



transport

Department:
Transport
Province of KwaZulu-Natal

MEDIA LIAISON AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

MEDIA ADVISORY

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MEC MCHUNU ORDERS A TEAM OF ENGINEERS TO CONDUCT ASSESSMENT IN SHAKA'S HEAD FOLLOWING THE DEATH OF 16 PEOPLE

KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Willies Mchunu, has ordered a high level team of engineers to conduct assessment and investigate safety measures in Shaka's Head following the death of 16 people last week.

The team is expected to inspect the spot where the accident happened and come up with recommendations to improve safety measures.

This bold decision by MEC Mchunu was taken after receiving a report revealing that two accidents have previously happened in the similar spot previously.

MEC Mchunu said as families are burying their relatives this weekend, the best way to honour those who died in this horrific accident is to make sure that similar incidents are prevented going forward.

"A team of expert engineers has visited the spot where the accident happened and will be making recommendations as to what intervention is needed to prevent similar accidents in future. The team is already on the ground conducting traffic count and making assessments. This area is now a red spot and requires extraordinary interventions to prevent further loss of life. Our hearts are with all the bereaved families who are burying their loved ones this weekend. Once again, on behalf of the people of KwaZulu-Natal, we wish to send our deepest condolences," said MEC Mchunu.

Once the team has completed the report, it will be tabled to the Head of Department and the MEC for approval and implementation.

On Thursday, MEC Mchunu addressed the mourners at the memorial service of all the 16 people who died in this taxi – train crash. This was after he visited the survivors in hospital and inspected the scene of the accident on Tuesday.

MEC Mchunu today (23/08/2015) reiterated government's commitment to curb road fatalities and called on all the people of KwaZulu-Natal to be true ambassadors of safety on the road.

"Each and every one of us has a role to play in curbing the levels of fatalities in our province. We remain convinced that we can only fight the scourge if we all work together and take responsibility for our own safety on the road. As government we will continue to investigate new, effective measures to improve safety on our roads," said Mchunu.

Ends.

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