

MEDIA LIAISON AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

MEDIA ADVISORY

TO : ALL MEDIA

DATE: Sunday, 15 October 2015

ATTENTION : NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRE

MEC MCHUNU COMMEMORATES 2015 WORLD REMEMBRANCE DAY IN ESHOWE

The KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr Willies Mchunu, has made a passionate call to all road users in the province to be extra cautious during the festive season, saying they should not do anything that would result in the loss of life.

MEC Mchunu was speaking during the World Remembrance Day, which commemorates all people who died in road accidents on our roads, held in Eshowe today.

MEC Mchunu noted that all accidents were as a result of human error, strongly suggesting that if all road users respected road regulations, most of the accidents could be avoided.

"It all depends on us. People who drive under the influence of alcohol, people who over-speed and people who over-take in dangerous zones are the ones who contribute to road carnages. We urge all road users to be vigilant during this festive season in order for us to avert accidents during this festive season," said MEC Mchunu.

Also attending the event were the families of the victims that were involved in road accidents. Addressing more than 3000 people, MEC Mchunu said the government shared pains with those families who have lost their loves in road accidents.

"We want you to know that as the Government we are remembering all those who died on our roads and we want to pray for all the emergency services that have to deal with such gruesome images. Such dedication does go unnoticed," said Mchunu.

He underlined that safety on the roads and in the province was a collective responsibility, urging all people of KwaZulu-Natal to play their part in ensuring reduction of road fatalities and peaceful co-existence during the festive season.

MEC Mchunu indicated that there would be tight law enforcement on the provincial roads during the festive season with massive deployment of law enforcement agencies around the clock.

The prayer meeting in Eshowe was preceded by the wreath-laying ceremony at the scene where 10 reed dance maidens died during the accident of the R66, eNkwalini, in September 2013.

MEC Mchunu also met families and relatives of those who lost their lives in eNkwalini to indicate that the government shared their loss. The prayer day was also attended by representatives of the Road Accident Fund, who were on hand to assist those who had lodged claims. Well over 100 families have lodged claims with the Fund in uThungulu District Municipality.

World Remembrance Day was declared by the United Nations and is dedicated to remembering the many millions killed and injured in road crashes.

Ends.

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