

**MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS**



**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NO 4099**

**REPLY RECOMMENDED BY:  
MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS: MP**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

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**Mr K. Ceza (EFF) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:**

Whether she has found that the deployment of the SA National Defence Force to support a multi-sectoral effort that brings together the Justice, Crime Prevention and Security Cluster and other relevant departments and stakeholders has made inroads in the fight against illegal mining criminal syndicates and labour brokers that are alleged to be at the centre of recruiting illegal miners from the Southern African Development Community region; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

**REPLY:**

The deployment of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) to assist the Justice, Crime Prevention and Security Cluster (JCPS) and other relevant departments and stakeholders in combating illegal mining and related criminal syndicates has strengthened the JCPS's capabilities as a force multiplier in this case.

So far, the deployment of the SANDF under Operation Prosper has resulted in increased and demonstrable success for the security cluster. However, the SANDF is not mandated to investigate criminal syndicates, and so is not involved in such investigations, because it is the role of other departments, agencies and stakeholders under the Justice, Crime Prevention, and Security Cluster (JCPS) to report and update on such matters.



**MS T.R. MODISE**

**MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS: MP**