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NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION 2415

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(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 25-2021)

2415. Ms B S Masango (DA) to ask the Minister of Police:

Whether the SA Police Service has determined a specific crime category for gender-based violence and femicide; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

NW2790E

REPLY:

No, gender-based violence (GBV) is a social construct and not a specific crime. Data on gender-based related crimes, which is available from the system, are those crimes where victims are usually women. These are domestic violence-related crimes and sexual offences.

There is a limitation to the GBV data, which is available on South African Police Service (SAPS) information systems, in accordance with the definition for GBV and Femicide, provided by the National Strategic Plan (NSP), on GBV and Femicide (NSP GBVF).

In this regard, GBV is defined as follows: "The general term, used to capture violence that occurs, as a result of normative role expectations, associated with the gender associated with the sex, assigned to a person at birth "... as well as the unequal power relations between the genders. GBV includes the physical, sexual, verbal and emotional abuse or threats of abuse...."

The SAPS Crime Administration System (CAS) and Integrated Case Docket Management System (ICDMS), have a functionality that enables domestic violence-related cases, to be captured on the system. Sexual offences are also captured, in terms of the various crime codes, relating to the offences.

In order to determine a GBV motive or that gender dynamic contributed to a crime, one currently would have to go into individual docket analysis. In the medium-to long

term, the SAPS will seek to institutionalise a "peer agreed" definition on GBV, that will enable the capturing and availability of a broader cache of GBV. This may involve exploring the feasibility of re-engineering the systems, to enable the capturing of, as comprehensive as possible, the broader spectrum of GBV-related data. This will also require piloting and testing any measures, which are introduced.

A meeting has been established, comprising the relevant SAPS divisions and components, with the aim of engaging and having a common understanding of GBV, definition limitations and possibilities for SAPS data. The following issues will be explored, in detail, by this team:

- Definitional elements from the NSP definition.
- Development of a questionnaire on the system.
- A gap analysis to be made in the system functionality, for GBV data for necessary enhancement.
- To obtain stakeholder buy-in.


Reply to question 2415 recommended/~~not recommended~~


 NATIONAL COMMISSIONER, SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE
 KJ SHOLE (SOEG)

GENERAL

Date: 2021-11-19

Reply to question 2415 approved/not approved


 MINISTER OF POLICE
 GENERAL BH CELE, MP

Date: 20/11/2024