

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NUMBER 1401

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DR S M VAN DYK (DA) TO ASK THE MINISTER OF FINANCE:

- (1) Whether the National Treasury, in the light of the crime wave in South Africa, is planning to adjust the medium term appropriation for the SA Police Service for the 2007-08 financial year; if so, what will that entail;
- (2) whether the budget of the SAPS is managed effectively; if not, what steps is the National Treasury taking in this regard;
- (3) whether the National Treasury is convinced that the budgetary needs of the SAPS, in terms of the SAPS motivation submitted to the National Treasury, are realistic and are compiled according to the SAPS's annual plan; if not, why not; if so, why is the SAPS experiencing logistical shortfalls in respect of equipment and stock in almost all facets of policing;
- (4) whether the National Treasury regards safety and security as one of the highest priorities; if so, why has it allocated less funds to the SAPS than what the SAPS has budgeted for in the previous financial years? **N1855E**

REPLY:

- (1) Adjustments to the Safety and Security vote for the 2007/08 year are under consideration by National Treasury and the Ministers' Committee on the Budget, as part of the annual budget process. Details of recommended appropriations will be tabled as part of the 2007 Budget in February next year.
- (2) Yes, the SAPS's budget and expenditure are managed effectively.
- (3) Yes, the SAPS budget submission is realistic and consistent with the Department's annual plan. This plan and the Safety and Security budget vote provide for continuing and substantial improvements in equipment and other supplies. The SAPS is not experiencing "logistical shortfalls in respect of equipment and stock in almost all facets of policing".
- (4) Safety and security is one of the Government's central priorities, and this is reflected in the strong growth in allocations to the SAPS, from R25,4 billion in 2004/05, to R29,4 billion in 2005/06 and R32,6 billion in the current year, continuing to increase every year over the MTEF period ahead.