

A horrific accident involving another VW Polo has claimed the lives of five victims – 3 females and 2 males: Duma receives a report from RTI and has expressed his deepest condolences to the families of the victims

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

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Inkosi Mhlabunzima Maphumulo House: Once again, we have a dark cloud hanging over KwaZulu-Natal following the death of five people in a horrific accident involving another VW Polo.

The accident occurred along the R612 towards Ixopo, South of KZN around 21h10 last night.

We wish to send our deepest condolences to the families of the victims. I have assigned my office and a team from the road safety directorate to locate the families of the victims.

There are different categories of accidents—minor, moderate, serious, and very serious.

Based on a preliminary report from our dedicated Road Traffic Inspectorate team, this is a very serious accident, as it has claimed the lives of five people—3 females and 2 males.

Another person was seriously injured when this VW Polo crashed into the roadside barrier.

In view of the fact that this is a serious accident, RTI has handed over this matter to the South African Police Service Accident Unit for an investigation.

A weekend ago, six people died in another horrific accident involving a VW Polo in Newcastle.

Critically, in such accidents, a criminal case of culpable homicide is opened and managed by the on-scene investigating officer and a detective who will see the docket through to prosecution and finalization.

The work to be undertaken will involve reconstructing the accident to determine the cause.

Last week Thursday we announced the reconfiguration of our road safety campaign.

Our plan is to strengthen the implementation of Four E's:-

- Enforcement (ensuring high visibility of law enforcement),
- Education (creating awareness through educative campaigns),
- Engineering (improving road designs to ensure motorists' safety), and
- Evaluation (assessing what works and how many lives it has saved).

Ends.

Issued by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements

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URGENT UPDATE: The sixth victim of a horrific accident that occurred along the R612 towards Ixopo has died.

Duma has received an updated report from RTI. A team assigned by Duma has managed to locate the families. Plans are underway to visit the families. This morning, Duma expressed his deepest condolences to the families of the victims.