

CO-OPERATIVE GOVERNANCE, HUMAN SETTLEMENTS & TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS

Immediate Release

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COGHSTA MEC Makamu dismayed by another drowning amid strong warning

The MEC for Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs, Mr Basikopo Makamu is dismayed by another drowning of a 17 year old boy - Samuel Maloba in the Botlokwa area, bringing the total number of deaths in the Capricorn District Municipality to 7. This happened yesterday amid his strong warning to people not to try to walk, swim or drive in swift flowing rivers during this rainy season as they may be swept away by flooded rivers.

"I will continue to urge parents to take care of their children as it is mainly kids that are swept away whilst trying to cross or swim in the flowing rivers. I also thank the swift response by police who went to the rivers where the boy drowned to recover his body," said MEC Makamu.

MEC Makamu warns of the dangers of the continuous rainy weather that is being experienced recently in many parts of the province.

The MEC says the Provincial Disaster Management Centre in partnership with relevant stakeholders are working around the clock to ensure that urgent relief is given to all families and communities that are affected by this rainy weather condition.

MEC Makamu reiterates his appeal to communities to exercise caution during the ongoing heavy downpours, and that people living next to rivers and streams must evacuate to safer places or higher spots when water level rises, not to drive over a low-water bridges if the water is flowing strong and parents to educate children not to swim in rivers, streams and ponds in open areas.

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