



Media Release
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MEC NKONYENI CALLS FOR EXTRA VIGILANCE ON THE ROADS AS SNOW AND HEAVY RAINS CAUSING LOCALISED FLOODING BATTER SOME PARTS OF KZN

KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Neliswa Peggy Nkonyeni has urged motorists to be extra vigilant on the roads as inclement weather conditions resulting in snowfall and heavy rains batter some parts of the province causing extensive damage to roads, bridges and other transport infrastructure.

The Department of Transport in the province will quantifying the extend of the damage caused by the snowfall and heavy rains mainly affecting areas in the Drakensburg Mountains, Kokstad, Underberg, Van Reenen's Pass and Nquthu. MEC Nkonyeni said many roads and bridges in the province have been affected by the heavy rain resulting in some roads being completely closed due to flooding and poor visibility.

"We have received reports that some roads and bridges in district municipalities such as Ugu District, parts uMkhanyakude District, eastern King Cetshwayo District and eastern Zululand District have been flooded. A team will be dispatched to assess if there is any damage to transport infrastructure once the heavy rains subside, and they will put together a report on how the department can intervene. We also have teams on the ground who are on 24-hour standby and our Road Traffic Inspectorate are diverting traffic in areas where roads and bridges have been flooded, especially in low-lying areas," said MEC Nkonyeni.

MEC Nkonyeni has urged motorists to drive with extreme caution as roads are extremely slippery due to snowfall and heavy rains that can lead to localised flooding and reduced visibility.

"So far no serious car crashes resulting in multiple fatalities on our roads have been reported on major roads such as the N2 and N3, as a result of the snowfall and heavy downpour. However, we appeal to motorists and pedestrians to continue to exercise extreme caution and call upon all road users to remember to adhere to the rules of the road and be patient with other road users," concluded MEC Nkonyeni.

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