



LIMPOPO

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

MEDIA STATEMENT

Thursday, 25 January 2024.

MEC RADZILANI WELCOMES THE 8.4% DECLINE IN ROAD FATALITIES REPORT FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON PERIOD.

MEC for Transport and Community Safety, Florence Radzilani, welcomes the announcement of the 8.4% decline in road fatalities in Limpopo for the 2023/24 festive period, as published by the Minister of Transport in the Republic, Ms Sindisiwe Chikunga.

She has cited this steady improvement "to the ongoing collaborative effort between law enforcement officials, road users, and other social partners". A reported 181 fatalities were reported in 2023/24, as compared to 196 fatalities, for the same period in 2022/23.

The MEC has however, registered a concern that, amongst the people who perished on the road, 10 are innocent children, 'whose lives were cut short, in the most painful way imaginable'.

For the period under review, the Government has deployed a comprehensive intergovernmental approach towards road safety, where road safety operations were conducted in conjunction with the South African Police Service and other sector Departments like Health, Correctional Services and Home Affairs.

MEC Radzilani, who had spent a better part of the festive period, criss-crossing the length and breadth of the Province, promoting road safety, has attributed this decline in road fatalities, "to the numerous initiatives which were implemented by the department".

According to the MEC, "visible policing and intensified speed and road safety operations remain the most critical road safety methods."

There is a worrying increase of pedestrian fatalities, which are suspected to be related to 'drunk jay-walkers', as the incidents normally happen when pedestrians cross the road, from taverns and shebeens.

Of the 62 accidents that involved pedestrians, 30 had been recorded as 'hit and runs', where motorists opted not to stop.

The MEC has called upon members of the public to help the Police with information that might lead to the arrest of the motorists in these incidents.



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She had also appealed to motorists to refrain from crossing roads unsafely, and to also wear visible colours, during the night.

Sekhukhune District has recorded the most fatalities during this period. More efforts on road safety will be diverted towards this area, as there are 21 pedestrians who lost their lives in this District.

The causal factors in the majority of road accidents are human behaviour, which include reckless driving and vehicle roadworthiness.

The MEC has applauded the enormous work by Traffic Officers throughout the Province, who continued to maintain a heightened presence on the roads, despite their colleague, Provincial Inspector Kedibone Railo losing her life after being hit by a car, while on duty.

She has once again sent words of comfort to Railo's family and many other families, who lost their loved ones on the Provincial roads.

End.

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