



Publication: TheCitizenKZN - Main
Title: President appoints spy watchdog
Publish date: 01 Nov 2022
Page: 8

Reach: 44390
AVE: R 26680.09
Author: Staff Reporter

President appoints spy watchdog

Imtiaz Fazel is expected to start his five-year term as the new inspector-general of intelligence today, following his appointment by President Cyril Ramaphosa.

Fazel's nomination for the position was approved by the National Assembly and he was appointed by the president in accordance with Section 210(b) of the constitution, read in conjunction with section 7(1) of the Intelligence Services Oversight Act of 1994.

According to a statement by the presidency, the approval came after a 12 people were interviewed for the position by the joint standing committee on intelligence (JSCI).

"The Intelligence Services Oversight Act mandates the JSCI to recommend a candidate for approval by at least two-thirds of National Assembly Members.

"Following National Assembly approval, the name of the candidate is submitted to the president to consider the nominee for appointment as inspector-general.

"The inspector-general monitors and reviews the operations of intelligence services, including the State Security Agency (SSA), the Defence Intelligence Division of the South African National Defence Force and the Crime Intelligence Division of the South African Police Service," the statement read.

A total of 25 people had applied for the job during a public process.

The presidency said Fazel's appointment is a "continuation of the attention Ramaphosa is giving to strengthening the capability of the state, including the security sector".

"Mr Fazel is a former chief operating officer – at the level of deputy director-general – in the Office of the Inspector-General of Intelligence and a former deputy director-general in the office of the director-general of the SSA.

"From 2015 to 2020, he served as deputy director-general: governance, risk and compliance in the department of public works, following which he served as acting director-general in the department of public works and infrastructure.

"Mr Fazel has obtained a master's degree in security studies from the University of Pretoria and holds a bachelor of accounting science degree from the University of South Africa. – SAnews.gov.za