



JICS

Judicial Inspectorate for
Correctional Services

MEDIA RESPONSE

The JICS mandate to investigate the treatment of inmates, conditions and any corrupt or dishonest practices at Correctional Centres is stipulated in terms of Section 85(2) and Section 90 of the Correctional Services Act 111 of 1998.

JICS is concerned that the recent spate of prison escapes may be related to possible uncondusive conditions at the prisons, which decreases the safety of the citizens of South Africa.

We await the DCS investigation reports of the recent incident which took place at the Johannesburg Correctional Centre, better known as Sun City, on Monday where sixteen awaiting trial prisoners, escaped through a pipe shaft and used an object to break the wall.

The Inspecting Judge (IJ), honourable Johann van der Westhuizen is currently visiting several correctional facilities around the country to compile a report on the conditions of the centres. This report will be made available to the Minister of Justice and Correctional Services with various recommendations once the visits have been completed and the report compiled.

The IJ visited three prisons last week in KwaZulu Natal namely Ebongweni Supermax, Mapumulo and Stanga Correctional Centres.

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