



PROVINCE OF KWAZULU - NATAL - ISIFUNDAZWE SAKWAZULU - NATALI

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

UMNYANGO WEZOKUTHUTHA

MEDIA STATEMENT

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MEC SADDENED BY THE DEATH OF EIGHT STUDENTS IN A GRUESOME CRASH AT KWACEZA

Acting KZN MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Dr. Sbongiseni Dhlomo has expressed his immense shock after a horrific car crash that claimed eight students lives at KwaCeza last night (23/04/2013).

Preliminary reports reveal that an Isuzu Bus ferrying students from Zamimpilo Special School was travelling from the Richards Bay sports ground to Ulundi. It is alleged that the driver lost control on the R66 near KwaCeza turn off and overturned. Eight students died on the scene, five were critically injured, the rest sustained injuries and were taken to KwaCeza Hospital.

MEC Dhlomo has expressed his deepest concern on the accidents engulfing the Northern part of KZN. **"Just last week two vehicles collided head-on in Melmoth leaving six people dead and now we are hearing about this accident. This is totally unacceptable because such accidents are avoidable. We have deployed a team of experts to investigate the cause of the accident. I would like to send my deepest condolences to families of the bereaved. We are deeply saddened by this as the government; however it is advisable to all road users to adhere to the rules of the road. The department will continue with its efforts to preach the gospel of road safety to try minimising such carnages,"** said Dhlomo.

Acting MEC for Transport and Community Safety Dr Sbongiseni Dhlomo together with MEC for Education Mr Senzo Mchunu will be visiting the families of the deceased and the injured in hospital today (24/04/2013). An update on the visits will be communicated in due time.

ENDS

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