Media Update
5 May 2020

The Department of Correctional Services (DCS ) continues to record a significant increase in the number of Covid-19 recoveries following the recovery of 39 inmates in East London, taking the total number of recoveries to 60 cases.

The recoveries are a clear indication of the effectiveness of the containment and treatment pillar of the DCS' Covid-19 Disaster Management Response Strategy. Under the strategy, there is rapid identification of laboratory confirmed cases and inmates who test positive are isolated and have access to quality healthcare that enable their recovery.

There has been however, six (6) new cases of Covid-19 in East London for inmates, taking the total number of cases in DCS to 165. Our health care practitioners are already on-site providing an array of health services. They have been provided with adequate Personal Protection Equipment and they are attending to the cases and are monitoring the situation so that those in need of urgent medical attention can be attended to.

DCS is saddened to confirm two death cases of inmates with underlying co-morbid conditions at East London centre and we send our sincere condolences to their families. We continue to work with the Department of Health, adhering to all their guidelines in fighting against this pandemic.

The total breakdown is as follows:-

Eastern Cape - 100
Officials - 35
Inmates - 65
58 recoveries
2 death cases

Western Cape – 52
Officials - 49
Inmates – 3
One Death under investigation

Limpopo - 2
Officials - 2
Inmates - 0
One recovery

Gauteng - 11
Officials - 3
Inmates - 8

Head Office
Officials – 1
One recovery

Ends.

Issued by: Department of Correctional Services

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