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| **PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**  **NATIONAL ASSEMBLY** |

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**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION NO: 538**

**DATE OF QUESTION: 04 MARCH 2016**

**DATE OF SUBMISSION: 18 MARCH 2016**

**QUESTION NO: 538**

**Mr J Selfe (DA) to ask the Minister of Justice and Correctional Services:**

(1) (a) How many (i) natural and (ii) unnatural deaths of inmates have occurred in the past 12 months in the Kgoši Mampuru II Correctional Services facility in Pretoria, (b) when did each death occur and (c) what was the reason in each specified case;

(2) whether any of the specified deaths were reported to the Judicial Inspectorate for Correctional Services (JICS); if not, why not in each case; if so, when was each case reported;

(3) whether the JICS investigated any of the specified deaths; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details in each case? NW644E

**REPLY:**

(1)(a)(i) There were thirty three (33) reported cases of natural deaths

(1)(a)(ii) There were five (5) reported cases of unnatural deaths (known and unknown causes)

Information for (1)(b),(c)and (2) is reflected in the tables below:

| **(1)(b) Date of death** | **(1)(c) Reason of death** | **(2) Date reported to JICS –if not give reason** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **NATURAL DEATHS** | | |
| 2015.03.13 | Respiratory Failure | 2015.08.24 |
| 2015.04.09 | Heart Problem | 2016.02.23 |
| 2015.04.26 | Respiratory Failure | 2015.05.25 |
| 2015.05.11 | Respiratory Failure | 2015.05.17 |
| 2015.08.24 | Nephrotic Syndrome | 2015.08.27 |
| 2015.08.27 | Broncho Pneumonia | 2015.09.06. |
| 2015.08.29 | Acute Liver Failure | 2015.08.30 |
| 2015.10.15 | Respiratory Failure | 2015.10.29 |
| 2015.11.20 | Cardio Pulmonary Arrest | 2015.12.13 |
| 2015.05.17. | Retro Viral Disease | 2015.05.20 |
| 2015.05.26. | Plasma Blastic Lymphoma | 2015.05.28 |
| 2015.06.08 | Retro Viral Disease | 2015.06.24 |
| 2015.06.11 | Idiopathic Thrombo Cytopenia | 2015.06.17 |
| 2015.06.11 | Kaposi Sarcoma | 2015.06.17 |
| 2015.06.10 | Retro Viral Disease | 2015.06.17 |
| 2016.01.29 | Respiratory Failure | 2016.01.29 |
| 2016.02.20 | Opportunistic Infection /Diabetes | 2016.03.07 |
| 2016.02.28 | Electrolyte Imbalance | 2016.02.28 |
| 2015.05.27 | Epilepsy  Hypertension  Previous Cerebro vascular accident | 2015.05.28 |
| 2015.11.10 | Retro Viral Disease | 2015.11.12 |
| 2015.11.13 | Retro Viral Disease | 2015.11.13 |
| 2015.12.08 | Diabetes  Hypertension  Asthma | 2015.02.09 |
| 2016.02.24 | Hepatitis | 2016.02.24 |
| 2015.09.09 | Acute asthmatic attack | 2015.09.09 |
| 2015.06.15 | Retro Viral Disease | 2015.06.22 |
| 2015.06.16 | Retro Viral Disease | 2015.06.18 |
| 2015.06.18 | Retro Viral Disease | 2015.06.26 |
| 2015.07.06 | Meningitis | 2015.07.10 |
| 2015.07.26 | Hypertension | 2015.07.31 |
| 2015.09.01 | Retro Viral Disease | 2015.09.03 |
| 2015.09.13 | Retro Viral Disease | 2015.09.16 |
| 2015.11.30 | Sepsis renal failure | 2015.12.01 |
| 2016.01.19 | Jaundice | 2016.01.26 |
| **UNNATURAL DEATHS** | | |
| 2015.08.26 | Suicide: Medication overdose | 2015.08.27 |
| 2015.11.08 | Unnatural: Post mortem outstanding. Death register number 1619/15: Steve Biko Forensic Pathology Laboratory | 2015.11.08 |
| 2015.11.12 | Assault: Inmate on Inmate: Stabbed in the heart | 2015.11.12 |
| 2015.11.19 | Suicide: Hanging | 2015.11.19 |
| 2015.12.12 | Stab wound of the chest.  Injury to the pulmonary artery.  Blood in the pericardial sack around the heart.  Massive haemothorax of the left chest cavity.  Superficial incised wounds of the right flank and back | 2015.12.12 |

(3) The JICS does not investigate all deaths reported to it, due to lack of capacity; it does however follow a process to confirm that deaths did occur and this is done via the Independent Correctional Centre Visitor.

**Natural Deaths** – when a natural death is reported the Independent Correctional Centre Visitor will fill in a record of confirmation to confirm that the death has taken place.

**Unnatural Deaths** - when an unnatural death is reported the Independent Correctional Centre Visitor will be required to conduct an enquiry on the death and depending on the severity of the case it will then be referred to the JICS investigating unit to investigate

The last enquiry conducted was at Kgoši Mampuru Local in November 2015 where it was alleged that the inmate committed suicide by hanging himself. The Independent Correctional Centre Visitor did the enquiry and found that indeed the inmate had committed suicide by using his shoes laces and a piece of bed sheet as a rope.