does not lose experienced staff in the Intelligence Services to its detriment and (b) is the rationale, other than the ostensible financial reasons provided, for downsizing and removing experienced staff members, which puts the Republic at further risk in its current threat context?

NO2620E

★496. Mr M A Maimane (BOSA) to ask the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation:

(a) What are the projected annual cost savings that will result from the closure of the Republic's embassy in Bulgaria and (b) which other embassies, consulates and/or diplomatic missions does his department intend to close in the current and upcoming financial years?

NO2621E

★497. Mrs N L Hlazo-Webster (BOSA) to ask the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development:

In view of the collapse of the Pastor Timothy Omotoso rape trial and the apparent prosecutorial failures by the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) in the matter, particularly as it relates to the prosecution of the gender-based violence (GBV) cases, what (a) steps is her department taking to hold the NPA accountable for failures in prosecuting sensitive and high-profile GBV matters, particularly this matter and (b) mechanisms are currently in place or being developed to ensure prosecutorial competence and improved outcomes in GBV-related cases?

NO2622E

★498. Rev K R J Meshoe (ACDP) to ask the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development:

- (1) Whether there are any plans to call for a retrial for Pastor Timothy Omotoso and his fellow accused who were acquitted on sexual assault and human trafficking charges due to flaws in the prosecution and the insufficient cross-examination of the accused before the specified person is able to leave the Republic; if not, why not; if so, when will it be done;
- (2) whether she will ensure that Pastor Omotoso will not be allowed to leave the Republic and/or hold church meetings until a retrial is concluded, if not, why not; if so, what are the full relevant details?

NO2623E

★499. Mr X Nqola (ANC) to ask the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development:

- (1) Whether, with reference to the *Report on Systemic Investigation into Administrative Deficiencies relating to Gender-based Violence*, where the Public Protector instructed her department to conduct an audit of all courts to determine their infrastructure needs, upgrades or renovations, within 180 calendar days from the date of the report, and in view of her reply to question 635 on 8 April 2025, wherein she indicated that it could only finalise an audit for minor capital works in five provinces and undertook to finalise the task by 30 April 2025, she has found that her department has carried out the remedial action of the Public Protector effectively as in the specified reply she only refers to an audit of minor capital works; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so,
- (2) whether her department has met the deadline of 30 April 2025; if not, what are the details of the time frames that her department will fulfil the undertaking?

NO2624E

★500. Mr O M Mathafa (ANC) to ask the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development:

With regard to the rising number of murders and assaults of prosecutors that are concerning, which is a clear attack on the rule of law and the functioning of the justice system, what role is her department playing to support the National Prosecuting Authority in the provision of security for prosecutors in particular?

NO2625E

★501. Ms N E Motaung (ANC) to ask the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development:

What are the (a) full details of her department's plan of digitising court records and (b) time frames in this regard?

NO2626E

★502. Mr X Nqola (ANC) to ask the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development:

In light of the fact that the shooting in the Wynberg Magistrate's Court exposed some of the security failures in our courts, which are meant to be havens of justice, what (a) are the developments regarding the shooting in the specified court and (b) is being done to ensure the safety of judicial officers, witnesses and all those who enter our courts?

NO2627E

★503. Mr N T Tshotetsi (ANC) to ask the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development:

In light of the fact that the construction of the Mamelodi East Magistrates' Court commenced in 2013, but 12 years later the construction has not been completed, in her engagements with the Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure, (a) at what stage is the project now and (b) what are the time frames for completion?

NO2628E

★504. Mr S O R Mahumapelo (ANC) to ask the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation:

Considering the recent adoption of the People-Centred Oversight Mechanism on International Relations and Cooperation, (a) what actions are underway to ensure that communities in villages, townships, small towns and municipalities play a significant role in the foreign policy discourse and (b) how will his department ensure that the mechanism translates into measurable and/or increased public understanding of global developments that affect their daily lives?

NO2629E

★505. Ms A N Kumbaca (ANC) to ask the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation:

Given the strategic decision to close the Republic's embassy in Sofia, Bulgaria, by 30 June 2025 due to fiscal considerations, (a) what concrete measures will be put in place to ensure that the decision does not weaken bilateral trade, consular support for South African citizens and cultural or academic cooperation between the Republic and Bulgaria and (b) how will his department monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of managing these relations through the Mission in Athens?

NO2630E

★506. Mr M M Hala (ANC) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:

In light of the fact that the SA National Defence Force (SANDF) has the potential to inspire national pride and attract young talent through initiatives such as the Military Skills Development System, how is her department expanding outreach and educational opportunities to engage the youth and encourage them to see the SANDF as a rewarding career path and a symbol of unity?

NO2631E

★507. Mr W T D Plaatjies (ANC) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:

In light of the fact that the SA National Defence Force (SANDF) has played a vital role in peacekeeping missions of the African Union and the United Nations, earning recognition for its commitment to regional stability, what plans are in place to further improve the SANDF's capacity and international recognition as a leader in peacekeeping, particularly in complex missions such as those in the Democratic Republic of the Congo?

NO2632E

★508. Mr M S Chabane (ANC) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:

What (a) are the full details of the challenges of the information and communication technology downtime in Home Affairs offices and (b) measures have been put in place and/or will be put in place to address the challenge?

NO2634E

★509. Ms M Modise-Mpya (ANC) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:

What total number of foreign nationals who were granted permanent residence are employed (a) by his department of Home Affairs and (b) in terms of rare skills?

NO2635E

★510. Ms A F Muthambi (ANC) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:

- (1) Whether, in light of the fact that his department and its employees are expected to conduct themselves in an impartial manner, he was informed about the incident during the by-election in eThekweni where the staff of his department were seen driving government cars wearing t-shirts of a political party; if not,
- (2) whether he will consider investigating the specified incident; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NO2636E

★511. Ms N E Mtolo (ANC) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:

Whether, in light of concerns that his department delays in paying service providers beyond 30 days, he has been informed of the delays in payment to service providers; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what measure will be put in place to ensure timely payment of service providers? NO2637E

★512. Mr E A Cloete (ANC) to ask the Minister of Police:

Since the police have held the Policing Summit in April under the theme *Efficiency in Action: Optimising South Africa's Policing Potential*, what are the critical key interventions made in the summit that will ensure efficiency in action of the police to deal with crime and build safer communities? NO2638E

★513. Ms J L Mokoena (ANC) to ask the Minister of Police:

What is his assessment of the effectiveness of the collaboration he launched with the metros in the fight against crime? NO2639E

★514. Ms I M Mbiyo (ANC) to ask the Minister of Police:

What are the full details of the state and/or capacitation of the police forensic services? NO2640E

★515. Ms K A Ramolobeng (ANC) to ask the Minister of Correctional Services:

Whether, given that correctional facilities are under strain due to overcrowding and a sizeable number of these inmates are remand detainees who are in contravention of the Immigration Act, Act 13 of 2002, he intends to initiate bilateral engagements with the SA Development Community countries to deport offenders who are foreign nationals in order to alleviate correctional facilities from the overcrowding; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details? NO2641E

★516. Ms K A Ramolobeng (ANC) to ask the Minister of Correctional Services:

Following the death of an inmate at the Mangaung Correctional Centre on 12 March 2025, what (a) is his position regarding his department's oversight over privately managed prisons and (b) progress has his department made with the preparations to take over privately run prison facilities? NO2642E

★517. Mr A C Roos (DA) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:

Whether, with reference to the Border Management Authority (BMA) Act, Act 2 of 2020, there are any functions and/or budgets that must still be transferred from other government departments to the BMA; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO2643E

★518. Mr A C Roos (DA) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:

What (a) progress has been made to date to enable South African citizens born abroad, naturalised citizens and permanent residents to apply for Smart ID cards and (b) are the full and detailed steps that must still be completed before such categories of persons will be able to apply for Smart IDs at Home Affairs front offices?

NO2644E

★519. Ms N J Bollman (DA) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:

What intervention has his department considered to address the increased demand in Smart ID Cards and passports applications which impacts the availability of booking slots in the Branch Appointment Booking System?

NO2645E

★520. Ms N J Bollman (DA) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:

What specific measures has his department taken to resolve the backlog of permanent residence applications, thereby ensuring that approved permanent residence applicants receive their official certification without undue delays?

NO2646E

★521. Mr C Hattingh (DA) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:

Considering that the SA Navy and Air Force are currently operating at significantly reduced capacities, (a) how will her department effectively sustain and execute *Operation Copper's* maritime security objectives in the Mozambique Channel and (b) what measures have been implemented to address the critical shortages in key functions that are essential for the success of such deployments?

NO2647E

★522. Mr C Hattingh (DA) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:

In light of the significant financial costs associated with *Operation Thusano* and *Programme Kgala*, which have allegedly exceeded R3 billion, what (a) is the total expenditure to date, and (b) measurable strategic, operational and/or socio-economic benefits has the Republic derived from the specified programmes, especially given the concerns raised regarding the lack of skills transfer to the SA National Defence Force personnel and the escalating unemployment including in the arms industry of the Republic?

NO2648E

★523. Mr M L Shelembe (DA) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:

What reasons have motivated her to continue with the failed Project Thusano, the bilateral agreement between South Africa and Cuba, which has now been replaced by Project Kgala to address the continuing decline in the technical capability of the SA National Defence Force (SANDF), particularly that the Auditor-General found that under Project Thusano the SANDF paid approximately 3.8 times more per hour for technical and maintenance work?

NO2649E

★524. Mr M L Shelembe (DA) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:

With reference to section 8 of the Regulations Regarding the Military Veterans Pension Benefits, 2023, which stipulates that the payment to military veterans will not be retrospective but applicable upon the approval of the application (details furnished), what (a) impact does the specified section have on the lives of the deserving military veterans who applied before October 2023 and their applications must still be approved and (b) action does she intend to take in this regard?

NO2650E

★525. Mr J Engelbrecht (DA) to ask the Minister of Correctional Services:

With reference to his department's reported overspending of approximately R650 million in the 2024-25 financial year, what are the reasons that his department failed to pay the fourth quarter invoices within the prescribed time frame in the past two financial years, resulting in the concealment of overspending in the current year and the deferment of accruals to the following financial year?

NO2651E

★526. Mr J Engelbrecht (DA) to ask the Minister of Correctional Services:

Considering the overspending of approximately R650 million in his department in the 2024-25 financial year and the alleged failure to pay in time some of the fourth quarter invoices, what consequence management steps has he taken against the Chief Financial Officer in this regard?

NO2652E

★527. Ms K Kgobisa-Ngcaba (DA) to ask the Minister of Correctional Services:

Whether his department will conduct a new work study to determine its personnel needs given the growth of the prison population and the fact that the last work study was conducted more than 20 years ago; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, on what date will the specified study be (a) implemented and (b) completed?

NO2653E

★528. Ms E L Powell (DA) to ask the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation:

With reference to the reply to question 2422 on 23 December 2024, and considering that the Republic has positioned itself as a neutral mediator in the Russia-Ukraine conflict, leading the African Peace Initiative and recently hosted Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in Pretoria which was a reaffirmation of the Republic's commitment to peace efforts, including addressing humanitarian concerns such as the return of Ukrainian children taken to Russia, what progress has been made in facilitating the return of Ukrainian children to Ukraine?

NO2656E

★529. Mr R Smith (DA) to ask the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation:

What steps has his department taken, in consultation with The Presidency, to execute the Republic's G20 Presidency agenda, which now only has a brief window period of exploitation given that the United States of America under the Trump administration is highly unlikely to follow the same programme when it takes over the G20 Presidency in 2026?

NO2657E

★530. Mr R Smith (DA) to ask the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation:

Given that the Government of National Unity founding statement of intent lists rapid, inclusive and sustainable economic growth at the top of its basic minimum programme of priorities, what steps has his department taken to urgently professionalise Republic's foreign service for the economic and/or social benefits of the country?

NO2658E

★531. Mr D D Klopper (DA) to ask the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development:

With reference to the reply to question 460 on 12 November 2024 regarding the imminent retirement of the National Director of Public Prosecutions (NDPP), Advocate Shamila Batohi, what progress has been made in the engagements between her department, the NDPP and the President of the Republic regarding the nomination and/or appointment of suitable internal candidates for the process of replacing the NDPP?

NO2659E

★532. Mr D D Klopper (DA) to ask the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development:

With reference to the request by the National Director of Public Prosecutions (NDPP) to the President of the Republic to suspend the Director of Public Prosecutions in South Gauteng, Advocate Andrew Chauke, approximately three years ago, and considering that no action has been taken to date, what efforts has she made to assist the NDPP in this regard?

NO2560E

★533. Adv G Breytenbach (DA) to ask the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development:

Whether, with reference to the inquest into the deaths of the Cradock Four which is due to start in June 2025 and the numerous postponements that have already been made, she will, in collaboration with Legal Aid SA and the SA Police Service, take steps to ensure that the inquest is not delayed again, thus sparing great emotional turmoil for the families of the Cradock Four; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO2661E

★534. Mr I Cameron (DA) to ask the Minister of Police:

Whether, with reference to the regulation of firearms in the private security industry that is undoubtedly important, he has found that certain provisions in the recently published draft regulations of the Private Security Industry Regulation Act, Act 56 of 2001, may constitute an overreaction, particularly in ways that could hinder legitimate operations of compliant security providers rather than address the actual sources of firearm misuse; if not, what evidence informed the extent of the restrictions proposed; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO2063E

★535. Mr I Cameron (DA) to ask the Minister of Police:

(a) While partnerships with the business sector in combating crime are clearly important, what exactly does the SA Police Service expect from businesses in the specified arrangements and (b) how will he ensure that such partnerships do not risk shifting the core responsibility for public safety away from the Government, particularly in ways that may deepen inequality in access to security?

NO2664E

★536. Ms L Schickerling (DA) to ask the Minister of Police:

What are the (a) names of the five police precincts that had the highest number of unresolved missing women cases in the period 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2024 and (b) details of the specific interventions such as task teams, escalation of cases of family violence, child protection and sexual offences and/or oversight measures that have been implemented in the specified precincts?

NO2665E

★537. Ms L Schickerling (DA) to ask the Minister of Police:

What total number of women (a) were reported missing in the Republic from 1 February 2019 to 28 February 2025 and (b) remain unaccounted for as of 28 February 2025?

NO2666E

★538. Mr N G Myburgh (DA) to ask the Minister in The Presidency:

With reference to her reply to question 21 on 10 March 2025, wherein she indicated that the President of the Republic is still applying his mind on the General Intelligence Laws Amendment Bill (GILAB), [B40-2023] and also that the State Security Agency is using the period since the passing of the GILAB by Parliament to prepare for the implementation of the law, what are the full details of the (a) implementation plan with the time schedules for full and final implementation and (b) progress that has been made in this regard?

NO2667E

★539. Mr N G Myburgh (DA) to ask the Minister in The Presidency:

What are the (a) details of the fraud and corruption prevention plan of the State Security Agency, and (b) names of the members of the fraud and corruption prevention structure and/or committee?

NO2668E

★540. Mr F Adams (NCC) to ask the Minister of Police:

What (a) is the status of the investigation into the irregularities in the SA Police Service Crime Intelligence Division and (b) are the reasons that no one has been suspended yet?

NO2671E

★541. Mr L W Mahlatsi (UAT) to ask the Minister of Police:

(a) What steps will the SA Police Service take to hold the police captain who works in the domestic violence unit of the Phoenix Police Station accountable for failing to remove the firearm of a certain person (name furnished) as ordered by the court, which led to the murder of a certain person (name furnished) in 2022 and (b) how will he ensure that police officers comply with court orders to confiscate firearms in domestic violence cases to prevent future tragedies?

NO2672E

★542. Mr M A Mncwango (IFP) to ask the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development:

Given the persistent delays, despite the Court Online system, what (a) evaluations have been conducted to assess its impact on expediting case finalisation and (b) lessons have been drawn from its implementation in Gauteng?

NO2674E

QUESTIONS TRANSFERRED FROM WRITTEN TO ORAL REPLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULE 146(1)

★543. Ms L Schickerling (DA) to ask the Minister of Police [Written question 330]:

What (a) total number of SA Police Service (SAPS) members have been on (i) paid and (ii) unpaid sick leave for a period exceeding six months in the 2023-24 financial year and (b) was the cost of the paid sick leave to the SAPS in the specified period?

NO359E

★544. Mr C Hattingh (DA) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans: [★7] [Question submitted for oral reply now placed for written reply because it is more than quota (Rule 137(8))] [Written question 591]

Whether, with reference to the Joint Standing Committee on Defence convening in December 2024 and the letter, dated 24 December 2024, wherein the President of the Republic, Mr M C Ramaphosa, informed the National Assembly Speaker, Mrs A T Didiza and the National Council of Provinces Chairperson, Ms R Mtshweni-Tsipane that he had extended the deployment of the SA National Defence Force to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, she advised the President with regard to his specified decision; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so what are the relevant details?

NO610E

★545. Ms L Schickerling (DA) to ask the Minister of Police [Written question 723]:

What (a) total number of cases of driving under the influence were registered with the SA Police Service (SAPS) in each (i) SAPS station and (ii) province in the last twelve months, (b) number of the specified cases were submitted for blood test, (c) number of cases submitted for testing have been finalised, (d) is the (i) average time period and (ii) ideal time period taken for the tests to be finalised and (e) were the outcomes of the aforesaid submitted tests?

NO793E

★546. Ms L Schickerling (DA) to ask the Minister of Police [Written question 724]:

(a) What was the last date on which the SA Police Service (i) updated and (ii) reviewed its asset registers, (b) how often are the reviews supposed to be conducted and (c) what is the next date for such a review?

NO794E

★547. Ms D E James (ActionSA) to ask the Minister of Police [Written question 759]:

(a) What total number of police firearms have (i) been stolen and/or (ii) gone missing in the past five years and (b) which (i) provinces had the most reported instances of stolen and/or lost firearms and (ii) police stations have the highest recorded numbers of stolen or lost firearms?

NO830E

★548. Mr C Hattingh (DA) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans [Written question 976]:

(1) With reference to the Public Protector's report on the irregular appointment of an unqualified intern to a senior position, what are the full details of the circumstances in which the irregular appointment was made by the SA National Defence Force Chief Director of Human Resources;

(2) what (a) was the outcome of the Public Protector's investigation into the matter, (b) were the consequences to the (i) intern and (ii) the official who authorised the appointment and (c) steps have been implemented to prevent a reoccurrence of such irregular appointment?

NO1081E

★549. Ms L Shickerling (DA) to ask the Minister of Police [Written question 1002]:

What total number of cases of (a) murder, (b) common assault, (c) assault with the intent to cause grievous bodily harm, (d) rape and (e) sexual assault were reported on a Sunday in each province in the (i) 2021-22, (ii) 2022-23 and (iii) 2023-24 financial years?

NO1108E

★550. Mr C Hattingh (DA) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans [Written question 1226]:

Whether her department has taken steps to launch a Military Board of Inquiry or a Judicial Commission of Inquiry regarding the SA National Defence Force casualties in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as suggested by the Deputy Minister, Maj. Gen. (Ret) B H Holomisa; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details of the (a) format, (b) scope and (c) timelines of the investigation and/or inquiry that will be launched later?

NO1369E

★551. Mr C Hattingh (DA) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans [Written question 1227]:

(1) Whether all the 26 SA Air Force Gripen fleet or aircraft are covered with support contracts for airframe and engines; if not, what are the reasons for not having contracts in place for all 26 aircraft; if so, what are the relevant details of the support contracts;

(2) whether any Gripens were written off beyond economical repair; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what is the total number of such aircraft;

(3) what is the (a) last flight date for each of the 26 Gripen aircraft and (b) total number of hours that each Gripen aircraft has flown?

NO1370E

★552. Mr C Hattingh (DA) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans [Written question 1228]:

- (1) What problems have been experienced at the Swartkop Mobile Deployment Wing related to the (a) electricity provision and distribution, (b) runway lights, (c) water provision and reticulation and (d) internal roads in the past three years;
- (2) whether she has found the current security status of the base to be adequate; if not, what steps are being considered to address security issues at the base; if so, what are the relevant details in this regard? NO1371E

★553. Ms A L A Abrahams (DA) to ask the Minister of Police [Written question 1240]:

Whether the SA Police Service police stations were provided with an updated number of residents whom they currently serve; if not, on what date will the updated ratio of the number of residents to police personnel be effected; if so, what is the current ratio of the total number of residents to the total number of (a) fixed to establishment uniformed police officers, (b) actual uniformed police officers, (c) fixed to establishment detectives and (d) actual detectives at (i) Belhar, (ii) Delft, (iii) Bellville, (iv) Ravensmead and (v) Bishop Lavis Police Stations? NO1383E

★554. Ms L Schickerling (DA) to ask the Minister of Police [Written question 1256]:

With reference to his reply to question 94 on 5 March 2025, what (a)(i) are the names of each of the specified five majors-general and (ii) 10 brigadiers and (ii) specific security clearance requirements did each fail to meet (c) for how long has each respective security clearance certificate been expired? NO1400E

★555. Ms L Schickerling (DA) to ask the Minister of Police [Written question 1257]:

What is the (a) total number of SA Police Service (SAPS) photographers in each province and (b) ideal complement of SAPS photographers for each province? NO1401E

★556. Mr C Hattingh (DA) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans [Written question 1420]:

- (1) Whether, with reference to the purchase of luxury vehicles by the SA National Defence Force (SANDF) in each financial year from 2021-22 up to 2024-25, she will furnish Mr C Hattingh with the full details of each luxury vehicle, including the total cost of essential and non-essential alterations which exceeded the limit as set out in the Government's Handbook for Executive Officials, procured by the (a) Department of Defence, (b) SANDF, (c) Chief of the SANDF and (d) Services, Divisional Chiefs and Section Defence; if not, why not; if so, what is the (i) make, (ii) model, (iii) total cost, (iv) year of manufacture, (v) vehicle M number and (vi) vehicle used by position;
- (2) whether any exemption for any vehicle to comply with the Handbook for Executive Officials was requested and granted; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the full details for each case? NO1577E

★557. Ms K Kgobisa-Ngcaba (DA) to ask the Minister of Police [Written question 1424]:

- (1) What is the full explanation in respect of subdivisions (b) to (e) in his reply to question 1631 on 6 January 2025;
- (2) whether there is (a) data demonstrating that no cases involved the use of unregistered SIM cards, (b) no data collected on these cases and (c) some other explanation for the lack of data; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?
NO1581E

★558. Mr I Cameron (DA) to ask the Minister of Police [Written question 1450]:

- (1) What timeline is the SA Police Service following for the (a) establishment of the disciplinary units and (b) finalisation of the Disciplinary Policy;
- (2) whether the revised disciplinary policy will include clear guidelines, stricter timelines and/or new procedures for dealing with disciplinary cases; if not, what is the position in each case; if so, what specific changes should be expected in the revised disciplinary policy?
NW1608E

★559. Ms L Schickerling (DA) to ask the Minister of Police [Written question 1653]:

What (a) total number of (i) rubber bullets and (ii) teargas canisters have been procured by the SA Police Service and (b) was the total cost of the specified equipment in each of the past three financial years to date?
NO1866E

★560. Ms L Schickerling (DA) to ask the Minister of Police [Written question 1654]:

- (1) What total number of (a) D1 Adult Sexual Assault Collection Kits and (b) D7 Paediatric Sexual Assault Collection Kits have been procured in each province in the past three financial years to the date;
- (2) what was the total cost of procuring each of the specified evidence collection kits in each province in the past three financial years to date;
- (2) what is the ideal stock level for each of the specified evidence collection kits in each province?
NO1867E

★561. Mr C Hattingh (DA) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans [Written question 1756]:

- (1) What (a) is the breakdown of the type of (i) vehicles and/or (ii) equipment from the SA National Defence Force that were being repaired and/or refurbished under Project Thusano and (b) are the relevant details of the evidence-based cost comparison between South African service providers and the Cuban contingent that was considered before entering into each contract in terms of Operation Thusano;
- (2) whether any work was done on main battle equipment under Project Thusano; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the full, relevant details for each (a) year and (b) type of main battle equipment;

- (3) whether the Cuban maintenance and/or repair personnel worked on main battle equipment vetted by the State Security Agency; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (4) whether (a) the Cuban personnel worked on any simulators and (b) any of the specified simulators were taken for repair to Cuba; if not, what is the position in each case; if so, what are the relevant details in each case;
- (5) whether she has found that the contractual obligations towards Original Equipment Manufacturers in respect of any equipment that were taken out of the Republic were in any way infringed upon; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details? NO1969E

★562. Ms D Kohler (DA) to ask the Minister of Police [Written question 1760]:

- (1) (a) What are the main objectives of the oversight visits by the Human Resource Development Division and (b) how do the specified visits contribute to ensuring adherence to regulations;
- (2) whether any particular skills have been identified as most critical for the senior management of the SA Police Service moving forward; if so, what are the relevant details; if not,
- (3) whether the skills audit for senior managers will focus on inter alia technical skills and leadership abilities; if not, what specific skills and/or competencies will the skills audit focus on; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO1973E