दुर्गा शंकर मिश्र सचिव

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MESSAGE

India has witnessed exponential growth in urbanization and motorization over the last few decades, which has had a marked effect on the mobility of its citizens. The number of registered motor vehicles has gone up by 400% from 1981 to 2015. This is further reflected in the fact that, fourteen out of the top fifteen most polluted cities in the world are from India as per the WHO study. The World Bank has predicted that India's welfare losses due to air pollution are currently estimated at 7.7% of GDP (PPP adjusted) as a repercussion of this scenario.

The magnitude and complexity of our mobility challenges require a comprehensive framework that addresses these issues holistically. The high population growth coupled with economic development and aspirations warrant a tailored approach that mandates a shift towards sustainable and green urban mobility. It is worth noting that the Government of India in recent times has launched a number of schemes for transformation and rejuvenation of urban areas including Swachh Bharat Mission, Smart Cities Mission, Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), National Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana (HRIDAY), Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana — Urban (PMAY), Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana — National Urban Livelihood Mission (DAY-NULM), Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Policy and Metro Rail Policy which will provide core infrastructure and a decent quality of life to its citizens by building a clean & sustainable environment, civic infrastructure and livelihood opportunities.

This Urban Mobility India Conference and Expo being organised at Nagpur, Maharashtra is an excellent platform for all the stakeholder at city or state level to come together to deliberate on the contemporary issues of green urban transport. The theme 'Green Urban Mobility' of this year's UMI Conference is quite pertinent to the country's requirement. I hope, this annual event will provide delegates — decision makers, practitioners, fleet managers, transport managers, businesses and individuals - with the opportunity to learn more about the changing face of mobility, whether this be switching to alternatively fuelled vehicles, installing appropriate infrastructure or even looking at mobility in a whole new way through innovative mobility measures.

My sincere wishes for the success of this event!

(Durga Shanker Mishra)