

08/06/17 The Star p94
Met SAPS

Mbalula wants top cop posts filled soon

SIYABONGA MKHWANAZI

POLICE Minister Fikile Mbalula wants the appointments of a new head of the Hawks and a permanent national police commissioner to be completed speedily.

Mbalula told MPs yesterday he wanted to fill these critical posts urgently. He said the contract of suspended National Commissioner Riah Phiyega comes to an end on Saturday, and a permanent commissioner needed to be

appointed soon.

Lieutenant-General Lesetja Mothiba was appointed acting national

commissioner last week after Lieutenant-General Khomotso Phahlane was removed from this post.

Mbalula, who was briefing the portfolio committee on police on the appointment of Mothiba, said he wanted a permanent head of the police by August.

He also told the committee they wanted to appoint the permanent head of the Hawks urgently. Lieutenant-General Yolisa Matakata became the acting head of the Hawks after Mbalula removed Berning Ntlemeza.

But Ntlemeza is fighting his axing in court and last week, the Supreme Court of Appeal heard his application. Mbalula said despite their best intentions

to fill these positions, they were hamstrung by legal processes.

"Some of those things are not dependent on us, but on litigation. Even the (suspended) national commissioner has been in court. But her contract comes to an end on Saturday. We'll then have to confirm a permanent commissioner with the president," said Mbalula.

He spoke out against the fact that there were fewer members on the ground to fight crime. He said they were cutting down

on personnel and their budget did not reflect this.

He also told the committee they wanted the independent

Police Investigative Directorate (Ipid) to focus on its mandate.

He said he did not want to see police units and agencies involved in fighting one other. He said this was why he acted in the manner he did with Phahlane last week.

Mbalula said last week it would be in the best interest of both Phahlane and SAPS for him to be removed from the position of acting national commissioner.

Phahlane was involved in a spat with Ipid over the last few months, with each accusing the other of wrongdoing.

The committee had resolved to bring Mbalula to Parliament on the spat between the two parties, but Phahlane was removed last week before yesterday's meeting.

They were hamstrung by legal processes

09/06/17 Saathen Pgs. Met SAPS pos.

Airport crime a big worry

Mbalula told to crack the whip

By **Babaloo Ndenze**

Police Minister Fikile Mbalula told MPs that "they would collapse" if they were to discover the full extent of crime at OR Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg.

Appearing before the police portfolio committee yesterday, Mbalula painted a grim picture of the crime situation at the country's busiest airport, saying it was giving him sleepless nights.

Mbalula has now asked acting national police commissioner Lesetja Mothiba to treat the lax security at the airport as a matter of urgency.

"Where police are erring we need to act on that. We are not only concerned about police corruption and docket disappearance, the recycling of criminals in the system. Our

approach is more operational," he said.

"Yesterday before I came here I went to SAA [at the airport], our national key point. I didn't sleep, I can tell you. If you had to know what is happening there, you will collapse."

OR Tambo airport has had

several security breaches in the recent past although it has a highly visible police presence.

The most prominent security breach this year was a brazen cash heist in March in which millions of rand were stolen, allegedly with the help of some police officers.

MPs praised Mbalula for his "straight talk" and encouraged him to "crack the whip" in the fight against crime. "We also welcome your approach in the fight against abuse of women. So you must crack the whip," said committee chairman Francois Beukman.



Police Minister Fikile Mbalula is having sleepless nights. / SIMPHIWE NKWALI

08/06/17 TNA Pg 1 NWSAPS POS

Life imprisonment for rapist

ELFAS TORERAI

A MAN was sentenced to life imprisonment for rape and robbery in the Klerksdorp Regional Court yesterday.

The 26-year-old Kenny Diseko was sentenced to life and an additional 15 years for offences he committed in 2011.

On September 4, 2011, Diseko and his friends approached the victim, threat-

ened her with knives and robbed her of her cellphone.

"The culprits then took the victim to a nearby school wherein she was held down by the other man while being raped by Diseko. Police in Jouberton were informed about the matter, traced Diseko and arrested him," North West police spokesperson Sgt Kelebogile Moleko said.

PRETORIA NEWS (Pg) 2 8/06/2017

Life term for rapist

Positive

A MAN, 26, has been sentenced to a lengthy jail term for rape and robbery, North West police said.

Kenny Diseko was handed life imprisonment and 15 years in jail for rape and robbery by the Klerksdorp Regional Court on Tuesday. On September 4, 2011, he and his friends threatened the victim with knives and robbed her of her cellphone. They took her to a school where she was held down by the other suspects and raped by him.

In the Klerksdorp Regional Court Thato Makgatlhe was sentenced to 20 years in jail for the murder of his girlfriend Kholiwe Radebe. He was linked to the case by witnesses who last saw him with her. - ANA