NOV 2020

PUBLIC TRANSPORT SYSTEM FOR CARBON FOOTPRINT REDUCTION

CASE STUDY/INSIGHT

E2020-11-02

PUBLIC TRANSPORT SYSTEM FOR CARBON FOOTPRINT REDUCTION

Transportation is one of the significant contributors of air pollution globally, particularly road transport; which accounts for about 72% of the total pollution (by the end of 2019). Transportation, driven by rapid growth in car use, has been the fastest growing sources of carbon emissions in the world. By reducing carbon emissions from transport sector, we would be able to cut down carbon footprint, globally. There are many ways that can be adopted to reduce carbon emissions. These include switching to renewable energy, energy efficiency, increasing the efficiency of vehicle technology and changing our mode of travel.

The simplest method to reduce carbon footprint from transport is to use public transportation. When every individual starts using independent vehicles, then the load of carbon emissions will become very high. Instead of using a car for one person, he/she can use public transportation or carpooling. This will considerably reduce carbon footprint. To increase the access of public transportation to people, government should take initiatives such as increasing the number of buses and trains for more connectivity; implementing more of Mass Rapid Transit (MRT).

PUBLIC TRANSPORT SYSTEM FOR CARBON FOOTPRINT REDUCTION

Mass Rapid Transit systems offer considerable savings in energy and less carbon emissions. MRT such as modern electric trains can commute a large number of people to destination in lesser time. Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) System can also be tried. BRT is high quality bus-based transportation that delivers fast, comfortable and cost-effective services at metro level capacities. It can be done through the provision of dedicated lanes for BRT buses.

Water transportation can also be tried in possible regions considering the efficiency and safety. Bangkok in Thailand is an example of extensive water transport serving passengers to travel along Chao Phraya River as well as certain canals. Water transportation in Bangkok is done using different types of boats and water bus.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT SYSTEM FOR CARBON FOOTPRINT REDUCTION

If there is a strong public transportation system in cities and towns, people will prefer to opt for it. Using individual vehicles results in increased carbon emissions, traffic congestion, time delays and also energy security issues. To avoid all these problems, it is better to use public transportation.

Several countries around the world have decreased carbon footprint in transportation sector by investing more in efficient and reliable public transportation system. In several cities, there are monthly pass systems available for daily passengers in buses and trains. People can make use of such systems. Let us start using public transportation and reduce carbon footprint.