

Sustainable Transport Environment in Megalopolis Cities of Delhi & Mumbai: Challenges and Opportunities

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Keywords: Population and urban growth, air and noise pollution, sustainable transport system, Mumbai & Delhi.

Abstract:

India is becoming increasingly urbanized in which the dynamics of population growth, coupled with the current trends of urbanization are highly challenging. Presently, approximately 30 percent of Indian population is living in cities, out of which about one fifth is residing in four megalopolis cities. Overwhelmed by current trends of rapid urbanization each city consists of a number of supporting systems. Transport is one of them, which provides mobility, flexibility and accessibility to urban people. For all practical purposes, a sustainable transport system must offer mobility and approachability to all urban residents in safe, risk-free and eco-friendly mode of transport.

This paper deals with the concept, opportunities and challenges of creating a “sustainable transport environment” in megalopolis-cities- Delhi & Mumbai, along with a comprehensive discussion on the existing problems of air and noise pollution and poor motorized system of transport. The basic idea of this paper is to examine in-depth the extent of problems and to suggest remedial measures for sustainable transport environment.

Objectives:

The broad objectives of this paper are as under:

1. To examine trends in the level of pollution in Delhi & Mumbai cities in terms of three major pollutants: Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂); Nitrogen Oxide (NO_x); Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM); and to elucidate the main causes and effect our pollutions on health due to vehicular growth.
2. To analyse the effects of noise pollution on health.
3. To suggest remedial measures for a sustainable transport environment in Delhi and Mumbai megalopolis-cities on selective basis

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Conclusions:

The increases in urban population, haphazard urban growth, industrialization and motorized transport have caused unbridled problems of air and noise pollution in all the cities of India in varying degrees. The levels of these pollutions in Delhi and Mumbai megalopolis cities have risen to alarming proportions. It is, therefore, urgently required to develop a safe and eco-friendly transport environment. Adequate measures must be taken in terms of technological modifications in vehicles, introduction of new technologies fuel integrated land-use transportation planning, properly planned transport system management, public and non-motorized transport, etc. to cater to the need of people for a sustainable transport environment.