

MEDIA RELEASE PSA demands answers as SIU probes R49.8 million Department of Justice and Constitutional Development digitisation scandal

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The Public Servants Association (PSA), representing more than 250 000 public-sector employees, noted with extreme concern the Special Investigating Unit's (SIU) probe into the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development's R49.8 million digitisation project.

The PSA calls for the SIU probe to produce clear answers, visible consequences, and urgent corrective action to restore public confidence in the Department's digitisation programme. This project, intended to modernise justice services and improve efficiency, has been marred by disruptions, delays, and allegations of irregularities.

The PSA has consistently warned that digitisation initiatives must be implemented with transparency, accountability, and proper oversight to safeguard public funds. The SIU's involvement underscores the seriousness of the concerns raised and the potential scale of mismanagement in the Department. Public servants and citizens have suffered the consequences of dysfunctional systems, with court processes, administrative functions, and communication channels severely disrupted. These disruptions have undermined service delivery, eroded trust in the justice system, and placed additional burdens on overstretched staff.

The SIU's investigation findings must be released swiftly and transparently to ensure that the public is fully informed. Those found guilty of misconduct, corruption, or negligence must face consequences without delay. The PSA will continue to advocate for the rights of workers whose ability to perform their duties has been compromised by these disruptions.

The PSA urges the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development to prioritise the restoration of functional systems and rebuild confidence in the Department's operations. The SIU investigation should serve as a turning point, compelling government to treat digitisation as a genuine tool for service delivery rather than an opportunity for abuse. The PSA is firm in the Union's demand for accountability, transparency, and justice for employees and the public, and will monitor developments closely to ensure that this matter is addressed.

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