

URGENT MEDIA UPDATE: 14 Abnormal Trucks have been impounded and seven foreign nationals' truck drivers detained: Duma mandates RTI to clean up our road networks through #NenzaniLaEzweni operation

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

07 October 2025

Mkhondeni RTI Testing Centre, Pietermaritzburg: We wish to announce that through #NenzaniLaEzweni operation, our energized team from Road Traffic Inspectorate has impounded 14 Abnormal Load Vehicles for the violation of National Road Traffic Act and immigration laws.

From the seven foreign truck drivers, four are undocumented and have been detained.

We are currently verifying the documents of the other three.

They are from the following countries:

1. Malawi (4)
2. Zimbabwe (2)
3. Zambia (1)

Critically, we wish to commend that team for uncovering what could be the biggest racket ever involving the transportation of undeclared and unverified goods by undocumented foreign nationals.

The Department could have lost R200 000 in undeclared goods over the past two hours.

It is estimated that in one month, between R2 million to R3 million in revenue is lost through this racket.

Last week, I mandated the RTI to have no mercy on undocumented foreign truck drivers. They are doing exactly that on the N3.

Some of the transgressions include the following:-

1. A-loads foreign truck drivers with no permits.
2. Permits not matching load specifications.
3. No valid work permits.
4. No Professional Driving Permits (PrDP)

We value the support of the Home Affairs' Immigration Unit and the Department of Health as we intensify this operation.

We reiterate our commitment towards ensuring that our road networks are not used to transport drugs, illicit goods, human trafficking and cross-border crime in general.

Finally, we will be naming and shaming some of the companies involved in this racket. It is the same companies that are using undocumented truck drivers.

Ends

Issued by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements

Enquiries

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