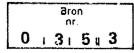
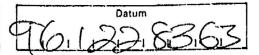
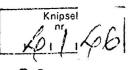
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28 DEC 1996

AA deplores plan to hijack motorists' fund

THE Automobile Association yesterday expressed serious concern about a government proposal to reduce state debt by transferring funds from reserves of the vehicle-related special riot insurance fund administered by Sasria.

A proposal to introduce legislation to permit the transfer of Sasria assets

for purposes other than those that were vehiclerelated was to be deplored, the AA said in a statement.

These assets had accrued through premium income paid by motorists, who should therefore be entitled to reap any benefits.

"Too often in the past the government of the day has seen fit to hijack the motorists' contribution for other purposes, as these funds are seen as an easy target to solve financial problems," the AA said.

It suggested that any diversion of Sasria's assets would be more acceptable if the funds went to the third-party insurance fund, MMF, which was in a precarious position with a liability of R7,4 billion. – Sapa.

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