

CMS Environment survey on use of Foot Over Bridges (FOBs) by pedestrians in Delhi

New Delhi, February 24, 2010: CMS Environment, has recently conducted a first ever survey on the usage of Foot Over Bridges (FOBs) by pedestrians in the capital. The survey shows that FOBs are gaining popularity among pedestrians and a majority of the pedestrians (64.02%) prefer using FOBs to cross the road. The survey has been conducted at six FOBs located at Nehru Place, Sangam Vihar, ITO, ISBT, Raja Garden and Dhaula Kuan. A total of 2031 people were interviewed in the survey.

Objective of the survey

- To study the impact of FOBs on the pedestrians and traffic flow in Delhi.
- To study the perception of the public for using / not using the FOBs in Delhi.
- To know people's perception whether the FOB is worthwhile or not.
- To look out for the measures to promote the usage of FOBs from the public itself.

FOBs covered and sample size:

The survey was conducted at six FOBs constructed on roads having high pedestrian movement. These were Nehru Place, Sangam Vihar, ITO, ISBT, Raja Garden and Dhaula Kuan. A total of 2031 people were interviewed. Out of which 1719 were pedestrians, 300 commuters (2/4 wheelers, bus and auto drivers) and 12 traffic policemen posted on the nearby traffic intersections. The survey was conducted on working days as well as non-working days to see the movement of pedestrians from 9 am to 7 pm. The survey is based on the primary data that was collected after counting the pedestrians who cross the road both through FOB and by other means, interviewing the users, commuters and traffic police from different areas and sections of the society.

Key findings of the survey:

Usage of FOBs

- **A majority of pedestrians (64.02%) prefer using FOBs to cross the road.**
- FOB at ITO has highest pedestrian usage in the survey (82.0%), closely followed by Sangam Vihar FOB (72.19%) and ISBT (65.83%). Around 34,000 pedestrian cross the road on a working day at ITO. Out of these a majority i.e 29,000 (approx) use FOB.
- 51.7 % of FOB users are male.
- Most of the FOB users fall in the age group of 18 – 25 years (41.4%) and the trend decreases with the increase in the age. The usage is just 10% among the age group of 46+.
- 53.4% of male pedestrians and 43.2% of female pedestrians say that it takes just 2-3 min to cross the road through an FOB.
- 45.4% of the pedestrians are moderate users (Out of every 10 visits, 4-7 times they use FOB).

- 35.80% of pedestrians cross the road through other means like crossing the red light (59.9%), jump from the fence (33.0%) and other convenient points (82.2%).
- 89.2% of non-users of FOBs feel that its time consuming. 70.8% feel that it is inconvenient, while 40% feel that FOBs are not safe.

Impact on traffic flow

- 93.0 % of the commuters said the traffic flow has smoothened after the FOBs were built.
- 91 % of the traffic policemen interviewed said that the FOBs have helped them handling the traffic in a better way.

Perception about FOBs

- 70.2% of the people interviewed said that the investment in FOBs is worthwhile
- 83.9% of the people interviewed think that the FOBs are not an eyesore in Delhi

What needs to be done to improve use of FOBs:

Following suggestions came out in the survey:

- Increase the height of fence on the divider
- Maintain cleanliness in FOBs
- Better security (at night) at FOBs
- FOBs should be build it at the right point and intersections
- FOBs should be illuminated properly
- Modify design so that walking on FOB is not tiring

About CMS Environment

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