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Vehicle population zooms in Hyderabad

Around 20 lakh two-and-four-wheelers added to city roads in last six years

By AuthorSunny Baski | Published: 13th Aug 2018 12:10 amUpdated: 13th Aug 2018 3:28 pm

Hyderabad: Incessant traffic jams, average driving speeds dropped to a crawling pace, travel time getting stretched, rise in pollution levels — the woes of road users are many. And the blame rests squarely on the increase in the number of personal vehicles that have joined the city roads in the last few years. In a way, it has defeated the efforts of the city administration in providing better driving experience by widening thoroughfares and setting up flyovers and underpass.

In fact, in the last six years, nearly 20 lakh two-and-four-wheelers were added to the city roads and so sharp has been the increase in the number of cars in the city that their numbers will be touching the one million-mark anytime in next few months. In 2012, as per the data available with the Road Transport Authority, the city had 5.74 lakh four-wheels, and this has crossed 9.50 lakh this year till now! The number of bikes in city has crossed 41 lakh mark this year till now from 24.90 lakh in 2012.

Officials said for a city with an estimated population of over one crore, there are 50 lakh-plus vehicles. The trend seems to be continuing with each day witnessing nearly 1,000 new vehicles getting registered. “The available number shows that half the population of Greater Hyderabad has a personal vehicle,” quipped an official.

According to traffic experts, the expansion of the city, coupled with improved employment opportunities and easier vehicle loans, is resulting in the rapid increase in the number of vehicles. Some also blame public transportation which has not been successful in providing last mile connectivity.

“This has been the case with RTC buses and MMTS trains. Hopefully, the Metro Rail plans to establish last mile connectivity will see an improvement in the conditions,” the official said. A scrutiny of the total vehicle population in the city reveals that personal vehicles take the largest slice with more than 90 per cent with the rest comprising public transportation ie, nearly 1 lakh auto-rickshaws and around 3,500 city buses. In terms of number of vehicles, Hyderabad occupies the fifth position after Delhi, Bengaluru, Mumbai and Chennai.