

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NUMBER 1319 [NW1528E]**

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**1319. Ms N I Tarabella Marchesi (DA) to ask the Minister of Finance:**

What was the SA Revenue Service's total expenditure on rhino poaching interventions in the (a) 2008-09, (b) 2009-10, (c) 2010-11, (d) 2011-12, (e) 2012-13, (f) 2013-14 and (g) 2014-15 financial years?

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**REPLY:**

(a)(b)(c)(d)(e)(f)(g) The South African Revenue Service (SARS) has no expenditure on rhinoceros "poaching interventions" as this does not fall within the SARS tax and customs mandate.

SARS Customs Operations' main focus is to maintain and / or increase customs compliance at ports of entry / exit and to provide a customs service that will optimise revenue collection; protect our borders; and facilitate trade. SARS is responsible for the regulation of movement of goods through all ports of entry into and out of South Africa.

Non-intrusive search and detect capabilities such as detector dogs and scanners play a major role in the prevention and detection of illegal and / or illicit goods and / or substances in and around ports of entry and exit. Rhinoceros horns are amongst the illicit goods detected using these capabilities.