



PROVINCE OF KWAZULU - NATAL - ISIFUNDAZWE SAKWAZULU - NATALI

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

UMNYANGO WEZOKUTHUTHA

MEDIA STATEMENT

TO : ALL MEDIA
DATE : 08 / 08/ 2011

BE AWARE OF VULTURES – WARNS MCHUNU

KZN MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Willies Mchunu warned families of 10 victims of the Kokstad accident to be careful of vultures who will take advantage of their situation.

Mchunu was referring to lawyers who assist families with road accident compensation with the intention of defrauding them.

Mchunu issued this firm warning following his meeting with bereaved families of all the victims yesterday (07/08/2011).

He said in many cases government had to intervene where the so called lawyers place a claim and take all the money while families of road accidents are struggling.

“Some of you lost breadwinners. It is therefore important to use government officials in this regard to avoid vultures that take advantage of this difficult time and intend to make money at your own expense. Road carnages are becoming serious to an extent of being the main killer globally. This requires a collective effort to develop stringent measures to curb carnages. I reiterate that accidents are caused by people and if we can all change the mindset, we can win this battle,” said Mchunu.

Mchunu also announced that his department together with Sisonke and Kokstad District Municipalities, will assist with the funeral arrangements and with claims to the Road Accident Fund.

He appealed to survivors and families of the victims to be ambassadors of road safety to save many lives on the road.

Both the bus and a minibus have now been taken for forensic investigation in Pietermaritzburg. The accident happened on R617 between Franklin and Swartberg on Saturday around 05h30.

Ends

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