

# Transport



## Introduction:

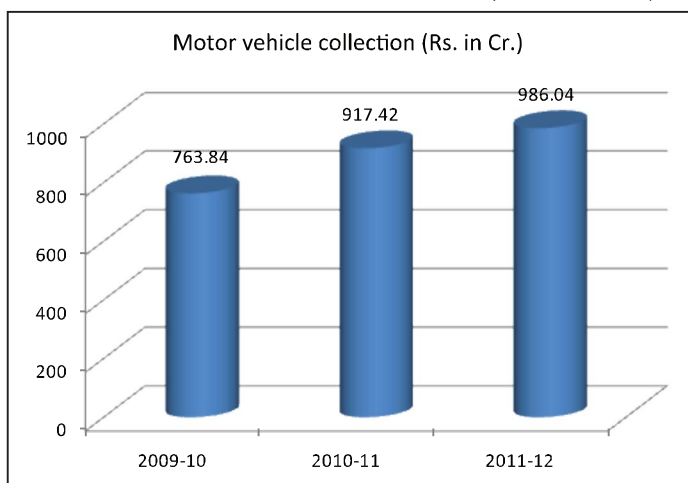
Transport Department looks after provision of transport facilities and infrastructure on road, inland water and air within the domain of State Government. It also provides administrative and legal framework for the same. Its activities include issue of licenses and permits. The functioning of this vital public service oriented department remains an important area of concern and improvement for the new Government.

1. The Motor Vehicles ( PVD) Office at Kasba in Kolkata was opened for the public. The renovation of the building for opening new PVD office at Salt Lake is in progress.
2. Eighteen (18) new ARTO offices have been approved to be set up in various sub-divisions in the State to provide transport related services to the public in these sub-divisions. New ARTO offices in Baruipur, Diamond Harbour, Bongaon, Basirhat and Kalna have already started functioning. Other ARTO offices shall also start functioning shortly.
3. All driving licenses, smart cards, and permits are being delivered only by registered post from 1.1.2012. This will reduce harassment and also ensure verification of address of the applicant.
4. The introduction of life time tax on private vehicles etc, are in the final stages of preparation by the Transport Department. The existing practice of five years tax will also continue.  
This will help simplify the process of registration and various taxes such as road tax, additional tax, audio tax, video tax etc. will be merged into a single tax.
5. The online registration of new private vehicles has been planned to be introduced, making the process much easier.
6. The State Government is also exploring the possibility of starting helicopter services from Kolkata to Digha, Haldia, Asansol, Durgapur and from Siliguri ( Bagdogra) to Darjeeling in the first phase.
7. Nager Bazar flyover under JNNURM Scheme at Dum Dum was dedicated to the public on 24th March 2012 by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Smt. Mamata Bandyopadhyay. The said project has been completed within least possible time since the formation of the new Government on 20th May 2011.
8. Steps were initiated to improve the performance and functioning of the State Transport Corporations, which have started yielding positive results.  
The State Government has to bear the burden of huge subsidy of Rs 600.00 crores annually for these Corporations.
9. East West Metro Project (KMRCL), which is a joint venture project of the Ministry of Urban Development, GoI, and the Government of West Bengal has made significant progress during the year. The State Government is in dialogue with the Ministry of Railways for furtherance of this prestigious project.  
Underground tunnel work was recently inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, West Bengal.
10. Fixation of High Security Registration Plate (HSRP) on the vehicles has started throughout the State.
11. Air Conditioned VOLVO bus service has been introduced from Howrah station from the CAB ROAD of both old and new terminals to various places. Air conditioned bus service has also been inaugurated from Kolkata to Diamond Harbour.
12. New system of “ PRE- PAID” Taxi has been introduced at NSCBI Airport, Kolkata under the

control and supervision of the Commissioner, Bidhan Nagar Police from April 2012. Similar arrangements are planned to be introduced in Howrah, Sealdah, Santragachi, Kolkata, and Shalimar railway stations.

13. To ensure that the general public is not put in greater discomfort, the State Government made sure that there is no increase in bus/ taxi fares due to the increase in diesel prices.
14. Motor Vehicle Revenue Collection increased to Rs 986.04 Crore in 2011-12 from Rs 917.12 Crore in 2010-11.

**Motor Vehicle Revenue Collection (Rs. in Crore)**



15. Expression of interest has been invited from corporate/ large business houses to provide quality bus service in the State.
16. To increase road safety, 44 Auto-Manual Traffic Signals have been installed in different district headquarters, Municipal areas, Salt Lake and Kolkata. For this purpose, a sum of Rs 2.44 Crore was released.
17. A sum of Rs 5.25 Crore has been released to WBSTC Limited as well as a sum of Rs 1.57 Crore has been released for construction of one Loaded Carriage Tug (LCT) at a total estimated cost of Rs 3.00 Crore for

operation of LCT service between Nebukhali and Dulduli backward areas of the Sunderbans under Hingalganj block. Construction of Pontoon type jetty at Sagar Island in the district of South 24 Parganas is also in progress.

18. In order to reduce air pollution in Kolkata, the State Government is keen to introduce CNG/ CBM and also battery / electric driven vehicles in the city . Discussions with the oil marketing companies like Indian Oil Corporation are being held in this regard. Location in Kolkata and Howrah have been identified.
19. To increase passenger amenities, “ Bus Stand Projects” at various places in the State were approved. These are:

- Ramnagar-II , Tamluk Rly. Stn., Egra and New Digha Bus Terminus in Purba Medinipur
- Ghatal Bus Terminus, Paschim Medinipur.
- Purulia Bus Terminus, Purulia
- Gobindanagar Bus Terminus, Bankura
- Bolpur, Naihati Bus Terminus in Birbhum
- Ranaghat, Nabadwip Bus Terminus in Nadia
- Memari Bus Terminus, Burdwan
- Baidyabati Bus Terminus, Hooghly
- International Bus Terminus at Karunamoyee and Laboni in Salt Lake
- Bus Terminus at Canal West Road, near Shyambazar, Kolkata
- Titagarh Bus Terminus, North 24 Parganas

20. A record number of pilgrims visited Ganga Sagar Mela in January, 2012. Elaborate transport arrangements – bus, rail and ferry services and traffic arrangements were made for the pilgrims. A large number of ambulances were also deployed at various places for the pilgrims. The Ganga Sagar Mela was conducted successfully and peacefully without any untoward incident.