

transport

Department: Transport **Province of KwaZulu-Natal**

MEDIA STATEMENT UPDATE

Sunday, 20 October 2019

MEC NTULI REACTS WITH SHOCK TO A CRASH THAT CLAIMED FIVE LIVES ON THE N2

The Kwazulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison Mr. Bheki Ntuli reacted with shock to the news of a gruesome accident that claimed the lives of five people on the N2 IMfeka near Mtubatuba last night.

Preliminary reports from the officers who attended the scene reveal that a truck collided with a taxi belonging to Jozini Municipality loaded with twelve passengers and five (2 males and 3 females) people lost their lives upon impact, while four were critically injured and three escaped with minor injuries. The injured passengers were rushed to a medical facility in Richards Bay to receive medical care.

It is alleged that passengers in the taxi were entrapped and a jaw of life had to be used to extricate them from the wreckage. The driver of the truck fled the scene and is yet to be arrested. It is alleged that the driver of the truck was joining the freeway from the side of the road without observing the oncoming cars and as a result the minibus crashed onto it. Forensic experts have been dispatched to establish the real cause of the crash.

Upon receiving the news MEC Ntuli rushed to the crash scene and he expressed shock on what he observed. "It is saddening to see our people perish on our roads in such a horrific manner. We will continue to educate, enforce and tighten the laws but our people need to take a serious leap and understand that road safety is everyone's responsibility. I wish to send my heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and wish those in hospital a speedy recovery.

Ntuli is sad that this crash takes place at time when he will be partaking in a prayer session, Healing Of The Wounds, in Eshowe today where scores of congregants will be gathered to pray for road crashes and in remembrance of those who lost their lives on the road.

Ends.

Media contacts:

Nomfundo Mcetywa/ 076 871 5933 nomfundo.mcetywa@kzntransport.gov.za