



environment, forestry & fisheries

Department:
Environment, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Ref: O2/1/5/2

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 712 {NW831E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 6 of 2021

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 05 March 2021

Mrs C Phillips (DA) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

- (1) What is the total number of applications in terms of the Promotion of Access to Information Act, Act 2 of 2000, (PAIA), that (a) her department and (b) the entities reporting to her have received since 1 January 2015;
- (2) what number of the PAIA applications that were received (a) have not been replied to at all, (b) were replied to, but without answering the questions and (c) were replied to comprehensively with all the information required by the PAIA?

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

1. The total number of applications in terms of the Promotion of Access to Information Act, Act 2 of 2000, (PAIA) received:

(a) THE DEPARTMENT:

| TOTAL PAIA APPLICATIONS RECEIVED | FINANCIAL YEAR |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| 53 | 2015/2016 |
| 50 | 2016/2017 |
| 58 | 2017/2018 |
| 68 | 2018/2019 |
| 67 | 2019/2020 |

| | |
|----|-----------|
| 89 | 2020/2021 |
|----|-----------|

(b) Entities

(i) SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL PARKS

| TOTAL PAIA APPLICATIONS RECEIVED | FINANCIAL YEAR |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| 5 | 2015/2016 |
| 6 | 2016/2017 |
| 4 | 2017/2018 |
| 5 | 2018/2019 |
| 9 | 2019/2020 |

(ii) ISIMANGALISO

| TOTAL PAIA APPLICATIONS RECEIVED | FINANCIAL YEAR |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| 0 | 2015/2016 |
| 0 | 2016/2017 |
| 0 | 2017/2018 |
| 0 | 2018/2019 |
| 0 | 2019/2020 |
| 2 | 2020/2021 |

(iii) SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY INSTITUTE

| TOTAL PAIA APPLICATIONS RECEIVED | FINANCIAL YEAR |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| 0 | 2015/2016 |
| 0 | 2016/2017 |
| 3 | 2017/2018 |
| 5 | 2018/2019 |
| 4 | 2019/2020 |
| 7 | 2020/2021 |

(iv) SOUTH AFRICAN WEATHER SERVICES

| TOTAL PAIA APPLICATIONS RECEIVED | FINANCIAL YEAR |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| 0 | 2015/2016 |
| 0 | 2016/2017 |
| 0 | 2017/2018 |
| 0 | 2018/2019 |
| 1 | 2019/2020 |
| 1 | 2020/2021 |

2. Number of the PAIA applications that were received (a) have not been replied to at all; (b) were replied to, but without answering the questions and (c) were replied to comprehensively with all the information required by the PAIA?

- (a) No PAIA applications that were received were not replied to at all. Where full access was denied it was dealt with in line with provisions of PAIA.
- (b) No PAIA applications were replied to without answering the questions. PAIA provides for access being withheld if the information requested for example falls within the following categories:
- (i) pertains to third party and the information is commercially sensitive.
 - (ii) private information of third parties.
 - (iii) information pertaining dockets and bail proceedings.
 - (iv) defence, security, and international relations of the country.
 - (v) pertains to the operations of public bodies.

(c)

The Department

| FINANCIAL YEAR | TOTAL PAIA APPLICATIONS RECEIVED | FULL ACCESS GRANTED | PARTIAL ACCESS GRANTED | FULL ACCESS DENIED | SECTION 15 AND OTHERS (documents automatically made available, no records exist or transferred to relevant authority) |
|----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------|---|
| 2015/2016 | 53 | 33 | 15 | 3 | 2 |
| 2016/2017 | 50 | 24 | 16 | 1 | 9 |
| 2017/2018 | 58 | 19 | 8 | 2 | 29 |
| 2018/2019 | 68 | 27 | 16 | 0 | 25 |
| 2019/2020 | 67 | 23 | 10 | 6 | 28 |
| 2020/2021 | 89 | 25 | 23 | 8 | 18 (15 PAIA applications are still pending) |

South African National Parks

| FINANCIAL YEAR | TOTAL PAIA APPLICATIONS RECEIVED | FULL ACCESS GRANTED | PARTIAL ACCESS GRANTED | FULL ACCESS DENIED | SECTION 15 AND OTHERS (documents automatically made available, no records exist or transferred to relevant authority) |
|----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------|---|
| 2015/2016 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| | | | | | |
|-----------|---|---|---|---|--|
| 2016/2017 | 6 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| 2017/2018 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 matter was finalised during 2018/2019 financial year |
| 2018/2019 | 5 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 matter was finalised during 2019/2020 financial year |
| 2019/2020 | 9 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 1 matter was finalised during 2020/2021 financial year |

iSimangaliso

| FINANCIAL YEAR | TOTAL PAIA APPLICATIONS RECEIVED | FULL ACCESS GRANTED | PARTIAL ACCESS GRANTED | FULL ACCESS DENIED | SECTION 15 AND OTHERS (documents automatically made available, no records exist or transferred to relevant authority) |
|----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------|---|
| 2015/2016 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2016/2017 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2017/2018 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2018/2019 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2019/2020 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2020/2021 | 2 | Pending | Pending | Pending | Pending |

South African National Biodiversity Institute

| FINANCIAL YEAR | TOTAL PAIA APPLICATIONS RECEIVED | FULL ACCESS GRANTED | PARTIAL ACCESS GRANTED | FULL ACCESS DENIED | SECTION 15 AND OTHERS (documents automatically made available, no records exist or transferred to relevant authority) |
|----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------|---|
| 2015/2016 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 - No records found, verified with SAHRC) |

| | | | | | |
|-----------|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2016/2017 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 - No records found, verified with SAHRC) |
| 2017/2018 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2018/2019 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| 2019/2020 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| 2020/2021 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 matter is due for submission on 23 March 2021 |
| | | | | | 1 matter was not within SA/NBI mandate |

South African Weather Services

| FINANCIAL YEAR | TOTAL PAIA APPLICATIONS RECEIVED | FULL ACCESS GRANTED | PARTIAL ACCESS GRANTED | FULL ACCESS DENIED | SECTION 15 AND OTHERS (documents automatically made available, no records exist or transferred to relevant authority) |
|----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------|---|
| 2015/2016 | | | | | |
| 2016/2017 | | | | | |
| 2017/2018 | | | | | |
| 2018/2019 | | | | | |
| 2019/2020 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2020/2021 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Regards



MS B D CREECY, MP
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

DATE: 15/3/2021