



transport

Department:
Transport
Province of KwaZulu-Natal

MEDIA LIAISON AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

MEDIA ADVISORY

KAUNDA CALLS FOR A WEEK OF MOURNING AS MORE THAN A DOZEN PEOPLE LOSE THEIR LIVES IN FATAL TAXI CRASHES IN UMZUMBE AND MOOI RIVER

The KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Mxolisi Kaunda, has this evening called on motorists especially drivers to stay calm and focused on the road, following two horrific crashes in uMzumbe this evening and Mooi River earlier today.

Kaunda has rushed to attend to the scene of the major fatal crash, which has claimed the lives of 10 people in uMzumbe.

The details of the crash are still sketchy, however, a preliminary investigation has indicated that there were three taxis that collided on the N2, in uMzumbe, South of KwaZulu-Natal.

There were 10 people who died were on the scene, and scores more sustained serious injuries and are being attended by paramedics on the scene. A few hours before this crash, three people were killed in a collision on the N3 in Mooi River.

Kaunda, who was returning from Greytown where he met the families of the Ntunjambili bus crash that claimed 15 people on Saturday, described the latest crash as a serious setback to the province's road safety efforts.

"I had just returned from an emotional and sombre meeting with families of the victims of the Ntunjambili crash, which took place on Saturday. We are hardly coming to terms with the Saturday bus crash, but do now have to face up to the loss of about the same number of people in two separate crashes involving multiple mini-buses. In this instance, we wish to appeal to drivers of mainly mini-buses and buses, the mass movers, to remain calm, focused and strictly adhere to road traffic rules and signs. Their respect for road rules is certain to save people's lives."

"It is unacceptable that so many people would lose their lives on our roads. That is why we call for a week of mourning and to everyone to dedicate a few minutes of prayer to end the carnage on our roads. Once again, as government we wish to send our deepest condolences to all the affected families and a speedy recovery to the injured people," said Kaunda.

More details will be released later.

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