



MEDIA UPDATE

TO : ALL MEDIA
DATE : 30 September 2011
ATTENTION : NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRE

DRIVER IN CORPSEVILLE ACCIDENT CHARGED WITH 13 COUNTS OF MURDER AND 5 FOR ATTEMPTED MURDER

KZN MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr Willies Mchunu has learnt with shock of the accident that just claimed 13 people today (30 September 2011) on R33 in Corpseville just outside Pietermaritzburg.

Preliminary reports have revealed that a driver of a mini bus was trying to overtake a long stream of traffic when he side swiped a Truck from Westmead logistics.

13 people died on the scene, three were critically injured and taken to nearby by Northdale Hospital, two sustained minor injuries and one went unharmed. Among the 13 who died, four were males including an 11 year old and the rest were females.

The driver has been charged with 13 counts of murder and 5 counts of attempted murder and is expected to appear in court on Monday.

MEC Mchunu welcomed the charges saying this will send a strong message to all traffic offenders.

“The charging of the driver with 13 counts of murder and five of attempted murder will send a clear message to other road users. Our law enforcement agencies are now harsh to all offenders. We can not be losing so many people on road accidents. It is high time now that all people of KwaZulu-Natal rise and be active against traffic offenders and senseless killing of innocent people on our roads. This is unacceptable, we will however be extra vigilant on the road and our traffic officers will be out in numbers and more visible on the road. This accident happens just after launching our road safety campaign and the new unit that will focus on hazardous spots in the province. I appeal to drivers to practice caution when driving especially in this bad weather condition. I wish to send my condolences to the families who lost their loved ones in this accident and a speedy recovery to the passengers in hospital,” said Mchunu

Ends

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