

Haryana recruit more traffic cops for city only after 4 months

Haryana's plans to increase the number of personnel in the traffic wing of Gurgaon police to 1,100 may take at least four months. The state government had decided to increase the wing's manpower in the wake of the serpentine traffic jams in the city during a downpour in the last week of July.

For the increase in personnel, the government is banking on the ongoing recruitment of 7,000 general duty constables in the state. The recruitments are expected to be completed in two months. Once on the job, the constables would be sent for training and this could take another couple of months.

Haryana DGP K P Singh confirmed that deployment of new recruits could take some time. He, however, maintained that deployments had already been made in Gurgaon to ensure hassle-free traffic movement. "We only mooted a proposal for deploying 1,100 traffic police personnel. At present, about 700 personnel, including 250 home guard volunteers, have been deployed. Since the new recruits will be given the training of traffic duty, we will have more trained force after the recruitment and induction process is over," said the DGP.

Heavy traffic jams, triggered by waterlogging, had brought the 'Millennium City' to a standstill on July 28 and people returning home from office remained stranded till well past midnight. Contrary to claims of authorities of having pressed all policemen in service to ensure smooth traffic movement, residents claimed that there was zero presence of cops on major routes.

They said those from PCR vans or additional deployments had allegedly misbehaved and thrashed stranded commuters. It was only after widespread criticism and embarrassment faced by the government following the dressing down given by the officials and ministers of the Union government, Haryana CMO had rushed two senior bureaucrats to Gurgaon to monitor the situation.

Consequent to the traffic chaos, deputy inspector general of police (DIG), Y Puran Kumar, was designated as the chief for traffic wing of Gurgaon.