



MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

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MEDIA STATEMENT

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MEC Molapisi worried by a number of deaths reported over the weekend in NW

MAHIKENG- The MEC for Community Safety and Transport Management, Gaoage Molapisi raised a concern about deaths reported on North West roads over the weekend.

Sixteen people died on various road accidents across the province. In one incident five people died on the scene of the accident, when a Toyota Tazz and Ford SUV collided between Schweitzer-Reneke and Wolmaransstad on Friday afternoon, 04 March 2016.

On Saturday, 05 March 2016, a driver of Volkswagen Citi Golf lost control and collided with Mahindra bakkie in Danville. The accident claimed the lives of three males instantly. On the same day, two females died in Gyesdorp near Delareyville when the driver lost control and the vehicle overturned. The driver and one passenger survived minor injuries and were treated at the nearest hospital.

In Taung, a 16-year-old was hit by a car and died on the spot on Saturday, 05 March 2016. It is reported that the vehicle rolled and the driver sustained critical injuries. On the same day, another pedestrian died in hospital after been hit by the car in Wolmaransstad. It is reported that the 80-year-old man was walking alongside the road by the time of the accident. The driver of the vehicle failed to produce the driver's license and was believed to be drunk.

MEC Molapisi expressed his sadness and said it is worrying when so many people perish in one weekend. Most of the accidents occurred are as a result of head on collisions which can be linked to reckless driving. When a driver overtakes even

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when it is not safe to do so, that is a clear reckless driving. Our motorists need to go back to basics and drive by the book.

Today our roads are painted by blood simply because of selfish and irresponsible drivers who are not willing to share the road with other road users,+said the irritated Molapisi.

The Departmental MEC appealed to all road users to be vigilant at all the times and said motorists must always ensure that they adhere to the road rules. %Road safety begins with an individual and it is every ones responsibility. Our motorists must always ensure that their vehicles are roadworthy and abide by the road rules at all times.

If we can have responsible road users, we will succeed in reducing the number of accidents and deaths on our roads. We cannot have a traffic or police officer in every corner. Let us begin to self police ourselves and obey the law especially that we are approaching Easter and we are going to experience high volume of traffic on our roads,+he said.

Molapisi further conveyed his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and wished a speedy recovery to the injured.

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