

**Pedestrian friendly commercial areas**

84. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry is considering to locate, identify and pedestrianise local cultural and commercial areas which have massive crowds, both local and tourists, in metropolitan cities like Bengaluru, Delhi, Mumbai and Kolkata;

(b) the steps taken by the Ministry to de-clutter major commercial areas in cities, thereby making it pedestrian friendly, without the presence of motor vehicles of the roads; and

(c) the current number of local fully pedestrianised urban space, State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) Urban Transport is intertwined with Urban Development which is a State subject. Therefore, urban transport projects including pedestrianization are proposed and implemented by State Governments.

Ministry of Urban Development issued National Urban Transport Policy in year 2006, under which the Central Government gives priority to the construction of pedestrian paths in the cities to enhance safety and use of non-motorised modes. The Central Government supports the study for the construction of safe pedestrian crossings at busy intersections and high traffic corridors. Central Government also supports formulation and implementation of specific "Area Plans" in congested urban areas that propose appropriate mix of various modes of transport including exclusive zones for non-motorized transit.

Further, Ministry has issued an advisory to all the State Governments to identify the most congested areas in their cities, getting a proper study done on various aspects of congestion charges as per city requirement and consider adopting "Congestion charging system" as a measure to decongest a particular area/Central Business District, increasing mode share of cycling as well as public transport and increase the mobility of the people besides controlling pollution.

(c) The Ministry does not maintain any State wise record of fully pedestrianized urban space.