



SPEECH (NOTES) BY KWAZULU-NATAL MEC FOR TRANSPORT, COMMUNITY SAFETY & LIAISON, MR. B.H. CELE AT THE SUMMER HOLIDAY ROAD SAFETY LAUNCH HELD AT PARKRYNE ON TUESDAY, 02 DECEMBER 2008.

All Protocol Observed.

- The summer holiday period is one such time when much of our attention turns towards the increased traffic volumes. While it is true that we focus our attention on road safety 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year, it is important to intensify our campaigns around particular times of the year when traffic volumes are at their peak.
- Every year, we witness tragedies of appalling horror. We all know about it. We all know that we need a greater sense of urgency as NOBODY benefits from this situation. But we also know that the onus for reducing the carnage on our roads must rest with the road users themselves.
- Our country cannot afford to continue to lose many lives and experience serious injuries every day. Not only is the pain and suffering immeasurable for victims and their families, but the cost to the economy is more than R43 billion per annum.
- To this end, the KZN Department of Transport continues to be innovative in its efforts to reduce road accidents and fight against unroadworthy vehicles on South African roads. Today we are launching our brake roller tester which is the very first mobile inspection facility in Africa.

- The acquisition of this equipment has been as a result of extensive research and a study tour of best practices in the world undertaken by this Department, which resulted in the identification of such advanced technology from London. It was subsequently purchased from Australia after it was designed and manufactured especially to suit South African conditions.
- This mobile inspection facility will allow Law enforcement to detect, prosecute and suspend vehicles found to be unroadworthy for offenses such as defective brakes, steering and suspension components anywhere in the Province, without the vehicle being driven to the nearest testing station.
- This mobile facility will assist law enforcement in combating this crime on a level which has previously been out of reach of the average law enforcement officers, who have in the past had to rely on fixed RTI stations throughout the Province for inspection facilities.
- In addition, the support vehicle has 3G connectivity to the eNaTIS system, giving the operators instant information on vehicle and owner particulars and history. This particular machine complies fully with all South African legislation, and is maintained and calibrated by a local company.
- In our attempt to provide a safer road environment during the forthcoming Summer Holidays, the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport together with all relevant stakeholders will implement a comprehensive road safety plan.
- In summary, the various projects by Traffic Authorities will be undertaken during the festive season.
 1. Project Blue Light – All patrol vehicles will patrol with their blue lights during adverse weather conditions and at night.
 2. Operation Thatha and Phepha –Ndoda – will focus on pedestrian activity arrests.
 3. Naming and shaming major offenders
 4. Operation Juggernaut – targeting the roadworthiness of trucks and all modes of transport.

5. Operation Thath' Iskorokoro - targeting the roadworthiness of buses and taxis. Buses and taxis will be checked at their depots and ranks.
 6. Unmarked vehicles – targeting offences like driving while on cellphone.
- In conclusion, I want to salute the Scottsburgh Magistrate Court for cooperating with our law enforcement. This court has set an example by giving traffic fine of up to R45 000. Speed offences have since decreased in this area.
 - Therefore, you can be rest assured that no mercy will be shown to any traffic offender. You have been warned: if you do not comply with the law, you will face the full might of the law.

I thank you