

**BANGALORE:** The Sankey Park Walkers Association and the Bangalore Traffic Police organised a 'I pledge to follow traffic rules' sticker initiative here on Sunday, to make motorists more responsible and disciplined.

Launching the initiative, Praveen Sood, Additional Commissioner of Police (Traffic and Security) said, drivers have forgotten to respect pedestrians and have developed a tendency to blame the police and fellow motorists.

"The issue of pedestrians has never been accorded the attention it deserves in our system. Where will a pedestrian cross the road? He has a span of a few seconds before a vehicle could pass," Sood said.

### Follow signals

He said, stop thinking that they should follow rules. Instead take a pledge that 'I will follow rules.' Out of 40,000 traffic junctions in the City, only 2,000 are manned. We have installed 40 surveillance cameras, five traffic offence cameras. Yet, motorists blatantly violate rules. You follow the red signal only if a cop is posted," Sood said.

In his address Joint Commissioner of Police (Crime) Gopal H Hosur said no city in the world is free from crime and terrorism. "The single largest crime in number of volumes faced by the City is vehicle thefts, he added.

About 5,000 buses of the BMTC, one of the sponsors of the initiative, will be pasted with stickers on their windshield to create safe driving awareness among drivers.



**BMTC staff display the stickers of 'Traffic Rules Pledge' on Sunday.**

# Traffic congestion: onus lies on commuters too

Chethan Shivakumar

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Bangalore:** Motorcycles, cars and BMTC buses fighting for space is a common sight on city roads. Finding alternative routes, leaving early for office, suddenly realising some roads have been converted to one-ways..... Fed up with all this, Sankey Park Walkers' Association has taken up a new initiative on traffic awareness.

The association on Sunday launched the Traffic Rules Pledge, a sticker campaign with focus on commuters rather than on infrastructure. The 'I pledge to follow traffic rules sincerely' sticker was distributed among BMTC bus drivers and conductors.

Association secretary B R Vijayakumar said to a large extent, traffic violation by commuters result in jams on city roads. "Generally, poor infrastructure is blamed, but we forget the fact that traffic violation by commuters results in congestion too. A hurried commuter who is unaware of traffic rules will create problems."

The campaign aims to make commuters follow traffic rules, he said, and hoped the sticker would act as a reminder to commuters, motivating them to follow traffic rules.

Additional commissioner of police (traffic) Praveen Sood, joint commissioner of police (crime) Gopal B Hosur, DCP (west, traffic) Panduranga H Rane, BMTC chief traffic manager Dastagir Shariief



**BMTC bus drivers and conductors show their stickers, pledging to follow traffic rules**

were among those who attended the launch.

Apart from the sticker campaign, the association is looking forward to introducing other initiatives to reduce the city's burgeoning traffic problems. Vijayakumar said: "The

idea of hiring unemployed youth, training them in traffic rules and placing them at various junctions of the city to reduce congestion is gathering momentum."

The association is also looking at educating autorickshaw

drivers and BMTC drivers about traffic rules. "However, these initiatives are in the pipeline. We are looking forward to implement these ideas as early as possible," Vijayakumar added.

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