

PMPML bus drivers train on simulators

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Pune: Drivers of Pune Mahanagar Parivahan Mahamandal Ltd (PMPML) buses are now being trained on simulators so that they drive safely and there are fewer accidents that involve.

The city bus transport company started the training last week at the traffic park at Moshi Pradhikaran, following a state government directive. The one-day training is being conducted for all the 3,036 drivers in batches of ten. The cost PMPML is incurring on each driver's training is Rs 500, PMPML officials said.

"Most road mishaps occur due to human errors and drivers are required to avoid them," a PMPML official said. Simulator training helps drivers improve their driving skills and have effective control on the vehicle speed. The training is also focusing on following traffic rules and keeping a balanced state of mind while driving. In the ongoing training, drivers are able to identify their mistakes and are being trained to avoid them.

Earlier in September, PMPML started a three-day training programme on safe driving for drivers who do not have a satisfactory driving record. Officials said that while there are various reasons for accidents involving city buses, PMPML is continuing with its efforts to curb them. The transport division and the accidents division are jointly working on a series of measures to curb accidents.

As part of the safety measures being undertaken, PMPML has been tracking the each driver's record. If drivers have been found to have been involved in serious accidents wherein PMPML had to pay compensation to people, they are being made to undergo compulsory training on safe driving. If the driver is prima facie responsible for causing death or causing serious injury to a person, he faces immediate suspension after an inquiry is conducted against him. Drivers, against whom action has been taken by the traffic police or bus checkers, also have to undergo training on safe driving habits. Drivers who have had a record of minor accidents in last six months are being made to undergo a twoday training. Depot managers have also instructed all the drivers to take precautions while driving.

