

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLYQUESTION 844

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(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 13-2024)

844. Mr A G Whitfield (DA) to ask the Minister of Police

With reference to the special remission programme and the release of 15 000 inmates, (a) what total number of the released inmates had DNA samples taken from them prior to their release, (b) of those DNA samples taken, how many were added to the national database and (c) what total number of the specified inmates DNA samples have matched DNA samples of subsequent crimes since their release, whether arrested or not?

NW1024E

REPLY:

(a)(b)(c) The total number of buccal samples is 15 037. Note that these samples were taken prior to the detainees' release in the Special Remission Programme.

The National Forensic DNA Database (NFDD) cannot distinguish between profiles that were taken from persons as part of the Special Remission Programme, and those that were from convicted persons, prior to their release from incarceration, as required in terms of the Criminal Law (Forensic Procedures) Amendment Act 2013, (Act No. 37 of 2013).

The NFDD system is designed to align with the DNA Act, wherein the DNA forensic profiles are reported as per different indices; i.e. the convicted offender, arrested, crime scene, elimination, investigative and missing person/unidentified human remains indices. As of the 1st of April 2024, the NFDD contains 81 837 forensic DNA profiles in the Convicted Index. Since the inception of the DNA Act, a total of 26 338 crime sample and convicted sample matches were effected.

Reply to question 844 recommended/not recommended

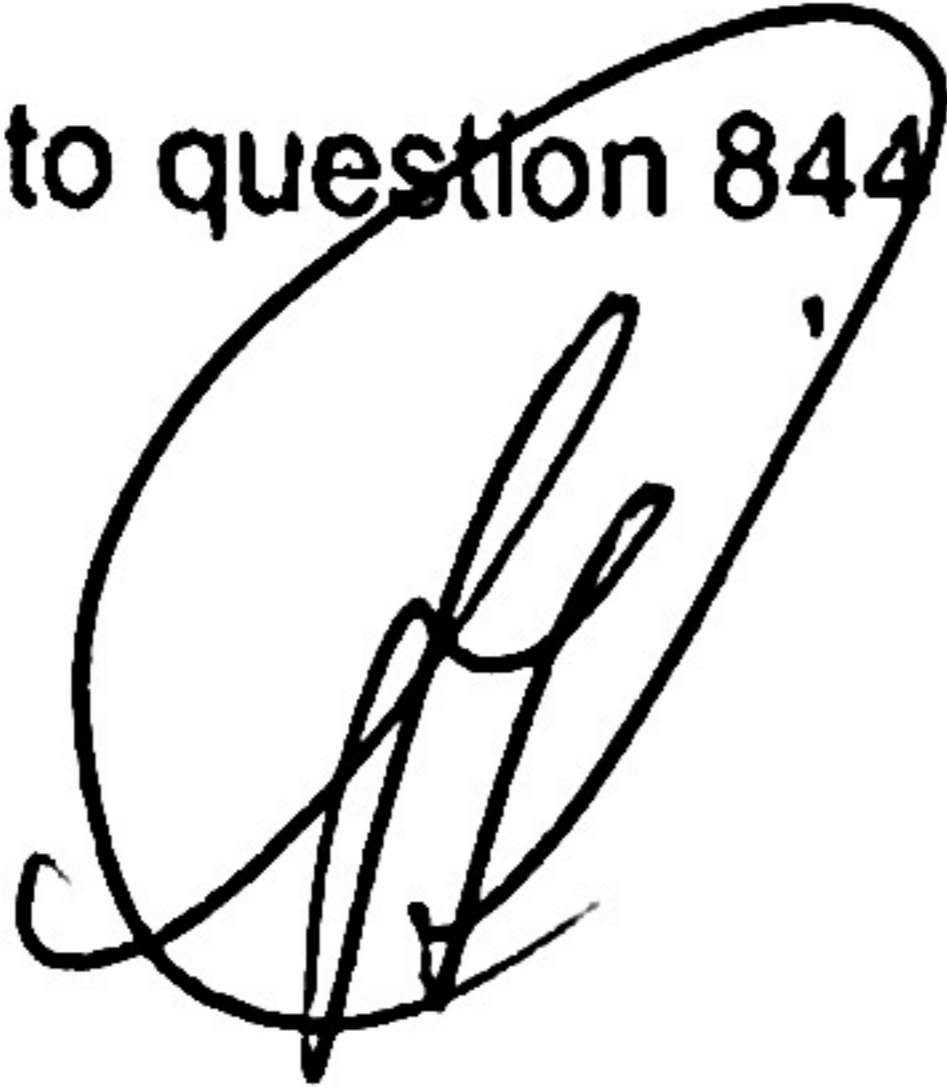
Q1P 844



**GENERAL
NATIONAL COMMISSIONER: SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE
SF MASEMOLA (SOEG)**

Date: 2024-04-05

Reply to question 844 approved/~~not approved~~



**MINISTER OF POLICE
GENERAL BH CELE, MP**

Date: 07/04/2024