



correctional services

Department:
Correctional Services
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

09 October 2026

DCS Receives 38 Laptops to Support Offender Education and Rehabilitation

The Department of Correctional Services (DCS) has received a total of 38 laptops donated by the Inside-Out Outside-In South African Corrections Interest Group to strengthen offender education, digital literacy and rehabilitation.

The handover ceremony took place at Kgoši Mampuru II Correctional Facility on Friday, 09 October 2026.

Delivering the keynote address, DCS National Commissioner, Mr Makgothi Samuel Thobakgale, welcomed the donation, describing it as a meaningful contribution towards expanding educational opportunities and equipping offenders with skills that support their rehabilitation and successful reintegration into society. "This initiative highlights the importance of connecting correctional facilities with the broader community. Rehabilitation is a shared responsibility, and partnerships such as this help equip offenders with the knowledge and skills they need to make positive contributions to society upon release," said Commissioner Thobakgale.

The National Commissioner further emphasised that access to digital technology is increasingly essential for education, skills development and employment. The donated laptops will help improve access to digital learning and address digital exclusion among offenders. He encouraged beneficiaries to use the equipment responsibly and embrace the opportunity to improve their computer literacy, acquire new skills and broaden their future prospects.

Speaking on behalf of the Inside-Out Outside-In South African Corrections Interest Group, Professor Lindokuhle Ubisi, underscored the importance of education and personal development in supporting positive change.

Professor Ubisi encouraged offenders to use the laptops to expand their knowledge, develop new skills and reflect on the positive contributions they could make to their communities. "Hope is not about ignoring the past, but about bringing light into the future. Every person deserves a second chance, and learning and personal development are important in creating opportunities for a different future," said Professor Ubisi.

Commissioner Thobakgale also acknowledged the correctional officials responsible for ensuring that the donated equipment is used for its intended purpose. He reiterated that while partnerships play an important role in advancing rehabilitation, the Department remains committed to fulfilling its security mandate and maintaining safe and secure correctional facilities.

The donation reinforces DCS' commitment to rehabilitation through education, skills development and collaboration with external stakeholders. By expanding access to digital learning, the initiative seeks to equip offenders with practical skills that can improve their reintegration prospects and enable them to contribute positively to society.

The 38 laptops will benefit offenders at Kgoši Mampuru II, Losperfontein Correctional Facility and Atteridgeville Gender Responsive Centre.

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