

Statement of India
Fifth Session of the Committee on Transport of UNESCAP
(12– 13 November 2020)

Agenda Item No. 3 (c) – Safe and inclusive transport and mobility

Madam Chair & Distinguished Delegates

The Government of India has undertaken several initiatives to ensure safe and inclusive transport and mobility throughout the country. To mention a few of these initiatives, India has instituted a system to provide financial assistance to State Governments/UT Governments for use of latest technologies such as GPS/GSM based vehicle tracking system, computerized reservation/ticketing system, inter-modal fare integration, passenger information system etc. for services covering inter-city and local areas and to provide financial assistance for preparation of total mobility plan for the entire State. The Ministry provides one-time financial assistance to the tune of 50% of the project cost to the States/ UTs for IT related projects.

2. To create a sustainable and effective public road transport ecosystem in the country, an MoU has been signed between the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways of India and the ‘Transport for London’ (TFL). The MoU will focus on improving the public transport system with a target to double the passenger capacity; improving passenger services; and increasing the use of electric vehicles, especially in urban India among other things. The MoU will also help to promote digital transaction and induction of high capacity diesel/ electric vehicles in India.

3. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways of India has entered into an MOU with the World Bank on procurement of Reimbursable Advisory Services (RAS) for improvement of Public Transport in the country on 31st January, 2019. The objective of the Advisory Services is to assist the participating states in improving their public transport policy, and State Road Transport Undertakings (SRTUs) to improve their service definition and planning, increase capacity of the public transport system through innovative contracting methods, leveraging technology to improve service delivery and safety to enhance customer experience and to create an accessible and affordable transport network.

4. As regards safety and security of women passengers the Government of India has set up a dedicated fund called the Nirbhaya Fund. The government provides financial assistance from the Nirbhaya fund to the States/ UTs for the projects specifically designed to improve safety and security of women in public transport.

5. The Accessible India Campaign was launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India for creating universal accessibility for persons with Disabilities. The Campaign is based on the principles of the Social Model of Disability, which proposes that disability is caused by the way society is organized, and not based on the person's limitations and impairments.

6. India has also made provisions for fitting of Vehicle Location Tracking (VLT) Device and Emergency Buttons in all public service vehicles with a view to enhance safety in transportation and mobility.

Thank You.
