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MEDIA RELEASE

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ATTENTION : NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRE

MEC MCHUNU WELCOMES THE SENTENCING OF STANGER RAPIST

KWAZULU-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr Willies Mchunu, has applauded KwaDukuza Regional Court for sentencing a 28-years-old man to an effective 18-years of imprisonment for a statutory rape, saying this court decision will send a strong message to criminals that rapists would be given no space to operate in the province.

MEC Mchunu was commenting in the wake of a Monday (September 9, 2013) KwaDukuza Regional Court decision to send the Stanger rapist to 18 years of imprisonment.

The man was found guilty of statutory rape for raping his 14-year-old girlfriend.

The teenager's parents had asked him to stop seeing their daughter, but he continued the relationship and had sex with her.

The parents opened a case and he was arrested and charged with statutory rape.

In welcoming the decision of the court, MEC Mchunu said police and the courts were now giving special attention to those who commit crimes against women and children.

"This (court decision) is the most welcomed move as it sends a clear message to those who have decided to target women and children for their nefarious criminal deeds."

"We also want to thank police for the work well done in meticulously pursuing this case until its finality. We urge communities to report all abuse of teenagers to police instead of negotiating deals that will let criminals off the hook," said MEC Mchunu.

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