

# WRONG TURN, BIG MOOLAH

In a determined drive to instil some sense into the city's fickle motorists, the police are booking even the smallest traffic infractions: In the first four months of 2008, they have already registered a record number of cases

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PRAVEEN KUMAR

**T**raffic is Bangalore's bane and, finally, there seems to be some positive action on that front. In the first four months of 2008 a record 5,71,682 cases have been booked for assorted traffic violations on the city's roads, yielding a fine amount of Rs 8.28 crore. Fed up with endless criticism about its lax ways, the traffic police seems to woken up at last and decided to crack the whip. Using a variety of methods ranging from manual booking and issuing of notices from the automated centre to using Blackberrys and hi-tech interceptors, the police are trying to instil a sense of traffic discipline among the city's notoriously wayward motorists. On an average, the city traffic police are booking 4,700 cases per day, revealed Praveen Sood, Assistant Commissioner. This number is bound to go up once data from the Blackberrys and the automated centre is fully integrated.

## NO COMPROMISE

Sood insists that not even the smallest infractions will be tolerated and that the police will act irrespective of who commits a violation.

"We are fed up of hearing that enforcement is lax. Enforcement won't be lax henceforth. No one can escape without coughing up a fine for committing even the smallest traffic violation," he said.

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