



A Geographical Analysis of the City Transport and Vehicular Traffic: A Case Study of Patna

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Abstract : *Most of the Indian cities in the recent years have gone through a marked change in the nature of urban transport and have witnessed an unprecedented increase in the volume of vehicular traffic. In Patna also the vehicular population growth has been quite high in recent years. Patna roads present a distinct heterogeneity regarding the forms of vehicular traffic and the absence of adequate and proper public transport against the rising travel demand that has caused more complications in the traffic system on the city roads. The existing road network of Patna is inadequate to cater to the ever increasing volume of vehicular traffic. As a*

consequence there have been perennial problems of congestion, environmental pollution and road accidents. Amid this scenario, an effort has been made in the present study to furnish a geographical analysis of the current status of the city transport and vehicular traffic of Patna M.C. Area at territorial, quantitative and qualitative perspectives. The study has been carried out specifically in the two circles of PMC Area: New Capital of West and Bankipur of East Patna respectively.

Key words: *Vehicular traffic, Urban transport, Congestion, Pollution, Road accidents.*

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Context and Background :

The urban centres of our country have been growing at a rapid rate: both in terms of their population size and functional areas. Most of these cities and towns in the recent years have gone through a marked change in the nature of urban transport and have witnessed an unprecedented increase in the volume of the vehicular traffic. Patna, the capital city of Bihar has been no exception in this particular regard. Quite obviously, the ever increasing growth of city traffic has been causing an ever increasing pressure on the existing system of city transport on one hand, and