

Flyovers as a Measure to Improve Intersection Capacity

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Abstract: One of the most recent traffic management methods for congestion alleviation in Colombo City is the introduction of flyovers to important intersections at main road corridors to Colombo City. The importance of a flyover is its use of the vertical space. Therefore, it is assumed to cause less impacts to the adjacent properties and the existing infrastructure. However, this is decided by the type of flyover and the traffic pattern at the junction. Also it is important to analyse the congestion level at the intersection and its significance compared to the entire road system.

The performance of the recently introduced flyovers in the suburbs of the city of Colombo can be tested by comparing before and after conditions of important traffic engineering parameters. Basically the speed and the system capacity can be compared as the main considerations to test this at a particular location. Moreover, an appraisal of the benefits and cost of a flyover against other reasonable and alternatives to obtain a similar result can be evaluated. In this paper the authors have attempted to compare the economic benefits of introducing flyovers against the other short term and long term alternatives. The possible solutions available both from traffic and transport aspects are also widely discussed in the paper.

Keywords: Flyover, Traffic Management, Urban Area, Traffic Congestion, Economic Evaluation
