

Lakh ko 50 Buses for Better Life, Better Cities



SUM Net is a coalition of individuals, voluntary organizations, and civil society networks and movements promoting sustainable urban transport solutions across India.



In June 2020, Parisar launched 'Lakh ko 50' campaign in Maharashtra under the Sustainable Urban Mobility Network (SUM Net) India, to strengthen bus-based public transport (BBPT) in cities.

10,000

People supported a public petition demanding mandatory provision of bus services in all cities of Maharashtra

100

Organisations and civil society groups have endorsed our public statements

300

Decision-makers and officials have been engaged through letters, meetings, and webinars

SUM Net India
Sustainable Urban Mobility Network



Lakh ko 50 campaign's vision is for all cities in Maharashtra to have access to high quality bus-based public transport that meets the travel needs of people, improves quality of life and protects the environment.

Why are city buses the way forward?

- Environment: City buses are vital to tackle climate change and air pollution.
- Economy: City buses can ensure an economic recovery that is sustainable and fair with a minimal burden on the State's exchequer.
- Access: Buses are vital for all kinds of cities, large or small, and a bus network caters to trips which are long or short at an affordable price.
- People: Buses bring together communities and provide access to jobs, education, services, and leisure.

How to prevent a private vehicle-led recovery and ensure that city bus transport starts, improves and thrives?

We are convinced: the answer lies with the Government.

The Lakh ko 50 campaign is calling on the State Government to champion bus-based public transport (BBPT) and to place it at the heart of a green recovery and as a key component of the ambitious "race to zero" (carbon-neutral cities) objective.

We're also calling on the Government to invest in improving BBPT to ensure it gives everyone easy, convenient, affordable journeys in the long term. Buses must be the simpler, easier and attractive option for people's commute.

The Government ought to

- Ensure provision of bus service mandatory for all Municipal Corporations
- Lead the way with this campaign and set a target of

having 50 buses per lakh urban population in 5 years

- Announce Viability Gap Funding to support hiring of buses using PPP models
- Create a State Public Transport Authority to monitor quality of services
- Set up a Technical Assistance Program to help cities implement quality bus systems

We don't want congestion and pollution to be the future of our cities. Together, let's call for a greener, safer and fairer future – one that connects us, improves our quality of life, gives us clean air to breathe and a planet fit for the next generation. And for this, city bus transport is the way forward.

Real action on climate change means making buses the affordable choice, improving services and encouraging people to shift away from cars and two-wheelers. But persuading the Government will take a lot of work and we will need your help.

Want to support or be a part of the campaign? Here's how!

- Collaborate with us and help us increase our engagement with the decision-makers
- Be a part of the change and volunteer
- Email or write to the concerned authorities in your city
- Write to your local paper
- Share your bus stories with us
- Follow us on social media

If you don't want a future of traffic jams and dirty air, then you must care about the bus services in your city.

Get in touch with us and get on board the Lakh ko 50 bus campaign!

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