THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO. 390

Mr S S Zibi (Rise Mzansi) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

(1)   How does his department intend to combat illegal online gambling in the Republic;

(2)   What total number of cases of illegal online gambling has the National Gambling Board identified over the past five years;

(3)   What total number of the specified cases of illegal online gambling (a) were referred to the SA Police Service and (b) have led to (i) arrests and/or (ii) prosecutions;

(4)   What are the relevant details of the (a) total number of arrests, (b) location of the arrests and (c) total number of the specified arrests that led to successful prosecutions? NW266E

REPLY:

I have been advised by the National Gambling Board (NGB) as follows.

(1)   The NGB collaborated with the National Joints Operational and Intelligent Structure (NATJOINTS) to facilitate the establishment of the Stakeholder Priority Committee to address Illegal Gambling (SPCIG). Collaborated with SAPS to conduct raids at land-based establishments which offer illegal gambling activities. Collaboration with foreign jurisdictions to stop foreign licensed operators from offering gambling activities which are not licensed in South Africa within the South African jurisdiction. Engagement with South African Network Operators to block illegal online gambling websites. Reporting of illegal gambling websites to Google Africa to remove websites from their search engine which have been determined as illegal gambling online website.

(2)   Two hundred and eighty-five (285) cases have been identified from 2018 - 2023. These matters emanated from unlawful winnings transactions as a result of illegal online gambling.

(3)   (a)&(b)(i) and/or (ii)
This information is within the purview of the Provincial Gambling Boards and the South African Police Service (SAPS).

(4)   (a), (b)&(c)
This information is within the purview of the Provincial Gambling Boards and the South African Police Service (SAPS).

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