



transport

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MEDIA LIAISON AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

MEDIA STATEMENT

Date: 3 May 2015

EIGHT PEOPLE KILLED IN TWO MAJOR ACCIDENTS LAST NIGHT IN KWAZULU-NATAL

KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, community Safety and Liaison, Mr Willies Mchunu has learnt with disappointment of the death of 8 people in two separate accidents last night (Saturday, 2 May 2015).

The first accident happened at Emmaus turn-off involving a minibus taxi and a Toyota Corolla. All four occupants in a Toyota Corolla died on the scene and injured passengers in taxi were taken to Emmaus hospital.

In another horrific accident last night, on P46/2 a bakkie lost control and overturned leaving four people dead and more than seven sustaining critical injuries.

The two fatal accidents happened two days after MEC Mchunu tabled his budget speech which called for action to end the scourge of road accidents.

"In our budget speech we announced the establishment of the accident reconstruction scene which will help investigate and advise on how best we can end the road carnage. This team is adding to our efforts of increasing the number of traffic officers to improve police visibility on the road. This is all indications that government is taking safety on the road seriously and is determined to turn the tide in fighting the levels of road accidents in our province, but road users must play their part," said MEC Mchunu.

Mchunu also reiterated his call for all road users to take collective responsibility in ensuring safety on the road.

"Last night's fatal accidents are unfortunate and regrettable. Our teams are on the ground to ensure that thorough investigations are conducted into the causes of both accidents. We wish to send our deepest condolences to all the families who lost their relatives. We once again call on the people of KwaZulu-Natal and South Africa to drive cautiously and strictly adhere to traffic laws. As government we remain convinced that an accident free province is possible," added Mchunu.

ENDS.

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