



transport

Department:
Transport
Province of KwaZulu-Natal

MEDIA LIAISON AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

MEDIA STATEMENT

TO: ALL MEDIA
DATE: SUNDAY, 12 August 2018
ATTENTION: EDITORS and NEWS EDITORS

MEC KAUNDA URGES ROAD USERS TO EXERCISE EXTREME CAUTION ON THE ROAD FOLLOWING MELMOTH FATAL CRASH

The KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr Mxolisi Kaunda has asked the police to speed up the investigation into a bus crash that killed six people in Melmoth on R66 yesterday.

Preliminary investigation has revealed that the driver lost control of the bus which led it to capsize, killing five people instantly. Among those who died on the scene are three women, 11-month old baby and a male. The sixth victim succumbed to injuries at Ngwelezane Hospital today.

The passengers are members of the 12th Apostolic Church in Christ. They were travelling from Gauteng to Empangeni for the church's 40th anniversary celebration.

MEC Kaunda, the MEC for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Mrs Nomusa Dube-Ncube and the ANC Secretary-General, Mr Ace Magashule, went to the scene of the crash and visited all those who were injured in hospital today.

On behalf of the provincial government, Kaunda expressed his deepest condolences to the families of the deceased and wished all those who were injured a speedy recovery. "As the provincial government, we are deeply saddened by this horrific crash and we have asked the police to speed up investigation to establish what could have been the cause of the crash. I have also instructed the officials of the Department of Transport to work with the Road Accident Fund to ensure that all the deceased are given a dignified burial back at home," said Kaunda.

As the long weekend comes to an end, Kaunda has urged road users to exercise extreme caution and abide by the rules of the road. "We would like to advise all those who will be travelling long distances to ensure that their vehicles are roadworthy and give themselves enough time to rest. Road safety is a collective responsibility, therefore let us all join hands and save lives on our roads," said Kaunda.

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