

“Traffic Jams”



Weekly Learnings 45 / 2024

Bengaluru was in the news last week as many vehicle owners left their vehicles on the flyover.

I got this meme from a few groups since I am from Bengaluru.

I looked at the data:

1. The Tom Tom index 2024 covered 387 cities in 55 countries. London was the worst for traffic, Bengaluru was #6 and Pune was # 7. The Index looks at travel time, fuel consumption and CO2 emissions. Delhi is # 44 and Mumbai is # 52 on this list.
2. It takes 37 minutes to cover 10 kms in London, 28 mts in Bengaluru and 27 minutes in Pune. In rush hour traffic, London is 14 kms per hour.
3. Bengaluru has 16 million population and 10.million vehicles, a ratio that's high for any population in India. Bengaluru has 23 lac private vehicles and that's higher than Delhi. India car ownership is a little under 7 pc. The headroom for more congestion is frightening.
4. Traffic jams are bad on the purse. Fuel budget went up by 15 % between 2021 and 2023.
5. Indians spend about 135 hours in traffic jams every year, that's a full 6 days !!
6. The reasons for traffic congestion are many .. a.Saturation of vehicles. b. Road area as a percentage of city area, c. Inadequate public transport and frequent breakdown of City corporation buses, [d.Construction](#) work and e. Many times wrong repair works on roads.
7. Driving habits are going from bad to worse,In NCR, people just take a U turn the moment they see a traffic hold up and consistently drive on the wrong side.
8. Road infrastructure has to be built ahead of time, when done it works. Nariman Point in Mumbai to Worli sea link is now 11 minutes thanks to the coastal road. the trouble is sea link to airport takes an hour after 6 pm.

9. A young student had an innovative idea to add a fourth color on the traffic signal - BLUE to indicate that there is a traffic hold up on the road ahead, thus giving drivers the option to take another route at the signal.

10. All of us know that traffic congestion is bad on the purse , on health and creates stress leading to road rage.

Shiv

www.shivshivakumar.com

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