



**KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE**

**TRANSPORT**  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

### **MEC HLOMUKA APPLAUDS LAW ENFORCEMENT FOLLOWING SUCCESSFUL INTELLIGENCE DRIVEN OPERATIONS**

KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Sipho Hlomuka has lauded law enforcement agencies, particularly SAPS, for executing successful sting operations as part of the safer festive season operations last week. Police arrested a whopping 1500 suspects from 28 November to (yesterday) 5 December in various operations.

Since MEC Hlomuka took office as the MEC for Community Safety and Liaison, he has always maintained he believes that police should focus more on intelligence driven operations if we want to win the war against crime.

Moreover, Hlomuka has welcomed news that the 10000 cadet officers currently at SAPS training colleges around the country will be unleashed to fight crime in coming weeks.

"We are pleased to hear that police personnel will be augmented in our police stations, this is a welcome addition which will indeed bolster our noble course of fighting crime and protecting our citizens from criminals," said MEC Hlomuka.

The MEC further said that the success of last week's operations is a clear indication that police are indeed equal to the task of preventing crime and enforcing the rule of law. During last week's operations 172 persons were arrested for drug related offences and seized 57 kg of cocaine powder, heroin and mandrax. Also, 37 firearms including revolvers, pistols and rifles were confiscated as well as 216 rounds of ammunition.

"Proliferation of illegal firearms and ammunition is one of our areas of concern as the provincial government, this is a huge achievement towards our objective of ensuring that we rid our society of all dangerous and unlicensed weapons especially firearms," added Hlomuka.

The MEC further stated that more "targeted intelligence driven operations will be carried out at targeted areas as part of the safer festive season crime prevention campaign."

The Department, working closely with JCPS cluster departments is also on a heightened drive and conducting crime prevention programs and awareness campaigns in all districts focusing on issues of gender-based violence and innovative means of curbing the spread of stock theft, during this festive season and beyond.

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