



PROVINCE OF KWAZULU - NATAL - ISIFUNDAZWE SAKWAZULU - NATALI  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT  
UMNYANGO WEZOKUTHUTHA

### **MEDIA STATEMENT**

**DATE: 27 AUGUST 2008**

### **FIVE CHILDREN DIE IN BAKKIE ACCIDENT**

A 1400 Nissan bakkie carrying school children overturned at Umsinga yesterday (26-08-08), killing five pupils. Three pupils died on the spot and two in hospital. It is believed that the driver lost control of the car and it overturned. The children, who were seating at the back of the bakkie, were thrown out and some landed on the rocks situated at a nearby river. The driver survived and fled the scene, but was later arrested.

MEC Bheki Cele has reiterated on numerous occasions that vans should not be used to transport people because they are not designed for that function.

"We are deeply saddened by the untimely death of our potential future leaders. We urge people to be 100% compliant to the rules of the road and not use vehicles that are not meant for public transportation. Our deepest condolences go to the families of the deceased. May their souls rest in peace," said Cele.

**ENDS**

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