



**forestry, fisheries
& the environment**

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Ref: 02/1/5/2

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 497 {NW573E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 6 of 2024

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Mr M N Paulsen (EFF) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

Whether, among the 16 criminal investigations handed over to the National Prosecuting Authority for prosecution, any officials from (a) her department and (b) entities reporting to her are involved; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

497. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:

The 16 criminal investigations that were finalised and referred to the relevant Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP), as reported by Programme 2 in quarter 1 of the 2023/2024 financial year, relate to cases involving environmental crimes investigated by Environmental Management Inspectors (EMIs) in the employ of the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE). In relation to these 16 cases, note the following:

- (a) Officials who are in the employ of the DFFE are not involved in any of these criminal investigations (save for the EMIs responsible for investigating the cases).
- (b) None of the cases involve entities which report to the DFFE.



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MS B D CREECY, MP
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT
DATE: 5/3/2024