

More than half a million Rands worth of counterfeit cigarettes have been intercepted during a multidisciplinary roadblock led by Duma.

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

11 February 2025

R617, Impendle Local Municipality: Today, we collectively demonstrated our determination to protect the people of KwaZulu-Natal from international criminal syndicates that are using our roads to transport counterfeit goods as part of cross-border crime.

Some of these illicit, counterfeit, and undeclared goods have resulted in the loss of revenue and deaths of unsuspecting members of the public.

Between 08h00 and 11h00 a multidisciplinary roadblock processed more than 201 cars, and two cars were found carrying counterfeit cigarettes worth more than R500 000.

A foreign national from Lesotho was detained at Boston Police Station, Mpendle.

We wish to reiterate our position that “Alufakwa KwaZulu-Natal.”

We have declared our road networks as No Go Areas for unscrupulous elements who are involved in cross-border crime.

The team involved in this morning’s roadblock comprised our highly efficient team from the Road Traffic Inspectorate, SAPS, SANDF, Impendle Local Municipality, and Ezemvelo Wildlife.

I have given the RTI team a clear instruction that they must be firm and arrest those who are carrying counterfeit goods.

Stock theft is also rife in this area. Therefore, our main focus is to ensure that communities, who are living under the yoke of poverty, are protected.

We say this because for many communities, livestock is their only source of income.

Our message is that we will have no mercy against those who are stealing livestock and supplying meat to shisanyamas and butchers in urban areas.

Ends

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