

# Government delivery targets 'have been dropped from view'

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JOHANNESBURG: Researchers have cast doubt on government service delivery targets and accused authorities of silently dropping programmes that are not achievable.

The *State of the Nation* book

compiled by the Human Sciences Research Council was launched yesterday.

"Difficult to understand is the appearance and disappearance of specific targets in government pronouncements.

"Many key targets are set out but others are not ... while it is difficult to imagine all targets

being reported on in each State of the Nation speech, some key commitments are not repeated, not even by line department ministers," the authors said in a chapter titled *Presidential targets and the state of delivery*.

They cited the RDP target of providing housing for all by 2003, last year's ANC elections

promise of one million jobs over the next five years ... and sanitation for all by 2010, saying these "have been dropped from view".

The authors say a defensive attitude and scepticism marks not only HIV policy but other aspects too. A number of promises seem to stand alone without the funding to support them.