

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2297  
TO BE ANSWERED ON FEBRUARY 12, 2026**

**ACCESS TO PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN URBAN AREAS**

**NO. 2297. SHRI BIPLAB KUMAR DEB:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that only about 37 per cent of the urban population has access to mass public transport;**
- (b) if so, the reasons for low accessibility despite increasing investments in metro projects; and**
- (c) whether the Government plans to expand cost – effective options like Bus Rapid Transit and Light Rail Transit in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities, if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) & (b): ‘Urban Planning’ is a State subject, therefore, the respective State Governments are responsible for planning, initiating and developing urban transport infrastructure including integration amongst various modes of public transport. As per Metro Rail Policy, 2017, Central Government considers financial assistance for Metro Rail proposals in cities or urban agglomerates based on the feasibility of the proposal and availability of resources, as and when posed by the concerned State Government. As per Economic Survey 2024-25, 37% of urban residents have easy access to public transportation. In last 11 years the number of cities with Operational Metro network has increased from 5 to 26 and the daily ridership has increased from 28 lakhs to 1.15 crore. Government of India has launched “PM-eBus Sewa Scheme” on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2023 with the aim to augment bus operations by deployment of 10,000 air conditioned electric buses on PPP model and development of associated infrastructure in urban areas with central assistance of ₹ 20,000 crore for cities with population in the range of 3 lakh to 40 lakh as per 2011 Census. Metro system and e-buses under PM-eBUS Sewa has all features to enable proper accessibility to all including specially abled persons, women, children etc.**

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**(c): The different modes of Public Transport like Metro, Bus Rapid Transit System (BRTS), Buses etc are selected by concerned State Government as per requirement of cities.**

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