



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

TRANSPORT
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100 Days in Office: MEC Siboniso Duma successfully reduces movement of stolen cars and stolen goods between KZN and Mozambique

Media and Public Statement by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements, Siboniso Duma

25 September 2024

Umsinga Local Municipality: This morning I was on SAfm reflecting on my 100 Days in Office.

The matter that was the subject of discussion was the cross-border crime.

One of the most important operations we undertook during the past 100 days was to intensify the fight against the movements of stolen goods and human trafficking on our roads.

We have been able to limit the exporting of stolen cars and other goods through the KZN and Mozambique Border.

For instance, we had successful female-managed roadblocks that targeted cars from Swaziland, Mozambique, Mpumalanga Province and other neighbouring countries.

We wish to report the following progress regarding the construction of Jersey Barriers between KZN and Mozambique:-

- Last year alone, 30 vehicles were stolen per month from South Africa to Mozambique. This number has been reduced;
- A new contractor was appointed after the previous contractor defaulted on his contractual obligation, and the Department had no option but to terminate the contract. There is great progress currently and we are projecting the completion in the next few months around 2025.
- More than 7.4km of eight kilometres of concrete barriers have been erected.
- **Phase 1:** Will be eight km long - and will start at Gate 6 and move in the western direction towards Tembe Elephant Park.
- **Phase 2:** will be eight kilometres long from the boundary of iSimangaliso Wetland Park, moving in the western direction.
- **Phase 3:** which will be nine kilometres will move from the western boundary of Tembe Elephant Park towards Phongolo River.
- The project is benefiting local businesses through subcontracting work and training opportunities.
- Through the project, 40 local young people have been trained and given job opportunities under the National Youth Service Programme.



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- In addition, the Department has strategically placed one of its candidate engineers, Siphamandla Hlongwane, as a resident engineer for the project. This is part of his professional development, which will see him gain relevant experience for registration as a Professional Engineer with the Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA).
- This has saved us millions, which would have been spent on consultants to manage this project.
- It is also worth noting that the Department has recently won two awards from the Council for the Built Environment, one of which is the Best Employer Candidacy Programme for Professionals.

Lastly, I have also met with traditional leaders in Umkhanyakude District Municipality as part of ensuring their involvement in all road construction and human settlements related projects in the district.

Issued by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements

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Enquiries

Ndabezinhle Sibiyi

082 3754742

Spokesperson for the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements