



Young people from different provinces singing political songs during the National Youth Road Safety Summit.

PICTURE: BONGANI

Road safety a societal matter – ministe

GOITSEMANG TLHABYE
goitsemang.tlhabye@inl.co.za

ROAD safety was a not a transport issue, but a societal matter that could be overcome in the same manner the scourge of HIV and Aids was being dealt with, Transport Minister Joe Maswanganyi said.

He was addressing the second annual Youth Road Safety Summit in Centurion, attended by hundreds of young people from across the country.

“We agreed as a nation that HIV/Aids was not the responsibility of the Department of Health and we have come a long way in reducing the scourge.

“This is because all of us

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It is in this country where the indigenous people do not own the wealth and it is owned by (other) people

Joe Maswanganyi

became responsible and so all of us can achieve a lot if we bring young people into the picture.

“And this is what we’re doing here; fighting this problem of

road carnage, which is very high and costing the country a lot of money,” he said.

Maswanganyi applauded the youth who he said since the first summit had been involved in road safety initiatives.

He called on the youth to look into being at the forefront of the development of the transport sector, which still had numerous opportunities for them instead of just employment opportunities.

This, he said, was due to the fact that the sector was still in dire need for transformation and the inclusivity of black people, youth, women and people with disabilities in particular.

“There are very few black young people involved in businesses

and the economy of the

“It is in this country where indigenous people do not own the wealth and it is owned by people who come from somewhere and disempower the inhabitants of that country,” he said.

“Black people should be employees but own the country and ensure development and be employed.”

“This is what government means when it talks about socio-economic transformation. We need to achieve just that goal.”

Maswanganyi said ensure that young people are roped into the transport sector. They had a number of programmes in road construction, maritime

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'Fast and furious' cops foil robbery

Suspect shot dead in daring airport attack

By **Kyle Cowan**

Police Minister Fikile Mbalula has praised police for acting "fast and furiously" to foil a robbery at OR Tambo International airport on Saturday.

A swift response by the SAPS, Metro Police and airport security resulted in an armed robbery at the cargo terminal of the airport being foiled. One suspect was shot during a shootout with SAPS officers while another was arrested.

"The security situation at the airport is worrisome. There is an inside job at the airport involving even some of our police," Mbalula said in an interview with eNCA yesterday.

"There are also private security companies there who we need to collaborate with," added Mbalula.

Brigadier Vishnu Naidoo said that at about 10am on Saturday, a group of about eight suspects, some of whom were wear-

ing a security company's reflector jackets, entered the cargo terminal in two cars.

Some suspects took control of the main gate while the others proceeded to a Swissport warehouse and stole a truck carrying cellphones.

"Police were alerted through mechanisms which form part of the joint reactive strategies being employed to combat robberies at the airport. The suspects fled in different directions.

"Two suspects fled on foot across the R21 highway. One was shot dead in a shootout with a Gauteng K9 member, a second was arrested. Two firearms, including a pistol and a revolver, were recovered from these suspects," Naidoo said.

He said another part of the group fled in the hijacked truck which was later abandoned on the R24 before the suspects fled on foot. Another group fled in a sedan which they hijacked from one of the airport security personnel. This vehicle was later recovered in Alexandra but these suspects managed to get away.

"In the meantime, police will continue with vigorous discussions with the management of the warehouse security on the

aspect of the protection of the security clothing and equipment. The easy accessibility or the lack of protection thereof is exacerbating the efforts by police to prevent these robberies from taking place. Inside involvement in this robbery cannot be ruled out at this stage."

The airport has come under a wave of crime recently, with increasing amounts of

travellers being followed from the airport and robbed. The SAPS also announced a revamp of security measures after a gang of armed men made off with millions, also after gaining access through the cargo terminal.

"We are very happy that our measures in place were able to react fast and furiously," Mbalula said.

8-man gang's airport robbery foiled

TOBY NGOMANE

THE armed gang of eight must have thought they were about to pull off their daring cash-heist at OR Tambo International Airport.

Some dressed as airport security company guards, they entered the cargo terminals.

Others, who arrived in two separate getaway vehicles, had taken control of the main gate while some took control of the Swissport warehouse, where they stole a truck loaded with cellphones.

But airport security guards were on the alert. They had been observing their moves and then pounced.

The drama unfolded at the airport on Saturday when airport security guards and SAPS officers foiled a heist by the heavily armed gang. One of them tried to make a dash, but was fatally wounded during a shoot-out with SAPS officers, said national police spokesperson Brigadier Vishnu Naidoo.

The police and guards' swift action earned them the praise of

Police Minister Fikile Mbalula.

"Minister Mbalula applauds the working relation of our security forces in fighting crime," said Police Ministry spokesperson Vuyo Mhaga.

Naidoo said the heist was thwarted after police were immediately informed by a crime-combating unit and acted promptly.

"Police were alerted through mechanisms which form part of the joint reactive strategies to combat robberies at the airport."

Some of the would-be robbers were taken into custody, but others are still at large.

"The suspects fled in different directions."

"Two suspects fled on foot across the R21 highway," said Naidoo, adding that the Gauteng K9 unit tracked one down but he was later killed in a shoot-out.

Naidoo said two firearms, including a pistol and a revolver, were recovered from the suspects. Police were in discussion with the management of the warehouse about its accessibility and security to under-

stand how the incident took place.

"Police will be continuing vigorous discussions with the management of the warehouse security on... the easy accessibility or the lack of protection thereof," he said.

Naidoo did not rule out the possibility that the attempted robbery might have been an inside job. Meanwhile, anti-crime activist Yusuf Abramjee also congratulated the police for their prompt action.

He said, however, that it was too soon for celebrations as too many robberies take place at the airport - a "haven for criminals".

"We shouldn't celebrate this as a major breakthrough, (because) the situation is out of control."

Abramjee's comments came in regards to a recent spate of robberies at OR Tambo International Airport.

Just about a week ago, a family from Malawi were robbed on the Van Buren off ramp in Bedfordview, while a couple from the Democratic Republic of Congo were shot at and robbed near a Sandton hotel.

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Police foil attempted robbery at OR Tambo

TOBY NGOMANE

THE ARMED gang of eight must have thought that they were about to pull a daring cash-heist at OR Tambo International Airport.

Some of them, dressed as members of the airport security company, managed to enter the cargo terminals.

Others, who arrived in two separate getaway vehicles, had taken control of the main gate while some took control of the Swissport warehouse, where they stole a truck loaded with cellphones.

Unbeknown to them, the airport security guards were on the alert and had been observing them. Convinced that it was the right moment to make a move, the guards pounced on the gang.

The drama unfolded at the airport on Saturday when airport security guards and SAPS members foiled a heist by the gang at Africa's biggest airport.

One of them tried to make a dash for freedom, but he was fatally wounded, according to national police spokesperson Vishnu Naidoo. His accomplices were still at large.

The police and guards' swift action earned them praise from Police Minister Fikile

Gang of eight tries to rob airport

Mbalula. "Minister Mbalula applauds the working relation of our security forces in fighting crime," said spokesperson for the Police Ministry Vuyo Mhaga. Naidoo explained that the heist was thwarted after the police were immediately informed by a crime combatting unit and acted promptly.

"Police were alerted through mechanisms which form part of the joint reactive strategies being employed to combat robberies at the airport."

While some of the alleged robbers were taken into custody, others were still at large. "Two suspects fled on foot across the R21 highway," said Naidoo, adding that the Gauteng K9 unit managed to track one down, but he was later killed in a shootout.

Naidoo added that two firearms, including a pistol and a revolver, were recovered from the suspects. He said the police were in discussion with the management of the warehouse about the accessibility and security of the warehouse in the

hope of understanding how the incident took place.

"In the meantime, police will be continuing vigorous discussions with the management of the warehouse security on the easy accessibility or the lack of protection thereof."

Naidoo did not rule out the possibility that the attempted robbery might have been an inside job. "Inside involvement in this robbery cannot be ruled out at this stage."

Meanwhile, anti-crime activist Yusuf Abramjee said:

"We need to congratulate the police." However, he said it was too soon for celebrations as too many robberies took place in and around the airport, describing it as a haven for criminals.

"We shouldn't celebrate this as a major breakthrough (because) the situation is out of control."

He noted that the crimes were affecting tourism.

Abramjee's comments came in regard to a recent spate of robberies committed in or near the airport.

About a week ago, a family from Malawi were robbed on the Van Buren off-ramp in Bedfordview, while a couple from the Democratic Republic of Congo were shot at and robbed near a Sandton hotel.

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Police report record arrests

ELFAS TORERAI

THERE is a lot of ground to cover but provincial police said that progress has been made in fighting serious and violent crime including the hijacking of motor vehicles and house and business robberies in the province.

A record number of 226 people have been arrested and 135 cases related to the three crimes have been recorded since April.

Police spokesperson Brig Sabata Mokgwabone said the province established "trio task teams" in areas such as Rustenburg, Mahikeng, Klerksdorp and Brits. He said these were areas where

those crimes were prevalent.

"At this stage and with implementation of the task teams, inroads have been made and critical successes achieved."

The arrested suspects include repeat offenders.

"In order to ensure interaction, successful prosecution and that the miscreants remain in custody, operational coordination worked hard to ensure the arrested persons were linked to other cases, not only in the North West but also in other provinces."

He said in Rustenburg, a man who was arrested on June 18 for car hijacking, was linked to a case in Gauteng.

elfast@thenewage.co.za

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Man 'kills' lover

NWSARS 1

ELFAS TORERAI

A MAN is expected to appear in the Koster Magistrate's Court to face murder charges after he allegedly killed his girlfriend.

The man, 30, is said to have fatally assaulted his 40-year-old girlfriend in Koster's Reagile location on Friday.

North West police spokesperson Sgt Kelebogile Moleko said: "Police were summoned to a scene where they found the naked body of a woman on the bed.

"A preliminary investigation was conducted and that led to the arrest of the suspect. He is expected to appear in the Koster Magistrate's Court on charges of murder," Moleko said.

North West police commissioner Lt-Gen Baile Motswenyane said it is sad that women and children are still suffering at the hands of those who are supposed to be protecting them.

Motswenyane said the police will ensure that the matter is dealt with accordingly.

elfast@thenewage.co.za