



transport

Department:
Transport
Province of KwaZulu-Natal

MEDIA LIAISON AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

MEDIA STATEMENT

TO: ALL MEDIA
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ATTENTION: Editors, News Editors & PR Wires

MEC MCHUNU MOVES TO SECURE COURT INTERDICT TO END HAVOC BY TAXI OPERATORS IN PORT SHEPSTONE

The KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Willies Mchunu, has lauded the department's approach of the court and successfully securing an interdict against protesting taxi operators, who have been causing havoc in Port Shepstone over the past four days.

Mchunu made this announcement yesterday (05/04/2016) when addressing operators in Port Shepstone, who have disrupted operations protesting against government's hired security company.

The security company has been hired by the Department of Transport to ensure stability, law and order, following incidents of violence, which ensued last year between various taxi operators operating in the area.

The security company has signed a cooperation agreement with government, police and the Hibiscus Coast Municipality, binding all parties to work together in eliminating all criminal elements at the taxi rank.

The interdict obtained, seeks to prevent any further disruptions which were characterised by the barricading of roads, which nearly brought the Port Shepstone CBD to a standstill.

This resulted to the arrest of 32 people, mainly drivers for violating the Gatherings Act and for damage to properties. All accused were granted R500 bail each.

Addressing the meeting, MEC Mchunu reiterated his disappointment at the latest developments and cautioned against those who are threatening stability and order in the taxi industry.

"We have been forced to secure a court interdict against your own illegal activities. These disruptions are unwarranted and we strongly suspect that those who are behind this, are people who view the presence of the security personnel as a threat to their illegal operations within the taxi industry. You must refuse to be used by people who are beneficiaries of instability in the taxi industry. We must all work together to resolve problems amicably," said Mchunu.

He further told the meeting that the decision to hire private security at taxi ranks is a decision of government, which has been approved by the Cabinet, as part of strengthening security and fight criminality at the taxi rank.

These tough security measures are being implemented in taxi ranks where there are problems, and are part of a taxi rank management system, which includes managing control of access, that includes installing CCTV cameras and ensuring presence of security personnel.

Ends.

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