CONGESTING CITY’S DECONGESTION

Contrary to popular opinion, elevated corridors are not the way out of the congested roads and jammed bottlenecks of either the national capital, or any other city plagued with traffic woes. Delhi tells us why

Bitter pills

Proponents of the Planning and Architecture Department’s current traffic planning, who feel that public transport has not been given the proper priority it deserves, feel that with the city’s plethora of roads, it is time to drop the old-fashioned method of ‘lip service’ to public transport in order to ensure a smooth flow of traffic. Nevertheless, if the department is trying to implement the idea of an expressway in a half-baked manner with minimum design capacity, then this has resulted in pressure on the road network and thereby the roads are always operating at peak capacity, resulting in a traffic jam.

According to the World Resources Institute India and author of the National Urban Transport Policy, pointed out that while traffic congestion is a major issue in the country, various cities including Delhi, have only started addressing the problem in the recent past with the city experiencing a traffic jam.

Mixed signals

Due to the presence of signals, road expansion is not always feasible. The signals are typically red for the roadTrump and red for the other signal, and green for the other one. It is also true that elevated roads require signals, but these are not always feasible due to the nature of the road. The signals are also not feasible in areas where there are no major roads and the road is already congested.

Additional demands

Higher demand for drivers to hit roads, and the lack of availability of cars, makes each new vehicle create a new road block. Even the smallest changes in the city’s traffic management system, like the introduction of special lanes for buses, can drastically reduce traffic congestion.

Innovation

Agencies suggest that for transit systems to be effective, they require a comprehensive understanding of the traffic patterns and the need for alternative travel options. This can include the implementation of public transport systems like buses, trains, and metro systems, which can reduce the demand for private vehicles. They also suggest that the use of technology, like smart cards and mobile apps, can help reduce traffic congestion.

Public transport

Most of the city’s roads and metro lines have a network of buses and trains which cater to the needs of the people. However, it is important to note that the success of public transport systems depends on the availability of quality services and infrastructure.

City is choking on air & traffic jams

Traffic as a gas

In the 1990s, the Metropolitan Transport Authority conducted a study to assess the effectiveness of introducing tolls on roads in the city. The study observed that the introduction of tolls would result in a considerable reduction in traffic congestion. The results of the study were based on the assumption that road congestion would decrease by 50% to 60% if tolls were introduced on all major roads.

Mobility

In the face of the growing traffic problems, Rome has been recommended to adopt the solution of introducing tolls on major roads. This would help reduce traffic congestion and improve road safety. Rome, which has already implemented this solution, has seen a significant decrease in traffic congestion and an increase in road safety.

Congestion

Heavy congestion is not just a problem in Rome, but also in many other cities around the world. In order to address this problem, governments and transportation authorities are implementing various solutions, such as introducing tolls and improving public transport systems.

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