



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

**MEDIA STATEMENT**

DATE: 29 MARCH 2009

**TEN PEOPLE DIE ON THE N3 ACCIDENT NEAR MIDMAR DAM**

KZN MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison Mr. Bheki Cele has expressed his deepest shock and condolences to the families of the ten victims killed in the gruesome accident on the N3 South bound near Midmar dam this afternoon (29/03/09).

Preliminary reports have revealed that the minibus was traveling towards Pietermaritzburg from Gauteng lost control and crashed into the Timber 24 truck, which was broken down and stationary on the emergency lane. It is alleged that ten victims died on the scene, and five critically injured with one male victim being uplifted by helicopter to Saint Anne's hospital in Pietermaritzburg. Six victims who died including the driver were males and four were females. The course of this accident is unknown at this stage pending the police investigation however, speed as a possible motive cannot be ruled out.

"I wish to express my deepest condolences to the friends and families of those who have lost their lives in this horrific accident, however I urge all motorist to be extra careful when travelling on these roads and ensure that they keep up to the speed limits at all times to avoid such painful death," said Cele.

ENDS.

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