



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

TRANSPORT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Media Advisory

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MEC SIPHO HLOMUKA CALLS ON DRIVERS TO BE EXTRA VIGILANT AS ANOTHER TRUCK ACCIDENT CLAIMS SEVEN LIVES IN DURBAN

The KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Sipho Hlomuka is calling on drivers to be extra vigilant on the road following yet another fatal truck crash that claimed seven lives in Durban.

Reports reveal that a truck collided with multiple vehicles on the R35 outside Isipingo in Durban, leaving seven people dead and scores injured.

It is alleged that the truck collided with three light motor vehicles. The cause of the accident is being investigated. A task team of investigators led by the South African Police Services (SAPS) collision unit, Road Traffic Inspectorate (RTI) and EThekweni Metro is working on the details of the investigation, including scene reconstruction.

Commenting on the truck accident, MEC Hlomuka called on truck owners and drivers to work with government in reducing the levels of crashes and fatalities.

"It is painful to witness yet another truck accident. The alarming levels of fatalities involving trucks is unacceptable. Without being preemptive to the investigation, we are concerned at the levels of accidents involving trucks on our roads. In October 2022 alone, more than 55 trucks were reported in the province. As government we have taken extra ordinary steps to focus enforcement of heavy vehicles. We have also commissioned an investigation into the cause of the Isipingo accident, and we are hoping that at the end we will find answers on what transpired. We also wish to send our condolences to all the affected families," said Hlomuka.

MEC Hlomuka further said as part of the recently launched Festive Season Safety Campaign, government is focusing on heavy vehicles and public transport. The plan includes promoting public safety and road safety.

There are several provincial hot spots area for heavy vehicles including N2 in Phongolo, R34 and N3 Peter Brown.

This week, MEC Hlomuka will give a comprehensive report on his 100 days in office and part of the plan will be to announce plans to beef up capacity and personnel in the traffic law enforcement agencies to decisively deal with unprecedented levels of crashes and fatalities.

Ends.