

DATE: 31 August 2007

DOT OPERATION 'YEHLA KANCANE' TOUGH ON TRUCK DRIVERS

The Department of Transport in KZN has from Wednesday (29/08/07) embarked on "**Operation Yehla Kancane**" which is aimed at ensuring 100% compliance by truck operators. Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Bheki Cele indicated that the operation is already effective as a number of drivers were charged for different offences.

According to Cele seventeen (15) Heavy Motor Vehicles were suspended for un-roadworthiness, seven charged for exceeding speed limit which is set at 110 km/h, two arrested for drunken driving, one arrested for producing a false driver's license, 74 drivers charged for driving un-roadworthy heavy motor vehicles and three meter taxis suspended for unroadworthiness. On those who were charged for exceeding the speed limit, the highest was 127 km per hour.

This operation will be intensified and a warning is send to all those with unroadworthy vehicles that they will face the tough hand of the law. Cele has indicated that enforcement on trucks was previously focusing on weigh bridges to inspect overloading, however due to a lot of accidents that involved Light Motor Vehicles (LMV) and Heavy Motor Vehicles (HMV) it became clear that enforcement on trucks should be expanded to roadworthiness and full road compliance to ensure safety for all road users.

MEC Cele has sent a strong warning to all truck operators to be on the right side of the law. "We are cleaning up on non-compliant truck operators. **We cannot afford to have lives lost due to overloaded and unroadworthy trucks. Those who are not 100% compliant will suffer the wrath of the law**", said MEC Cele.

ENDS

Issued by the office of the MEC

Media contact – Nonkululeko Mbatha – 083 645 6252