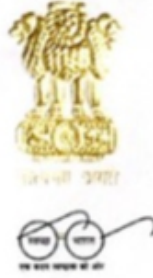


कौशल किशोर
KAUSHAL KISHORE



आवासन और शहरी कार्य राज्य मंत्री
भारत सरकार
Minister of State, Housing & Urban Affairs
Government of India

Message

With the increase in economic activities in urban agglomerations there is a rising trend in urban population. This has necessitated the demand for mobility in cities and metropolitan areas which has resulted in problems ranging from road congestion, air pollution to other environmental and health related issues. Such a precarious scenario clearly point to the necessity for an effective and superior transport systems in cities to make them liveable, compact, accessible and smart, so that they continue to function as engines of economic growth.

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) in recent years has already taken several initiatives under various schemes and projects which impacted the entire gamut of urban hierarchy ranging from million plus cities to small cities. This includes modernisation of urban transportation in Indian cities with impetus towards intelligent transport management systems, strengthening Non Motorized Transport etc., besides thrust to reinforce mass transit modes with investments in metros, MetroNeo, MetroLite and Rapid Rail Transit System. The ministry has also strengthened regulatory mechanisms through various policy initiatives and reforms such as urban transport fund, parking policy, advertisement policy and constitution of Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority etc. Further strides has been made in introducing innovative financing mechanisms by involving private participation and promoting indigenization through "Make in India".

As we celebrate "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav" in India's 75th year of Independence, our efforts are directed towards expedient and equitable urban mobility which helps to pave way for inclusive growth and ensure prosperity to all. The 14th UMI 2021 Conference will dwell upon a very apt theme of "Mobility for all" in order to pursue the discussion on accessible and inclusive urban mobility for all sections of the society.

I wish the conference a great success and look forward to the fruitful outcomes.

(Kaushal Kishore)

New Delhi
21st October, 2021