

## MEDIA STATEMENT

To: All Media

Att: News Editors / Transport Reporters

For Immediate Release

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## Gauteng clears 85% of driving license cards backlog

Gauteng MEC for Roads and Transport, Dr Ismail Vadi, today announced that the Driving License Card Account (DLCA) and the Gauteng Department of Roads and Transport has successfully managed to clear 85 percent of the backlog relating to the late production of driver license cards.

Due to a prolonged strike last year by DLCA staff and technical glitches experienced as a result of the IT systems upgrade, Gauteng had a backlog of 522 902 licenses, said Vadi.

"I am satisfied that good progress is being made is resolving the backlog in license production as 437 899 license cards have been processed to date and are being distributed to the various testing centres in the province," explained Vadi.

The delays in production of the cards were as a result of a labour dispute between the National Department of Transport and employees contracted to the DLCA to produce license cards.

"The DLCA has confirmed that an additional 10 000 license cards are expected to be printed by end of this week," added Vadi.

Also, the DLCA has further said that 45 000 license cards are currently in production and are expected to be ready by mid-April.

"The Department acknowledges that many drivers who had applied to renew their licenses last year are anxious about the delays in the distribution process, which is understandable. But the matter is being attended to with urgency," he said.

The Department and the DLCA apologises for any inconvenience caused by the delays in processing license applications.

## ENDS!

For more information, contact the Department of Roads and Transport Media Liaison Officer Ms Melitah Madiba on 073 644 9935 or <u>PressOffice.gpdrt@gauteng.gov.za</u>