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MEC MCHUNU ORDERS TRAFFIC OFFICIALS TO STAY ON HIGH ALERT AS HOLIDAY MAKERS ARE LEAVING KZN

The KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr Willies Mchunu, has directed all law enforcement agencies to remain on high alert as many holiday makers are leaving the province after the New Year's Eve celebrations.

Since yesterday (02/01/2016), more than 1200 vehicles per hour are passing Mariannhill and Mooi River Toll plaza, leaving the province.

As part of sustaining enforcement operation, MEC Mchunu has ordered that multi-disciplinary road blocks and random operations should continue throughout the province until schools re-open.

"As visitors and holiday makers are now leaving the province, we urge them to continue driving cautiously until they reach their destinations. Our operations will continue as traffic officials remain on high alert and vigilant. We wish to thank all those who behaved in accordance with the law during this festive season. Their exemplary behaviour will go a long way in instilling a new mind-set to road users," said MEC Mchunu.

MEC Mchunu further commended the law enforcement agencies for arresting more than 441 who were caught driving under the influence of alcohol.

During this period, more than 208 000 vehicles were stopped and checked across the province - with more than 3800 people arrested for driving without driver's licenses.

More than 275 public transport vehicles were impounded during the festive season holidays.

MEC Mchunu said government would continue with efforts of curbing road crashes and fatalities.

"We remain concerned that more than 200 people died on our roads during this period. We are working with other agencies, including the SAPS and RTMC to verify the figures. However, the analyses of the preliminary figures indicates a decrease," said MEC Mchunu.

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