

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1645
ANSWERED ON 15/12/2025

URBAN CONGESTION, POLLUTION AND DECLINING LIVEABILITY IN CITIES

1645. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA:

Will the Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has assessed the worsening congestion, traffic delays and declining air quality across major Indian cities;
- (b) the key findings of such assessments, city-wise;
- (c) the steps being taken to upgrade urban mobility, decongest cores and expand sustainable public transport;
- (d) whether targeted interventions are planned for the most polluted and overburdened municipal regions; and
- (e) the timelines for measurable improvement in liveability indicators under national urban missions?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI TOKHAN SAHU)**

(a) to (e): As per the 12th Schedule of the Constitution, urban planning, protection of environment and provision of public amenities, etc. are the responsibilities of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)/ Urban Development Authorities. It provides financial and technical support to the States through various schemes/ Missions.

Urban Transport is an integral part of Urban Development, which is a State/ ULB subject. As such, initiatives for addressing the issues related to traffic congestion, etc are taken by the respective cities/States/UTs. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), being the central line Ministry for urban transport matters, have notified National Urban Transport Policy (NUTP) 2006 and other various guiding frameworks to help cities/ULBs/States/UTs to identify principles and strategies for better planning, design and implementation of the concepts in the area of urban transport by making the best use of various guidance documents issued by the Ministry.

MoHUA has launched “PM-eBus Sewa” on 16th August 2023 that aims to augment city bus operations in urban areas with Central Assistance (CA) of Rs. 20,000 crores for deploying 10,000 electric buses under the PPP model. So far, out of these 10,000 buses, MoHUA has approved 9,360 e-buses for 15 States and 4 UTs covering 106 cities.

At present about 1083 kms of metro rail lines (including 55 kms of Delhi- Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System) are operational in 25 different cities namely- Delhi, Noida, Greater Noida, Ghaziabad, Faridabad, Ballabgarh, Bahadurgarh, Gurugram, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Chennai, Jaipur, Kochi, Lucknow, Agra, Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Nagpur, Kanpur, Pune, Meerut, Gandhinagar, Indore and Patna.

MoHUA is also promoting urban mobility, decongest cores and expanding sustainable public transport through Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)-based corridors in urban areas and Comprehensive Mobility plan for “Ease of Transit” in NE/Hilly States. Under urban reform component of the Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SSACI) scheme, implemented by the Dept. of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, States have been incentivised for taking up Transit Oriented Development (TOD). Till 2024-25, 35 TOD corridors have been notified by 7 States.

Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) launched in the year 2015 in selected 500 cities (now 485 cities including 15 merged cities) and towns across the country was focused on development of basic infrastructure in urban areas including development of parks and green spaces and non motorized transport. Similarly, under AMRUT 2.0 launched in the year 2021 in all Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)/ cities, rejuvenation of water bodies and development of parks and green spaces are admissible components. States/Union Territories (UTs) are empowered to select, appraise, prioritise and implement the projects within the broad framework of Mission guidelines.

Under AMRUT, 2,529 parks projects worth ₹1,606.31 crore have been grounded, of which 2,489 projects have been completed leading to development of 5,271 acre of green spaces. Additionally, 338 Green Mobility projects have been completed under AMRUT to promote environment-friendly mode of transport and infrastructure. Under AMRUT 2.0, proposals of the States/ UTs for 3,031 water body rejuvenation projects worth ₹6,270.51 crore and 1,669 green spaces and park projects worth ₹1,089.31 crore covering 13,707.64 acre, have been approved.
