

PROVINCE OF KWAZULU - NATAL - ISIFUNDAZWE
SAKWAZULU - NATALI

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT
UMNYANGO WEZOKUTHUTHA



Date : 11 December 2006

MEDIA STATEMENT: MORE OLD TAXI VEHICLES TO BE SCRAPPED

The KwaZulu- Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison Mr. Bheki Cele launched the long awaited scrapping of old and unroadworthy taxi vehicles in KwaZulu-Natal. The event was held on Saturday, 9 December 2006 at Woodburn Stadium, Pietermaritzburg. He also officially opened the Taxi Scrapping Administrator offices that will be based at Mkhondeni in Pietermaritzburg.

The Taxi Scrapping Administrator will also have mobile sites in the following areas: Vryheid, Ladysmith, Durban and Empangeni.

The taxi scrapping process is part of the Taxi Recapitalisation programme (TRP) and is a joint intervention by the Taxi Industry and Government to replace the current ageing and unroadworthy taxi fleet. Four taxi vehicles were scrapped on Saturday as part of a demonstration to those who attended the event. **To date the department has received 396 applications for vehicles to be scrapped, out of which only 81 operators voluntary wish to exit the industry to venture in other business.** This event also marked the unveiling of the new SABS approved taxi vehicles.

Taxi operators who have already surrendered their old taxi vehicle(s) to be scrapped will receive R50000 scrapping allowance provided they meet all legal requirements for the vehicle to be scrapped. The scrapping allowance will be used either to purchase new vehicles or to exit the industry to pursue other interests. MEC Cele said passenger safety is non-negotiable as commuters deserve better.

Issued by

Office of the MEC

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