

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

ON THE

SECURITY CHECK POINTS AND PATROLS MOUNTED DURING AND AFTER THE PERIOD OF THE THREATENED STATE OF EMERGENCY

BY THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS, MR KAMPYONGO, MP

Mr Speaker, I would like to thank you for giving me this opportunity to issue a brief ministerial statement on the security check points popularly referred to as roads blocks and patrols mounted by the Zambia Police Service during and after the State of Threatened Emergence.

Sir, the Zambia Police Service mounts security check points and carried regular and snap security whenever deemed essential for the purposes of tracking and monitoring criminal elements and activities. The regular security check points and snap checks are essential tools for the preservation of peace and security in the country.

Mr Speaker, following the invocation of Article 31 of the Constitution of the Republic of Zambia by His Excellency the President of the Republic of Zambia, Mr Edgar Chagwa Lungu, the Zambia Police Service enhanced security at the regular security check points and increased the number of motorised and foot patrols mounted throughout the country. While there was no increase in the number of regular check points, the numbers of officers posted to such points were increased. The regular check points were also reinforced by an increased in the number of motorised and foot patrols. As hon. Members maybe aware, some of these were joint operations.

Sir, the Zambia Police Service has forty-three permanent check points throughout the country. These are distributed by provinces as follows:

<i>Province</i>	<i>Security Check Point</i>
Lusaka	05
Copperbelt	08

Central	08
Luapula	04
North Western	02
Eastern	02
Western	02
Northern	03
Muchinga	04
Southern	03

Mr Speaker, the Zambia Police Service carried out 132 Traffic Snap Checks per day throughout the country during the period of the Threatened State of Emergency. These operations were planned by the provincial police commissioners based on their independent assessments of the security situation in their respective divisions.

Sir, the number of regular security check points has remained the same after the period of the Threatened State of Emergency because these were not increased. However, The Zambia Police Service has reduced on the number of snap trap check sixty per day countrywide.

Mr Speaker, I am pleased to report that the Zambia police Service carried out its duties professionally during the period of the Threatened State of Emergency. To that end, members of the public were not unnecessarily inconvenienced. The officers understood that the Threatened State of Emergency was strictly for the preservation of public security and peace in our country.

Sir, allow me in that regard to appeal to all members of the public to religiously abide by the laws of our country in their day to day activities to promote peace and security in our country. We should also at all times endeavour to support the law enforcement agencies so that they can easily keep us all safe. Our police officers understand and know that causing unnecessary inconvenience to members of the public in the course of their duties cannot and would not be tolerated by this Government.

Mr Speaker, I thank you.