

Have you seen this man?

By **DULILE SOWAGA**

MYSTERY surrounds a robbery at Mafisa FM in Rustenburg, North West.

Equipment worth R90 000 was stolen after a female presenter was tied up.

And the man who can help answer cops' questions, security guard Alifios Sithole, is missing.

He was on duty on 29 January when unknown men came to the station some time between 10pm and 2am.

Station manager Virtue Fongoma said: "The men were apparently allowed in by the missing

security guard. They may have pretended they had an interview at the station."

Fongoma said they went to Alifios' place, using the address he gave when he was employed, but were told he hadn't been living there for a long time.

"No family member of his has ever come to ask about him at the station," she said.

"This makes it difficult for management to know if he was abducted or if he's on the run



Security guard Alifios Sithole went missing after a robbery at Mafisa FM.

himself."

Lieutenant-Colonel Adele Myburgh said a burglary case was opened.

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N2 Wild Coast under spotlight

DENNIS CRUYWAGEN

TRANSPORT Minister Joe Maswanganyi is to soon table in Cabinet the proposed toll model for the operation and maintenance of the N2 Wild Coast road.

Maswanganyi made this announcement in a written reply to a question submitted in the National Assembly by EFF MP Notando Nolutshungu.

She had asked him whether the South African National Roads Agency Limited (Sanral) had enough funds to finance the N2 Wild Coast toll road.

He responded that Sanral already had a full allocation for the construction of the Mtentu and Msikaba mega-bridges, which were under construction and on tender respectively.

"Sanral has also allocated sufficient funds for the construction of access

roads, referred to as haul roads, to provide access to the bridge sites," Maswanganyi said.

Over the past few years, Sanral has also improved the brownfields section of the N2 between Umthatha and Port St Johns through its budget allocations.

It has also allocated funds for community development projects intended to benefit communities along the N2 route alignment in the Wild Coast area, Maswanganyi said.

The government has also allocated funding for the construction of the greenfields section of the N2 from Port St Johns to Port Edward.

"This demonstrates the government's commitment to the successful delivery of this important project in the Eastern Cape," he said.

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Fraud lands suspects in jail!

By **KGOMOTSO MEDUPE**

THE Hawks in North West bust 14 suspects for alleged drivers' licence fraud.

Hawks spokesman Captain Tlangelani Rikhotso said cops arrested seven traffic examiners, four driving school owners and three driving school instructors aged between 29 and 66 on Monday.

"The group was found in Potchefstroom and Mogwase," said Rikhotso.

"The arrests followed reports about driving school owners allegedly working with examiners at testing stations to issue learners' and drivers' licences to undeserving applicants in exchange of bribes.



Cops escort a man into a police car after he was arrested on Monday.

"The syndicate would allegedly issue licences to applicants without subjecting them to the mandatory test in exchange of a bribe varying from R5 000 to 10 000."

Rikhotso said the suspects were expected to appear in the

Potchefstroom and Mogwase magistrates courts today, facing charges of fraud and corruption. Major-General Linda Mbana, provincial head of the Hawks, praised the cops for ensuring that corrupt traffic examiners were brought to book.

Crime fighters 'must be above reproach'

DENNIS CRUYWAGEN

PARLIAMENT'S police portfolio committee has called for men and women beyond reproach to be appointed at the helm of crime-fighting agencies.

The oversight body also demanded that those implicated in the plundering of state resources be investigated and charged. Interpol should also be approached to assist with the arrest of fugitives sought in connection with state capture the committee said.

Committee chairperson Francois Beukman said yesterday that there was a need to restore confidence in crime-fighting agencies as a tool to safeguard South Africa against rampant corruption and the plundering of state resources.

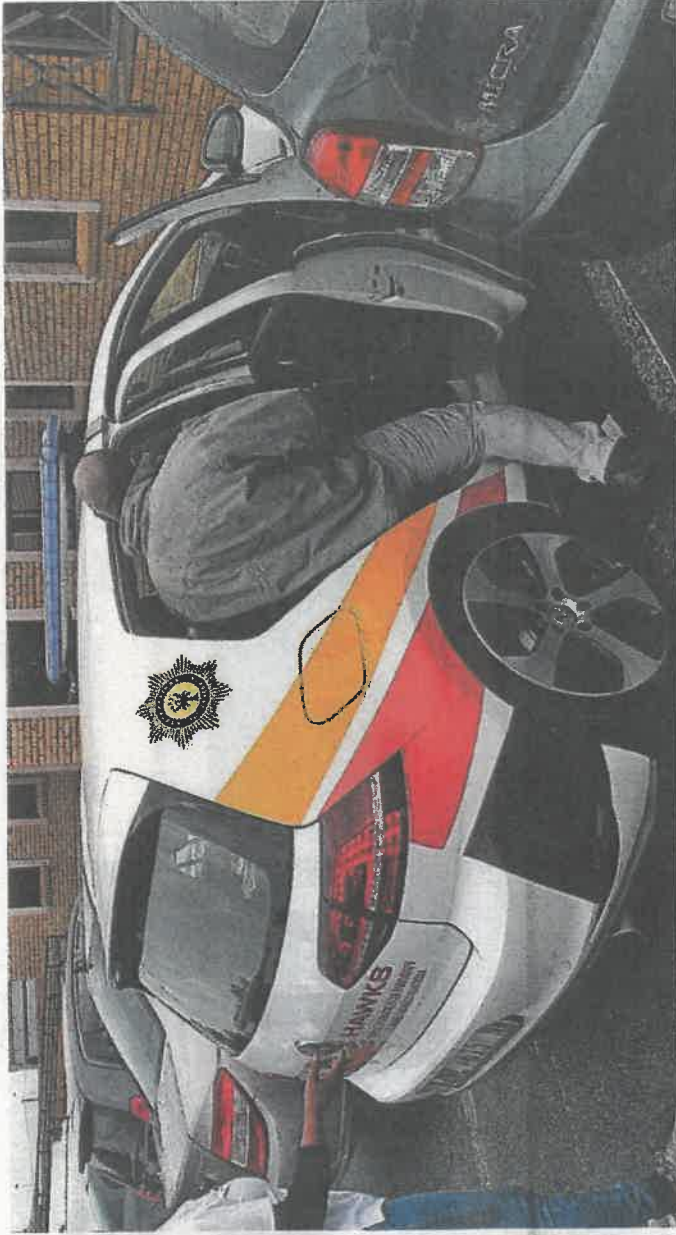
To restore confidence of the people in crime fighting institutions strong and decisive action must be taken against those who acted against the law and the Constitution, Beukman said.

"We welcome ongoing efforts by law enforcement agencies to deal with corrupt officials in their midst, but we need more urgency and decisiveness."

Appointing capable and proper leaders would be a starting point for regaining public confidence.

"We need leaders, women and men of integrity, in these institutions who are beyond reproach. Fit and proper persons who subscribe to the values of Act 108 of 1996, namely the Constitution of the republic, and can make decisions without fear, favour and prejudice," Beukman said.

He said that there was a dire need to move with speed to amend outdated leg-



ON THE MOVE: Strong action must be taken against criminals, says the police portfolio committee.

The DPCI needs to ensure that the capacity and training of staff for the cybercrime centre be prioritised during this financial year. Fighting corruption also required an anti-corruption system that was well-resourced, operated free from political interference and has the support of all citizens.

Law enforcement agencies, such as the Hawks and SAPS commercial crime detective unit, must further develop the necessary capacity and expertise to deal with complex private-sector crime investigations, Beukman said.

step up efforts to deal with corruption was urgent.

"Our people want to see that perpetrators of crime who plundered state coffers are arrested and prosecuted in the relevant courts. Our law enforcement agencies should interact with Interpol and their counterparts in other jurisdictions to ensure that all fugitives in relation to state capture are apprehended and brought to book."

Beukman said cybercrime would be the most significant international crime threat to countries, including South Africa, over the next 10 years.

isolation, such as the South African Police Service to strengthen law enforcement in the Republic and also bring it in line with the current environment.

The civilian oversight element must also be strengthened to ensure adequate monitoring of SAPS. Additional measures to further strengthen institutions such as the Office of the Inspector-General for Intelligence, the Independent Police Investigative Directorate and the Directorate for Priority Crime Investigations, better known as the Hawks, were also needed.

Above all, Beukman said, the need to

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