



PRESS RELEASE

BOOSTING EMPLOYMENT AND ACCESSIBILITY: INVESTING IN INDIA'S PUBLIC TRANSPORT SECTOR



BRUSSELS, 14 OCTOBER 2020

Public transport in India **provides affordable access to mobility for two-thirds of households** that don't own a personal car or a two-wheeler: making it **an essential part of Indian cities**.

Due to the economic and mobility impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, **India's GDP has fallen sharply by 23.9%** in the first quarter of the financial year 2020-21.

What does this mean for the country's public transport sector and those who rely on it?

UITP has released our newest Policy Brief, "**Boosting accessibility and employment: Investing in India's public transport sector**" to evaluate the impact of alternative transport sector investments being made by governments in India; **issues in the current transport discourse** and the case for **increased investments in public transport**.

The public transport sector needs **financial assistance** from national, state and city-level governments to address the losses incurred due to the coronavirus outbreak.

Without this investment, services face ongoing pressure to **continue providing the services** needed by **millions of users**.

Many cities around the world are **implementing measures** involving financial aid and new contractual arrangements **to support the sector and its economic recovery**.

The public transport sector in India needs assistance which holds maximum impact, and our latest Policy Brief **presents a comparative evaluation of Government investments**.

What does the research tell us?

By our calculations, **buses provide access to mobility to 3.8 times more people** compared to investments in roads and **26.5 times more people compared to investments in the auto industry**.

Governments need to **improve public transport services and build confidence among users, provide financial support to operators, and realign investments in road infrastructure** to generate immediate support for public transport agencies.

Investments in public transport should be made as a priority.

The advantages to **employment, accessibility, education, and culture** are numerous – and all government investments must be made **to provide the maximum impact to city life**.

[Read our new Policy Brief on public transport investment in India](#)

[Have you read our Statistics Brief on the impact of COVID-19 on bus services in India?](#)

FOR EDITORS



UITP, The International Association of Public Transport works to enhance quality of life and economic well-being by supporting and promoting sustainable transport in urban areas worldwide. As a passionate champion of sustainable urban mobility, UITP is internationally recognised for its work to advance the development of this critical policy agenda. With more than **1800 members** in **100 countries**, UITP has a long history to its name, and is the only worldwide network to bring together all public transport stakeholders and all sustainable transport modes. Visit the [newsroom](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#).

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