



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Ref:02/1/5/2

MINISTER

QUESTION NO. 3385 FOR WRITTEN REPLY: NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

A draft reply to **Mr R K Purdon (DA)** to the above-mentioned question is enclosed for your consideration.

**MS NOSIPHO NGCABA
DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

DATE:

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

**DR B E E MOLEWA, MP
MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

DATE:

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 3385 {NW3777E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 39 of 2017

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 27 October 2017

Mr R K Purdon (DA) to ask the Minister of Environmental Affairs:

- (1) Whether any cell phones and/or other communication devices were confiscated by rangers from alleged poachers in each national park since 01 January 2017; if so, (a) what number of communication devices were confiscated in each specified park and (b) what are the details of the processes followed after confiscation;
- (2) Whether the specified devices were handed over to the South African Police Service (SAPS); if so, have the devices been used as evidence in investigations?

3385. THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS REPLIES:

- (1) Yes, ninety three (93) cellular phones were confiscated during arrests, by Rangers, of suspected poachers in the Kruger National Park.
- (2) Yes, all cellular phones recovered from South African National Parks (SANParks) anti-poaching operations/ arrests are handed over to the SAPS for further investigation. The intention is for all cellular phone evidence to be used in investigation processes. The SAPS is in a better position to give an account on whether the devices have been used as evidence in investigations.

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