

22 injured in a bus accident travelling from Gauteng to an IFP Rally | Preliminary report indicates speed as the main cause | Duma attends roadblocks today

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

23 March 2025

Mariannhill Toll Plaza, N2: Sadly, as we wrap up the long weekend, I received a report from our highly efficient team from Road Traffic Inspectorate informing me about a bus accident on R34 near Vryheid.

The accident occurred between 06h00 and 06h30 this morning.

According to RTI, a bus carrying IFP supporters, which belongs to Sun Coaches Bus Company, overturned.

The latest preliminary report, which we received at 09h30, indicates that the bus driver was speeding. We will have no mercy on him.

We want to teach him a lesson for others to learn that Alufakwa KwaZulu-Natal - There is Zero Tolerance in KwaZulu-Natal.

From this bus accident, we wish to report the following:

1. No Blue Codes - Fortunately at this stage we don't have any passengers that has died.
2. 3 x Red Codes - Passengers are in a extremely critical condition and facing possible death as a result of injuries
3. 8 x Yellow Codes - Passengers are seriously Injured
4. 11 x Green Codes - Wounded but passengers able to walk.

Last night we unfortunately received a report from RTI about a head on collision on the R61 near Wild Coast Sun, on the South Coast.

Unfortunately, 3 people died in that horrific accident.

We send our deepest condolences to the families of the victims.

One person is in critical condition. Three other people who were injured are receiving treatment.

A preliminary report indicates that a VW car and Toyota Tazz were racing each other, resulting in a head-on collision with a Toyota Yaris.

The road was closed for 3 hours. I have mandated RTI to come down hard on reckless driving and speeding.

We are currently conducting a roadblock in the Mariannhill Toll Plaza. This morning, we are seeing many cars leaving Durban and KZN back to other provinces.

This long weekend, we experienced an increase in traffic volume to KwaZulu-Natal and Durban in particular.

We recorded more than 1000 vehicles per hour on Thursday afternoon and Friday.

The traffic volume gives us a sense of what to expect this coming Easter holiday—Good Friday and Passover Weekend.

We will be working with church leaders and inter-faith organizations to ensure that we check vehicles that will be used.

We will have high visibility of RTI throughout the Easter Holidays. We will work with traffic officers across all municipalities.

On the 27th March we will launch a Call Centre for the Department of Transport.

On the 28th March we will launch KZN Transport Forum comprising of around 900 members. They come from wards in local communities.

Transport Forums will assist with road safety campaigns and other Transport related community based activities.

The launch will take place in Pietermaritzburg at the Royal Showgrounds at 10h00.

Ends

Issued by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements

Enquiries

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