



CHAPTER 1.0

NATIONAL URBAN TRANSPORT POLICY

The Government of India, (Ministry of Urban Development), have formulated and approved a National Urban Transport Policy (NUTP). The genesis of the NUTP lies in the recognition of : the urbanization phenomenon the country is experiencing; the role of urban areas in national development; the large contribution of urban areas to national GDP; the need for urban areas to be competitive, productive and bankable; the role and importance of urban transport in enabling cities to be efficient, cohesive, productive and competitive; the low levels of development of urban transport; and the need for an integrated, multi-modal urban transport system and services to enable the cities to grow, change and be sustainable.

NUTP has the following Vision:

- To recognize that people occupy center-stage in our cities and all plans would be for their common benefit and well being
- To make our cities the most livable in the world and enable them to become the “engines of economic growth” that power India’s development in the 21st century
- To allow our cities to evolve into an urban form that is best suited for the unique geography of their locations and is best placed to support the main social and economic activities that take place in the city.

The Objectives of NUTP are:

The objective of this policy is to ensure safe, affordable, quick, comfortable, reliable and sustainable access for the growing number of city residents to jobs, education, recreation and such other needs within our cities. This is sought to be achieved by:

- Incorporating urban transportation as an important parameter at the urban planning stage rather than being a consequential requirement
- Encouraging integrated land use and transport planning in all cities so that travel distances are minimized and access to livelihoods, education, and other social needs, especially for the marginal segments of the urban population is improved
- Improving access of business to markets and the various factors of production
- Bringing about a more equitable allocation of road space with people, rather than vehicles, as its main focus



- Encouraging greater use of public transport and nonmotorized modes by offering Central financial assistance for this purpose
- Enabling the establishment of quality focused multi-modal public transport systems that are well integrated, providing seamless travel across modes
- Establishing effective regulatory and enforcement mechanisms that allow a level playing field for all operators of transport services and enhanced safety for the transport system users
- Establishing institutional mechanisms for enhanced coordination in the planning and management of transport systems
- Introducing Intelligent Transport Systems for traffic management
- Addressing concerns of road safety and trauma response
- Reducing pollution levels through changes in traveling practices, better enforcement, stricter norms, technological improvements, etc.
- Building capacity (institutional and manpower) to plan for sustainable urban transport and establishing knowledge management system that would service the needs of all urban transport professionals, such as planners, researchers, teachers, students, etc
- Promoting the use of cleaner technologies
- Raising finances, through innovative mechanisms that tap land as a resource, for investments in urban transport infrastructure
- Associating the private sector in activities where their strengths can be beneficially tapped
- Taking up pilot projects that demonstrate the potential of possible best practices in sustainable urban transport

The NUTP:

- Promotes preparation and implementation of integrated, land use transport plans for cities and towns
- Supports planning, development, operation and management of urban transport giving priority for public transport
- Encourages differential services and tariffs on public transport to enable access to the poor
- Encourages city specific public transport technology based on proper evaluation of all prevalent technologies
- Encourages set up of Special Purpose Vehicles (SPV) to plan and develop high capacity public transport system
- Supports restoration of para transit system to their normal role
- Supports priority measures and programmes for enhanced safety and use of non-motorised modes
- Promotes management of parking through amendment of building byelaws and provision of parking complexes
- Recognizes the importance of and problems of freight traffic in urban areas and encourages development of facilities for freight vehicles and goods



- Recommends setting up of Unified Metropolitan Transport Authorities in all million plus cities
- Supports capacity building, at the state and city levels, to address issues and undertake task of developing sustainable urban transport systems
- Promotes use of cleaner technologies of urban transport and encourages research, development and commercialization of cleaner technologies
- Encourages innovative financing mechanisms including levy of dedicated taxes, set up of urban transport fund, partnership with private sector, commercial use of land resources, etc
- Encourages involvement of private sector in providing public transport services
- Supports major awareness campaigns that educate people on the ill effects of the growing transport problems in urban areas.
- Supports pilot projects in a sample set of cities to demonstrate the potential benefits of NUTP measures.

The NUTP provides a great opportunity for city governments to plan and develop efficient transport system and services to cater the travel needs of the city.