

from helping those people who really needed it.

“Social grants are meant to improve the lives of poor people. We cannot sit back and fold our arms while the money that is supposed to feed poor families does not reach them,” he said. “The department will open criminal cases against public servants who illegally receive social grants.”

### ■ **Come clean!**

Sathekge said people who were involved in corruption would appear in court. “The court will give those who want to plead guilty an opportunity to do so. They can also make arrangements to pay back the money.”

He said the department had established an internal committee that would decide what action should be taken against those who were found guilty.

The department would also like to give those who wanted to “come clean” an opportunity to do so, said Sathekge.

### ■ **Registration continues**

Corruption would not discourage the department from continuing to register children under the age of 14 for the child support programme, he said. In 2005, the department registered the 6th million child for this programme.

The department also gave people who were illegally receiving social grants a chance to come clean. As a result, 86 000 people came forward, he said.

About 10 million South Africans are registered for social grants.

**Anyone who is receiving social grants illegally and wants to come clean, can contact the department at 0800 601 011.**

## The following grants are offered:

- ◆ old-age grants
- ◆ care dependency grants
- ◆ disability grants
- ◆ foster child grants
- ◆ war veteran's grants
- ◆ child support grants

**For more information contact the Department of Social Development at 0800 601 011 or call 1020**



## Did you know?

- ◆ A family member or a friend can apply for a grant on somebody's behalf if that person is sick or old and cannot walk .
- ◆ Application forms must be completed in the presence of an official.
- ◆ After filling in forms a person must be given a slip
- ◆ The slip should be kept as proof of application.
- ◆ Nobody should pay money when applying for grants.
- ◆ Applicants must be informed in writing if their applications were unsuccessful.
- ◆ Applicants can appeal in writing against the decision to reject their applications to the MEC for social development in their province.
- ◆ An appeal must be made within 90 days after the application has been rejected.