Biren Singh

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Breaking News Live

Trending Topics

Will public transport fare hike trigger more traffic chaos in Bengaluru?

Manish Sisodia

Kiran Bedi

Many fear BMRCL's decision to hike fares without increasing trains will discourage people from travelling by Metro

CHRISTIN MATHEW PHILIP



Hyderabad Murder

Jyotiraditya Scindia



share of public transport usage. The choice of transport mode people make in response to such substantial fare hikes will affect ridership and the public transport mode share," Ashish Verma, convenor of the Sustainable Transportation Lab at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) told Moneycontrol.

BENGALURU'S

TRAFFIC STORY

14 million 12 million 14,000 Km population intersections registered road network vehicles

1 lakh population

1 lakh population

Total BMTC buses: 6,340 Bengaluru needs 16,800 buses based on

the guideline of 120 buses per

the guideline of 1 km per

50 seconds longer than

Time taken to travel

55% congestion level

117 hours (4 days, 21 hours)

in 2023

MORNING

50 seconds

15.5 kmph

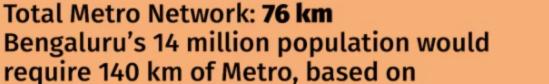
Average speed:

869 VEHICLES PER KM

now around 869 vehicles per km, leading to gridlock situations.



40,000



 Second most congested city in India in 2024 Third most congested city in the world in 2024 Average travel time per 10 km **Average speed** · 34 minutes 10 seconds 17.6 kmph

EVENING Time taken to travel

in 2023

EXTRA TIME SPENT DRIVING IN RUSH HOURS (2024)

f 🔊 💿 in 🕓 🕣 🚳 🔔 moneycontrol

68% congestion level

14.3 kmph

- ATED STORIES
- use their two-wheelers for these reasons".

2024.

According to the traffic index released by TomTom, a Dutch location technology specialist, Bengaluru is the second most congested city in India in 2024, after Kolkata, and the third most congested city in the world in

comparatively lower. Most bus passengers will likely switch

to two-wheelers if they have that option. BMTC and Metro

km of operational network. Unlike Mumbai and Chennai, Bengaluru lacks a dedicated suburban rail system. While the Union

Government sanctioned a 1,480-km (four corridors) suburban rail project with a six-year deadline (2026), the Rail Infrastructure Development Company (K-RIDE), the executing agency, does not have a full-time MD. In fact, only two of the four corridors have issued civil work orders, and their deadlines have now been

While the Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) board approved a proposal to increase

Metro fares in a meeting on January 17, it is yet to announce when the fare hike will come into effect and by

buses per 1 lakh population, but it has only 6,340 buses. For Bengaluru's population of 14 million, 140 km of

Metro would be required, based on the guideline of 1 km of Metro per 1 lakh population, but it has only 76

how much. "We will reveal the new fare structure shortly," a senior BMRCL official said.

Currently, the minimum token fare is Rs 10, and the maximum fare is Rs 60. Smart card users receive a 5 percent discount, which was reduced from 15 percent in 2020. The last fare revision was in 2017, following

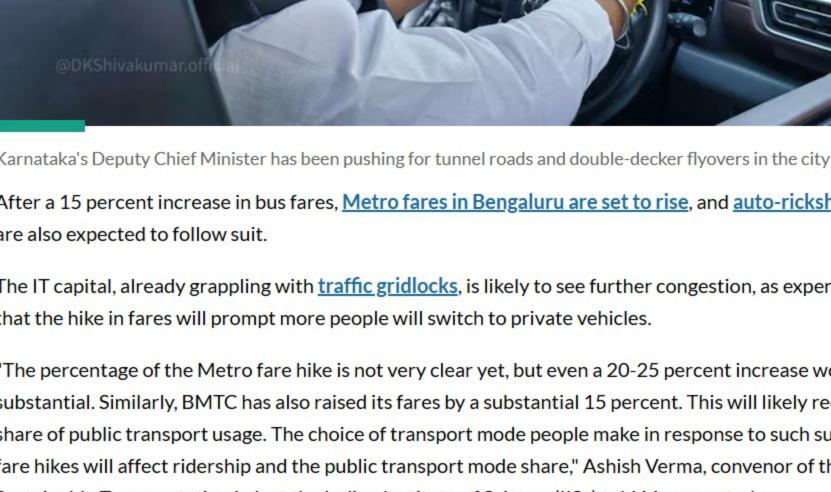
Also, read: After bus fare hike, Bengaluru Metro fare to increase as BMRCL board gives nod

Line (Challaghatta-Whitefield) and the Green Line (Silk Institute-Madhavara). Many are questioning the timing of the hike. Shashi B K, a regular Metro passenger, said, "This hike is a joke

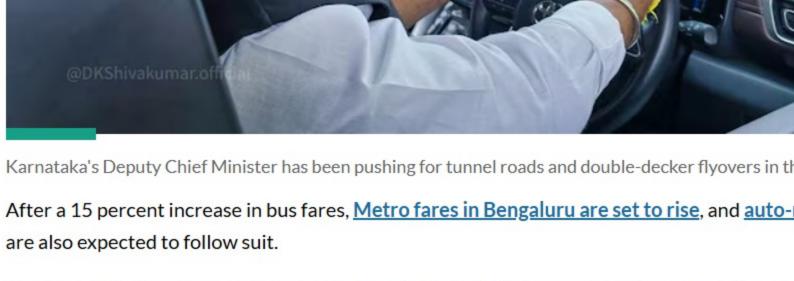
on commuters in the context of not adding a single new coach, not improving frequency. We travel like

fares have generally been higher than the cost of using a two-wheeler, and this fare hike will make it even more 'Had permission to busk, wasn't random': Ed attractive. Even car users, who might have earlier found Sheeran clarifies after Metro to be a reasonable alternative, may switch back to Bengaluru cop stops their cars due to the fare increase," Verma said. jamming sess... Travellin' Blues: "Bengaluru already has one of the highest number of two-Congested Bengaluru wheelers in India. One reason for this could be that twonow has the costliest wheelers have a better chance of cutting through traffic. Metro fare in India Finding parking for two-wheelers is also comparatively easier. So even if people own cars, they may still prefer to Also, read: Kolkata is India's most congested city in 2024, Bengaluru ranks 2nd: TomTom report









With a population of 14 million, Bengaluru now has 1.14 crore registered vehicles, including 77.2 lakh twowheelers and 23.6 lakh cars. Considering the city's 14,000 km road network, Bengaluru's vehicle density is

· Two-wheelers: 8.16 million · Cars: 2.49 million











· 0.4 kmph slower than

10 km: 41 minutes 10 km: 38 minutes 59 seconds Average speed:

RUSH HOUR

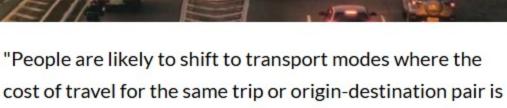
- 7 hours 53 minutes more than in 2023

Metro fare hike:

rollback

Bengaluru MPs, netizens

call it unfair, demand





While Bengaluru's traffic police and some experts question the methodologies adopted by TomTom, there is no denying the city's traffic problem. One of the main reasons for the city's broken transport system can be highlighted with these numbers: Bengaluru would need 16,800 buses based on the guideline of at least 120

pushed to March 2027. Also, read: Union minister Somanna proposes two new railway terminals near Bengaluru; suburban rail deadline pushed to March 2027 Why the Metro fare revision is untimely

the completion of Phase 1 (42 km). Since then, the network has expanded to 76 km, including the Purple

sardines, and all new lines are inordinately delayed. I urge BMRCL to hold back until Phase 2 is completed." "Not only the fare, but also the costs people pay due to delays—such as wasted time, higher costs of

commuting with other expensive modes, and loss of productivity—are significant. Commuters are never

stakeholders for BMRCL and heads must roll for delays," he added.