



Media Advisory

Tuesday, 07 January 2023

KZN TRANSPORT ORDERS A FULL-SCALE INVESTIGATION INTO THE DURBAN'S M41 MULTI VEHICLE CRASH INVOLVING A TIPPER TRUCK

The KwaZulu Natal Department has ordered a full-scale investigation into the multi-vehicle crash, which left scores of people injured and vehicles damaged on the M41 in Durban.

According to reports, a runaway tipper truck collided with more than 40 vehicles during the morning traffic. A total of 49 vehicles were involved.

A tipper truck is suspected to have experienced brake failure. This caused major devastation and brought traffic to a standstill.

Part of the investigation will look at allegations of a total failure of the truck's braking system, the condition of the driver, and various other defects.

If it is found that the truck was unroadworthy, the government could also advocate for charges to be pressed against the truck owner.

Commenting after this major crash, MEC for Transport, Community Safety, and Liaison, Sipho Hlomuka, expressed concerns at the alarming rate of truck accidents on provincial roads.

"This morning's collision was unnecessary and could have been avoided. We have ordered an investigation so that those responsible can be held accountable. As a government, we have a targeted programme focusing on trucks. There is a growing challenge with the behaviour of tipper truck drivers in areas such as N2 Phongolo and N2 Richards Bay. We will continue engaging with the freight and logistics sector to adhere to the laws. We also wish a speedy recovery to all those affected by this accident, including those who suffered trauma and physical injuries," said Hlomuka.

The investigating team is already taking statements from the eyewitnesses and will reconstruct the scene. The truck will be taken for forensic inspection.

The government appeals to motorists to be extra vigilant on the road.

Ends.