KANPUR CITY DIALOGUE ON AIR QUALITY AND TRANSPORTATION
CHALLENGE: AGENDA FOR ACTION

PEOPLES PERCEPTION OF AIR QUALITY AND MOBILITY IN KANPUR CITY

How do stakeholders feel about the air pollution and mobility issues in Kanpur?
Centre for Science and Environment has carried out a rapid stakeholders’ perception survey. This is part of its ongoing assessment to understand the perception of the air pollution and mobility problems in the city. The respondents are from different target groups – experts, officials, commuters, doctors, teachers, business, civil society among others. They have reflected on the core issues that must be looked into for making the next generation action agenda. The key highlights are as follows:

1. What is the perception of air quality of the city?
The majority – a whopping 87 per cent have said it is worsening.

![Percentage of respondents](image)

2. How will you rate the air quality on a scale of 5?
Half of them have said the air is highly polluted.

![Rank vs Percentage of respondents](image)

3. Health: Do you think incidence of respiratory diseases, asthma, eye irritation are on the rise?
(A): Do you think incidence of respiratory diseases asthma, eye irritation are on the rise?
A thumping majority – 80% have said yes.

![Percentage of respondents](image)
(B): Do doctors tell you air pollution is also exacerbating these symptoms?

More than 80% have said yes

4. What kind of measures have helped to reduce air pollution in the city?
- Nearly 90% have listed the CNG programme
- Nearly 65% have identified the cleaner domestic fuels
- About 60% have indicated improvement in emissions standards
- Least of all are the new roads and flyovers

5. Congestion is a big problem
- About 90% have identified congestion as the big problem during peak hours

6. How much support is there for cycles and cycle rickshaws?
- Majority have said that cycles and cycle rickshaws are important and should be given segregated space

7. What is the state of public transport in the city?
- Nearly 35% have rated city public transport as average and 30% as poor
- Nearly one third have rated public transport as very poor
8. What is the perception about the intermediate public transport service – autos and tempos and its availability?

(A): Autos/ tempos have scored relatively better. About 40% feel this is good

(B): Availability of intermediate public transport service – autos and tempos is better than the buses

9. Is there public support for public transport?
- There is nearly unanimous support for improved public transport.
- Nearly 80% have said that they will prefer to take public transport if it improves
- Nearly 90% have supported dedicated lanes for buses

Will you shift to using buses if more comfortable, high quality properly designed buses are brought?

Do you feel special dedicated lanes that allow buses to move fast will help your city to reduce usage of personal vehicles and congestion?
10. How walkable is the city?
Despite the fact that nearly 30% of the daily trips are walk trips, even then the majority find the walking infrastructure poorly maintained and they do not enjoy walking. This needs immediate attention as pedestrian traffic is the strength of the city.

![Bar chart showing percentage of respondents who find the city well maintained, clean and walkable and enjoy walking on the footpath.

11. A. Should taxes be raised on personal vehicles to create dedicated funds for public transport? B. Should there be congestion tax to reduce congestion?
- Majority are against higher taxes on personal vehicles.
- Half of the respondents have supported congestion tax.

![Bar chart showing percentage of respondents who think the government should increase taxes on private vehicles and create a dedicated fund to finance/improve public transport and pollution control and who think a congestion tax will help in reducing congestion on roads.

12. Is fuel adulteration a problem?
At least 40% have said that fuel adulteration is still a problem.

![Bar chart showing percentage of respondents who think fuel adulteration is a problem and who do not think it is a problem.

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This note presents the preliminary findings of the ongoing study in the city of Kanpur on clean air and mobility. We express our deep appreciation and gratitude towards all participants in this initiative. We are particularly thankful to Eco Friends and Methodist High School for their participation.