



transport

Department:
Transport
Province of KwaZulu-Natal

MEDIA LIAISON AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

MEDIA ADVISORY

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MEC MCHUNU CALLS ON KWANDENGEZI TAXI DRIVERS TO RETURN TO WORK AFTER SUSPENDING OPERATIONS

KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Willies Mchunu has called on taxi drivers in KwaNdengezi to return to work so commuters will not be negatively affected by lack of transport.

MEC Mchunu learnt over the weekend that taxi drivers are on strike and had suspended operations without giving prior notice to commuters.

"It is unfair for the commuters to be left without transport. We have given operators licenses to transport people and this obligation must be honoured without fail. We have engaged with the leadership of the local taxi association to ensure that commuters who have to go to work and school children are transported. I have been assured that temporary measures are in place to ensure commuters to do not suffer," said MEC Mchunu.

An urgent meeting of all association's members is scheduled to take place tomorrow to attempt to resolve this impasse.

Four taxi owners have been killed in the past few months since problems and conflict resurfaced within the association.

Last week, MEC Mchunu convened an urgent meeting with the two factions who are involved in the conflict in KwaNdengezi taxi association.

"We have started making interventions with the sole aim of returning stability in the KwaNdengezi taxi operations. We are deeply disturbed by the outbreak of violence and the killings of operators in the area. We call for calm as police have now been deployed to monitor the situation and to investigate all incidents of violence. As the Department we doing all we can, working with the leadership of the taxi industry to stabilise the taxi industry in the province," said Mchunu.

Ends.

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