



PROVINCE OF KWAZULU - NATAL - ISIFUNDAZWE SAKWAZULU - NATALI

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

UMNYANGO WEZOKUTHUTHA

MEDIA ALERT

DATE: 23 OCTOBER 2008

NATIONAL MINISTER JEFF HADEBE AND MEC BHEKI CELE TO OFFICIATE LAUNCH OF NON-MOTORISED TRANSPORT FACILITIES ON THE R22 AND OPENING OF KWASONTO BRIDGE, HLUHLUWE, Saturday 25-10-08 @ 09:00.

National Minister for Transport Mr. J Radebe, MP together with the KZN MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison Mr. Bheki Cele will officiate the launch of non-motorised transport facilities on the R22 on Saturday, 25 October 2008. They will then open the KwaSonto Bridge at Kwamhlabuyalingana. Subsequent to this, they will visit families who have lost loved ones due to road accidents.

The KwaSonto area is located in a very isolated area of the Makhatini Flats to the north of Lake Sibayi. Before the bridge was built access to the area was very difficult due to the sandy subgrades and the lack of road building gravels. The Mmandamu River is a northern tributary of Lake Sabayi, and situated to the east of Mseleni. The Mmandamu river valley is fairly steep and has no road crossing. Three schools are located on the northern side of the river valley and could therefore not be accessed via the local road A1072 from the south. The schools were only accessible from the north via ungraveled sand tracks, making life difficult for pupils and teachers alike. Pupils from the south used to cross the river on foot via a fairly steep track leading through the valley.

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"The KwaSonto Bridge will make it easier for school teachers and pupils to have access to the school regardless of which direction they are coming from. During rainy weather female teachers and pupils will also be able to cross the river without having to lift up their skirts, thus retaining their dignity. The danger of children slipping on the steep river valley and hurting themselves has also been eliminated, said Cele.

MINISTERS TO ATTEND HAMBA UPHEPHILE SOCCER TOURNAMENT AT HAMMARSDALE, Sunday 26-10-08 @ 09:00.

National Minister for Transport Mr. J Radebe, MP together with the KZN MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison Mr. Bheki Cele will on Sunday, 26-10-08, attend the Hamba Uphephile Soccer Tournament at Mpumalanga Stadium in Hammarsdale.

Schools participating in the tournament will be Luthayi H. School, Siphesihle H. school, Ukusa H. School and Rietvallei H. School. Isibukosezwe H. School and Sikhethuxolo H. School will play girls' soccer. All schools will be awarded with certificates by the two ministers for their participation.

"The aim of this tournament is to inform and educate the community about road safety. We also aim to showcase our state of readiness for the for the much anticipated 2010 Soccer world Cup," said Cele.

ENDS.

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