

THE IMPACT OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION (SHARE AUTO) - AN ENVIRONMENTAL AND HEALTH ISSUES - A ECO - FRIENDLY FIELD STUDY

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Abstract

Man invented wheels and its impact persist even after 100 decades. In order to provide a comfort and sophisticated journey to people, various companies are introducing variety of Automobiles every now and then. As a result of this, "Share Auto" is playing a vital role in the contemporary society with people's great concern. And this research paper deals or analysing the reasons behind the need and popularity of this share Auto. Some multifaceted information about share - auto is observed. We analysed the facts and attained some results which lead to various impacts.

Keywords: Share Auto, smoke, toxic gases, conveyance, comfort, physical health

Introduction

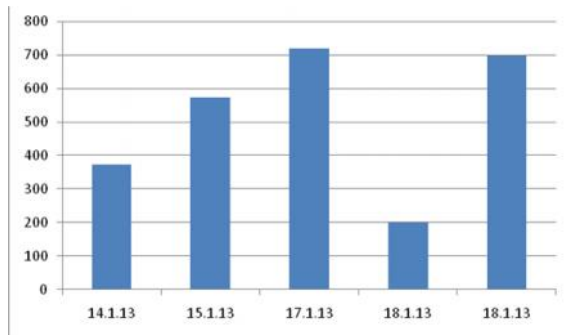
'Share Auto' is a Common word or, name known to everybody. Whether, the Auto is made on the basis of their name share Auto? No! It is produced or manufactured as a normal & usual Auto. But it has some technical modifications and special features; we can assume that petrol engine Auto is of its origin. This Auto comprises of diesel engine and some modifications in its technical feature.

As an unwritten fact, 'Auto' is used by upper people has changed and now it is benefitting the middle class people too. People who ever travels in the auto will share the amount and gets benefitted. So that the Auto which attracted or the people, middle class people, is playing an incredible role and this research paper deals with its complete analysing features which spoil the environment and human health.

Table-1 [Over loading passengers]

S.NO	DATE	TIME	DAY	NO. OF AUTO		TRAVELLED PEOPLE	AVERAGE
1	14.1.13	Morning 10.00-11.00	Holiday	62	186(3+1)	372	6
2	15.1.13	MORNING 8.00-9.00	HOLIDAY	82	246(3+1)	574	7
3	17.1.13	EVENING 4.00-5.00	WORKING DAY	90	270(3+1)	720	8
4	18.1.13	MORNING 6.00-7.00	WORKING DAY	30	120(3+1)	200	7
5	18.1.13	EVENING 6.00-7.00	WORKING DAY	87	348(3+1)	696	8

Research area chosen is from Periyar bus stand to S. Vellachamy Nadar College. The Researcher adapted the methods of data collection by observing analysis and comparison; The Researcher listed down the plying duration in peak hours, non peak hours in working days and in holidays. Author came to conclusion on the basis of the collected information and its analysis and got various results on the data and its effects etc as shown below.



Based on the above Tabular column, 720 people travelled in 90 Share Autos. When author calculate them to board in a government bus having permit for 82 people in total, $[720 / (44+2+40=86)]$ this can be divided to their 720 with 86, approximately 8 government buses are found to be necessary.

The author found evidently that, people who should travel in 8 city

buses are travelling in 90 Share Autos.

An Auto or a bus which has diesel engine will release an average smoke of 36.2K when it is in good condition. When researcher calculate the smoke released by the bus and Share Auto on the basis of above average then,

- City bus $8 \times 36.2K$ average = 290K
- Share Auto $90 \times 36.2K$ average = 3258K

People had boarded 90 Share Autos instead of 8 city buses and as a result of which, air pollution has increased (i.e.) 3258K average.

When author compared the level of toxic gases of the vehicles, the author observed the shocking facts...

- Unit of toxic gases is 65K average.
- When it divide $3258 / 65 = 50$.

By the above research, share autos that deliver toxic gases will eject 17.1.13 for an hour but when it happens for a whole day (i.e.) 16 hours then $16 \times 50 = 800$ Autos. Then definitely the air will get polluted causing various side effects to all living things and also will spoil the environment.

People believe that share autos giving them comfortable conveyance. Usually city buses rarely stop in the notified bus stands when people need to board. But share autos will stop to board and drop us wherever the passengers want. Apart from this, a feeling exists that we are proudly travelling in an 'Auto'. When we asked about this to a school girl, she said that "I feel comfort when I can reach the tuition centre on time in an Auto". Further, a vegetable seller told that sometimes they won't ask extra charge for their luggage. Then an office goer told with grudge 'what to do they stop & start at their own wish but I have to

reach the place on time, so I prefer it. According to drivers, they earn from Rs. 1200 to Rs. 1500 per day. After their expenditure such as Auto's rent Rs.400, Cot of diesel Rs. 300, other miscellaneous expenditure Rs. 200 or little more the drivers can earn a tuneable amount. Sivaraman, an auto driver is happy with his income, he adds. The number of autos has increased in Madurai, roughly now above 4000 are on the roads. The autos travelling in our research area field from Pudukkottai to Periyar are counted as 200. The mini door autos are 30. Apart from these, when we questioned about the government's rule of the seating capacity-3+1, they answered very adjustably as it is for monetary benefits- said Ganesh, an auto driver. When questions on the accidents are common due to overweight, a driver answered as it is not because of negligence of the drivers alone, but due to many reasons. Drunken drivers are not a cause or problem, but the traffic non-regulation is more than that. Further minute important details were collected with proof which relates with the physical health of the auto drivers.

TABULAR COLUMN ABOUT PHYSICAL HEALTH OF AUTO DRIVERS									
S. No	Name	Experience of the driver (yearly based)	Cough/ Cold	Eye irritation	Sleeplessness	Backache	Piles	Arthritis	Sinus
1	Mr.Thanasekar TN.58.T.6113	7			1	1		1	1
2	Mr.Suman TN.58.T.9172	3	1		1	1			1
3	Mr.Iyappan TN.58.S.0660	2		1	1	1			
4	Mr.Mugrugesan TN.58.T.6826	3				1		1	
5	Mr.Swamynathan TN.58.Q.5801	1		1	1	1		1	
6	Mr.Arumugam TN.59.R.7329	1				1	1	1	
7	Mr.Manikandan TN.58.U.4171	1		1	1		1	1	
8	Mr.Viji TN.58.U.2635	1		1		1		1	
9	Mr.Pandi TN.58.AE.2367	1		1		1		1	
10	Mr.Rajesh TN.58.T.6060	2		1	1	1			
11	Mr.Babusundram TN.74.T.3915	1		1	1	1			
12	Mr.Abbas TN.58.Q0945	1	1		1	1			

Source : Primary data

Based on this above table, 2 people affected by cold & sneezing, 7 people by itching in eyes, insomnia for 8 members, by backache, piles for 2 members, arthritis for 2 members and sinus for 2 members could be learnt. Backache and insomnia are in majority.

Share autos, not only pollute the environment but also it affects health of the people. Apart from this it is increasing a lot day by day. When we asked about this to a police constable, he said that they are dutiful in their responsibility and impose fine ranging from Rs. 100 to Rs.1000/- depends on their violation of rules. Another policeman told that they impose fine of Rs. 500, but it is not at all a matter for them whose income is Rs. 1500. RTO is completely the competent authority for it. They are the one who can fine and even cancel their driving license. Besides this, its effect was increasing without an end as very less are bothered about its demerits and bad effects.

Experimental test

1. We conducted experiments related to air pollution by keeping a one rupee coin in a white paper and kept it on the roadside. After an hour it was found as fully covered with dust. It proved factually the effect of air pollution.
2. As we didn't possess any instrument to measure sound, we found a new technique, we've taken the same one rupee and dropped it down when a share auto passes, we can't hear the single pinch of it, we went to some 100 ft distance away from the road then we did the same and heard mild sound, after 200 ft we could hear its sound 90%. It showed us that whenever share auto passes it makes this much noise & vibration even to 200 ft. This noise pollution will affect our physical health as well as mental health. Humans can hear only 120 decibel sound. The decibel 10-15 is used normally when we speak National Physical Laboratories had analysed & given some results on sound's unit and its effect.
80-120 → it will affect our eardrum & make us deaf.
60-80 → it affects the nervous system, create angry & violence can be occurred.
45-60 → some minute disturbances can affect digestive parts.
25-45 → the unit which helps to live with peaceful mind & healthy body.

Further, noise is not only affecting physical health but also life's fertility. The man power which became the proof of noise was affected by nerves problem, blood clots; change in physical, emotional strains blood pressure has become powerless. In fact, all these threats can be cured by their present multi-faceted science. To reduce the noise pollution, steps like keeping roadside noise barriers, planting saplings & trees were implemented in many countries around the world. But India is still in its backward position, sad news for us. In their status, share autos are spreading these types of bad causes to the society, even to climate changes to human health.

Effect

1. Disrespect to the traffic rules.
2. Causing disturbance to transport.
3. Releasing toxic gases which affects people
4. Polluting air as well as sound.
5. Spoiling the genuine normalcy of the environment.

6. May result in diesel scarcity.
7. Possibility of degradation of nature.

Suggestion

1. Public awareness on usage of autos and its bad effects.
2. Depend on government buses for safety and security.
3. Loyal involvement of RTO and police departments to safe guard the common public.
4. Planting trees on road sides & maintenance.
5. Unity of Students and social reformers in needed to protect the environment.

Every new steps of an individual has a cordial relationship with society. Growth is a vital fact in human's nature. But it must not be the reason for and unhappy end too. Growth should view in all aspects of the society. And this paper draws the good intention to empower the societal relationship and environment with the support of all human beings to enjoy the boon of the nature.

Conclusion

Today's environment provides a chance of decay not only to human also to every creature in the world. According to scientists, the end of world is near and will be destroyed self at an indefinable span. And the reasons are a change in nature, and failure to its self control and the harmfulness that was humans contributing to the nature. It has been named as "Dooms day". Today's environment problems are,

1. Climate changing.
2. Ozone layer depletion.
3. Acid rain.
4. Pollution of oceans.
5. Desertification.
6. Loss of tropical forest/Deforestation.
7. Loss of soil fertility.
8. Depletion of genetic resources.

In this contemporary revolution, environmental revolution has spread all over the world. Every country is taking its step to protect nature. A world conference was held by UNO in which India too participated. Our Prime Minister Dr.Manmohan Singh appealed that all countries should take immediate and possible steps to protect nature and in climate changes, to control toxic gases. Developed countries should support whole-heartedly the developing countries besides technical helps (Dinakaran. Dec 18, 2009).

Based on their views, we can understand two things,

1. Our research result has proved that level of toxic gases is vastly increasing day by day.

2. To control this toxic smoke we need some new technology simultaneously to implement it, we need some revenue contribution too. But we positively fail to possess it.

Apart from this environment or ecosystem is not pleasure giving object for human rather it is an invaluable entity for the future generation. It is our duty and responsibility to protect our precious Mother Nature. Even though we have law & order and so many strategies to protect environment, it is not possible to protect only with those elements unless each and every individual should have the eco-friendly attitude with dedication and commitment which is the ultimate and unique aim of this research paper.

Let us hope all our expectations can materialise positively with a good result for the benefit of the whole universe with conviction and comfort.

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