

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2781
TO BE ANSWERED ON MARCH 28, 2022

VEHICULAR CONGESTION IN URBAN AREAS

NO. 2781. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN:

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken note of reasons such as growing number of private vehicles on the road as the cause of traffic congestion and vehicular pollution in urban areas;
- (b) whether Government has undertaken any studies on how to reduce this traffic congestion on urban roads, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is considering shared mobility as a means to reduce the number of private vehicles on the road; and
- (d) other measures Government is taking to reduce traffic congestion on roads, and the funding model proposed to put these measures into effect?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI KAUSHAL KISHORE)

(a) to (d): Urban Transport, which is an integral part of urban development, is a State subject. As such, initiatives for planning and management of public transportation system, including conducting of studies to check on traffic congestion and vehicular pollution in urban cities, are taken up by the State Governments/Union Territories/Urban Local Bodies. The Ministry, however, has taken several steps to facilitate cities to improve public transportation system including easing traffic management through the following initiatives:

- (i) Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs have notified National Urban Transport Policy, 2006, various guidance documents and advisories to facilitate States / Union Territories/ Cities / Urban Local Bodies;

- (ii) Metro Rail Policy, 2017 was issued in August 2017, which focuses on systematic planning and implementation of metro rail system in more comprehensive and sustainable manner. The policy is a guide to State Governments desirous of availing Central Financial Assistance for preparing comprehensive proposals for metro rail projects;
- (iii) Financial assistance for metro rail projects is being provided in the form of equity and subordinate debt (for part of taxes), subject to an overall ceiling of 20% of the cost of the projects, excluding private investment, cost of land, rehabilitation and resettlement. So far, 754Kms of Metro lines are operational and 1,025 Kms Metro Rails/Rapid Rail Transit System (RRTS) are under construction in various cities;
- (iv) Under Bus Funding Scheme, 20,300 Intelligent Transport System (ITS) enabled buses have been procured by 157 Indian urban cities under NURM Scheme;
- (v) A National Transit Oriented Development (TOD) policy was issued on 01.05.2017. This policy is a guiding document for all States / Union Territories UTs to promote planned and sustainable urban centers with high density, mixed land-use within an influence zone of 500-800 meters of mass transit stations;
- (vi) Under the Smart City Mission, Smart Cities are implementing Integrated Command and Control Centres (ICCC), which include solutions like Integrated Traffic Management System, Adaptive Traffic Signalling System, etc., to tackle the increasing traffic in the cities.
- (vii) Under the “Urban Transport Planning & Capacity Building Scheme”, Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs provides central financial assistance up to 80% for taking up Traffic and Transportation Studies, feasibility studies, Comprehensive Mobility Plan (CMP), preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for Mass Rapid Transport System (MRTS)/ Light Rail Transit (LRTS) which are originated by the State Governments/Union Territories/Urban Local Bodies.
- (viii) Ministry of Road Transport & Highways issued the Motor Vehicle Aggregators Guidelines, 2020 in accordance with section 93 of Motor Vehicle Act, 1988, for compliance of all States/UT Governments for issuance of license as well as regulating the business being conducted by such Aggregators.
