

# Traffic management will soon go hi-tech

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Bangalore:** The central nervous system of the traffic police department will soon be housed in a state-of-the-art building, the foundation stone for which was laid by CM B S Yeddyurappa on Monday.

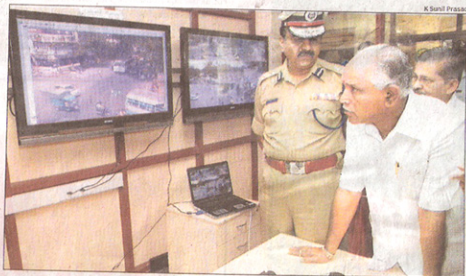
The Traffic Management Centre on Infantry Road will integrate many new technologies implemented under the B-TRAC programme. Home minister V S Acharya and other ministers and dignitaries were present on the occasion. The project is estimated to cost Rs 12.8 crore and will be undertaken by Karnataka Police Housing Corporation over the next 18 months. An additional Rs 30 crore will be spent on components inside the TMC, which will be integrated during construction.

Yeddyurappa, who watched the real-time traffic movement from the Ashoknagar TMC, said the government will spend Rs 79 crore to improve traffic management. He said: "This centre will be revolutionary in terms of technology. The facility will also help the police keep a watch on activities in the city, which ultimately helps curb the terror menace."

City police commissioner Shankar Bidari said around 37 traffic policemen will be sent to Singapore soon to study the traffic management model there.

## An umbrella centre

The new traffic management centre will be the department's hub and will control all traffic-related activities of the city. The centre will have 400 surveillance cameras to monitor and regulate traffic. Data collected will be used to design a traffic signal system consisting of synchronization on ma-



**KEEPING A CLOSE EYE ON PROCEEDINGS:** CM B S Yeddyurappa looks at real-time traffic from the traffic management cell in Ashoknagar. Commissioner Shankar M Bidari is also seen

jeor corridors and area traffic control.

Around 100 enforcement cameras and 800 vehicle-actuated, solar-operated traffic signals will be operated from the centre. Variable Message Signs (VMS) will be put up and operated from the TMC, conveying live information to road users about diversions, road accidents or rallies.

The centre will have an information cell which will provide real-time information about traffic conditions through SMS and FM radio channels. The centre will also have other commuter-friendly services like traffic helpline and parking information.

Global expressions of interest have been floated under the B-TRAC programme to procure technology for the centre.

## New traffic police station at BIA

Four new traffic police stations were inaugurated on Monday — at Electronic City, Whitefield, Chikkajala and Devanahalli.

After the merger of urban local bodies into BBMP and expansion of the city limits up to Devanahalli town, the pressure on traffic police too increased manifold. Vehicular traffic on Bellary Road has multiplied several times after inauguration of the new airport. A new building for the Devanahalli police station will be constructed at a cost of Rs 2 crore, at BIA. Chief minister B S Yeddyurappa laid the foundation stone for the building on Monday. The Bannerghatta police outpost will be upgraded soon.

## More signals to ease cops' workload

**Bangalore:** Driving around the city's gridlocked roads just got a little more tiresome with 90 new signals launched on Monday. However, the move is expected to help the traffic police deploy personnel, otherwise busy manning junctions, to the neglected outskirts. CM B S Yeddyurappa inaugurated the new signals at the interim traffic management centre in Ashoknagar.

Prior to this, there were 160 traffic signals regulating 32 lakh vehicles in the city. Traffic policemen had to man over 1,000 major junctions. In the past four months, 90 signals have been added for better regulation and enforcement.

The new signals are vehicle-actuated and carry reflective direction boards. They will be solar-operated and connected to the traffic management centre through optical fibre. The number of signals in the city is expected to reach 380 by January 2009. The traffic police also distributed 100 motorcycles to its personnel. TNN

## Some of the new signals are at:

- Bagalur Cross
- Binny Mill Junction
- Chikkajala
- Indiranagar 80-Foot Road and JB Nagar Road Junction
- Sagar Hospitals junction on Bannerghatta Road
- Rajajinagar Bashyam Circle
- RT Nagar police station junction
- Gopal Gowda Circle