

# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

## **FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

### **QUESTION 7125**

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**(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 54-2025)**

**7125. Mr I Cameron (DA) to ask the Acting Minister of Police: [★1300] [Question submitted for oral reply now placed for written reply because it is more than quota (Rule 137(8))]**

What (a) is the current total number of firearms that were reported as lost from the SA Police Service (SAPS) armouries in the past five years that have been recovered and (b) measures have been put in place to prevent weapons from the SAPS stock falling in the hands of criminal syndicates?

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### **REPLY:**

- (a) A total of 16 South African Police Service (SAPS) -owned firearms were recovered, from total of 170 SAPS-owned firearms that were reported as lost/stolen from SAPS armouries, in the past five years.
- (b) The norms and standards applicable to the safety and security of armouries in the SAPS are regulated in terms of National Instruction (NI) 6 of 2018 Management of Movable Government Property in the SAPS, and more specifically, Chapter 8: Safes, vaults and potable gun safes; Chapter 10: Official firearms and ammunition; Chapter 12: Storage, safekeeping and control of stock and equipment and Chapter 13: Stocktaking.

In order to ensure that armouries comply with prescribed norms and standards as stipulated above, parade inspections are conducted by immediate commanders, bi-annual inspections by appointed stocktaking committee members, annual stocktaking, cycle counts, unannounced inspections, inspections by Internal Audit and Auditor General to ensure that firearms are correctly accounted for in terms of:

- Location.
- Condition.
- Serial number.
- Competency.
- Type.

- Calibre.

All procured official firearms are marked with a SAPS Logo and are subjected to Integrated Ballistics Identification System (IBIS) testing, before being distributed from the SAPS' Provisioning Store to business units in provinces and divisions as per NI 6 of 2018, Chapter 10, paragraph 65.

An official firearm must always be worn with a firearm retention cord attached thereto when worn on the person of a member, unless the nature of his/her duties requires the firearm to be concealed and all official firearms and ammunition must be stored in South African national Accreditation System (SANAS) approved safe/strong room that conforms to the prescripts of the South African Bureau of Standards (SABS) Standard 953-1 and 953-2, as prescribed by the Firearms Control Regulations, 2004, when not in use, as per National Instruction 6 of 2018, Chapter 10, paragraph 72.

All SAPS firearms that are issued to business units in provinces and divisions, as well as the SAPS' Provisioning Store, are inspected and certified bi-annually on the SAPS' Provisioning Administration System (PAS) and annual stocktaking is done, as per NI 6 of 2018, Chapter 10, paragraph 73.