



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

MEDIA STATEMENT

TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 28 August 2009

ATTENTION: NEWS EDITORS/ REPORTERS AND PR WIRES

13 PEOPLE KILLED ON KZN ROADS IN JUST TWO DAYS

KWAZULU-NATAL MEC for Transport, Community Safety & Liaison, Willies Mchunu sends his deepest condolences to the families whose loved ones perished on the KwaZulu-Natal roads. This follows the deaths of 13 people in less than 30 hours this week. Most fatal crashes occurred in Empangeni, north of the province. (26/08/09- 27/08/09).

At about 05h30 this morning, a minibus travelling from Empangeni to Nseleni collided head-on with a heavy motor vehicle coming from Mtubatuba. It is alleged that the minibus was travelling on the wrong lane towards an on coming traffic when the two vehicles collided. As a result, seven people were killed instantly while the driver of the heavy motor vehicle escaped without any injuries (27/08/09).

Yesterday, (26/08/2009) on the MR166 road on the Ngwelezane bypass Empangeni, a BMW travelling towards Empangeni was overtaking another vehicle and collided head-on with an unladen bus travelling towards Ngwelezane. Four people from the BMW died.

On Umbumbulu road near Peech's farm, a bakkie and light motor vehicle collided head-on. One person was killed, while another one was critically injured. Three people sustained minor injuries. All the injured were taken to Medi Hospital. In a separate incident on the N2 north bound between Spaghetti junction (Durban) and M19 there was a hit and run accident where a pedestrian was killed.

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Mchunu said: "It pains me a great deal when our people lose their lives as a result of these accidents. I am convinced that these accidents are avoidable. Motorists shall at all times observe the rules of the road. No dangerous overtaking and no speeding. As we approach the weekend, I appeal for safe driving and walking. Our law enforcement agencies will continue to deal with errant drivers".

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