



PROVINCE OF KWAZULU - NATAL - ISIFUNDAZWE SAKWAZULU - NATALI

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

UMNYANGO WEZOKUTHUTHA

MEDIA STATEMENT

TO: ALL MEDIA

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MEC MCHUNU STRONGLY SUPPORTS CALL TO REDUCE SPEED LIMIT

MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison Mr. Willies Mchunu strongly supports call to reduce speed limit from 120km/h to 100km/h by National Minister Sbu Ndebele which he announced yesterday (20/09/11) at the accident scene which occurred on the N2 that claimed ten lives on Monday (19/09/11).

This call is subsequent to accidents that has been happening on KZN roads and killing many people. From the past three months till now, KZN continues to experience unacceptable gruesome accidents which cost many lives of innocent people who are economically active and some who are breadwinners in their families.

Reports have shown that many accidents were human errors and especially fatigue and speed hence the call for speed reduction. Preliminary reports have shown that there is large number of increase in fatalities with a total of 1087 from 01/06 2011 to date and a total number of 535 crashes.

“This call by the National Minister came just after, I have instructed the Integrated Traffic Law Enforcement Committee to see if they can investigate possibilities, laws or legislation to reduce the speed limit on our roads. At this moment we as the government are forced to use any possible way to curb such accidents and to ensure that the citizens are safe at all times. This is why I fully support the Minister’s call. I would also

Media Liaison & Public Relations Directorate

Street Address: 172 Burger Street, Pietermaritzburg, 3201 Republic of South Africa

Postal Address: Private Bag X9043, Pietermaritzburg, 3200 Republic of South Africa

Tel: (27) (33) 355 8624 Fax: (27) (33) 355 8632

Internet: <http://www.kzntransport.gov.za/home.htm>

like to urge all motorists to adhere to all rules of the road and to know that they are put there for a reason to avoid such fatalities” said Mchunu.

Mchunu said it's high time that government begins to be tough and aggressive to road offenders.

He said the move by the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) to charge drivers who kills innocent people with murder and the reduction of speed limits, will go a long way in reducing fatalities and in changing the mindset of road users.

ENDS

Issued by Media Liaison Officer- Kwanele Ncalane-079 699 5755 or 072 803 1462

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