



**Publication:** Lowvelder Express - Main  
**Title:** Road accidents plague MP  
**Publish date:** 02 Nov 2023  
**Page:** 1

**Reach:** 40000  
**AVE:** R 71973.10  
**Author:** Staff Reporter



The scene of the accident on the N4 between Karino and Mbombela. > Photo: Mbekezeli Mbuli

# Road accidents plague MP

MBOMBELA - A mass prayer session against the ever-increasing road carnages is definitely needed.

These were the words of the Mpumalanga MEC for public works, roads and transport, Mandla Ndlovu, when he reacted to the number of road accidents recorded over this past weekend.

On the N4 toll road alone, two major accidents involving trucks were recorded on Saturday. The first happened between Karino and Mbombela; a truck and a light motor vehicle collided head-on, leaving one person dead and three hospitalised in a critical condition.

The second accident happened between the KaNyamazane off-ramp and Karino, also on the N4. A truck caught fire after its driver had lost control and it jackknifed,

resulting both lanes being closed for about five hours, and motorists had to be diverted to KaNyamazane and the Tekwane South road. Only the truck driver was injured and had to be rushed to hospital.

Another accident involving a truck happened on the R40 near Rocky Drift on Saturday. A diesel tanker overturned, blocking both lanes.

The road had to be closed for the entire day.

A freak head-on collision happened

on the N2 road on Saturday, between an articulated truck and a light delivery vehicle, which left five people dead.

“Some of the accidents recorded in some parts of the province don’t really make sense, and we don’t know and understand how they happened. I mean, some of the trucks just overturned in the middle of the road.

And as you can see, this may be caused by fatigue or any other elements beyond our control. We really don’t know. But as a department and government, we always conduct road safety campaigns

hoping that all road users and motorists will change their attitude and behaviour on the road, but it seems they are not listening,” said Ndlovu. “I agree with those who are calling for a mass prayer, because really, we need some divine intervention.”

Ndlovu’s counterpart for community safety, security and liaison, Vusi Shongwe, has also pleaded with motorists to obey the rules of the road and rest sufficiently along the way if travelling long distances, to avoid deadly crashes. “It is sad that while we commemorate October’s Transport Month, we continue to lose lives on the road. We are therefore appealing for heightened adherence to the rules on the part of all road users,” he said.

“I agree with those who are calling for a mass prayer, because really, we need some divine intervention.”