

Build Metro link instead of steel flyover or elevated roads: Expert

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BENGALURU: “Why should there be a [steel flyover](#) or elevated corridors when we can have an elevated Metro rail connectivity at a cheaper cost and with better passenger-carrying capacity,” asked Indian Institute of Science (IISc) professor and mobility expert Ashish Verma on Sunday. Prof Verma was speaking at a public discourse on the state government’s proposal to build elevated corridors and revive the steel flyover project, organised by Save Bangalore Committee, a citizen forum.

“The elevated corridors will not only reduce the city’s green cover, but also result in increased vehicular emissions,” he added. The event was held at UVCE alumni association hall, KR Circle.

As an alternative, Verma suggested the steel flyover or elevated corridors be replaced with Metro rail network as it’d not only reduce vehicular emission, but also cut down on commute time. “The government should think wisely and go for a Metro rail corridor. This way, people will start depending on public transport and the traffic menace caused by private vehicles will reduce,” he added.

Other experts at the event too were of the opinion that the city should say no to high-cost elevated corridors. They all stressed on the need for suburban trains, [Metro link](#) and affordable bus services.

Said Prof TV Ramachandra from the centre for ecological sciences, IISc: “The elevated steel flyover project is of the elites, for the elites and by the elites. Ramachandra said the government is pushing for these projects only because “their children are the contractors and are driving these projects”. “While these projects will create more space for cars, the common man will be made to suffer due to crumbling public transport,” he added.

Verma said the focus should be on the push-pull concept, wherein one is pushed out of the private transport system and pulled into the public transport system.