



Dr. VIKRAMJIT SINGH SAHNEY
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(RAJYA SABHA)

August 06, 2025

Respected Shri Manohar Lal Chhatarjee,

Subject: Urgent Need for Decongestion Measures around Sri Darbar Sahib
(Golden Temple), Amritsar

With reference to the reply received in the Parliament on 04th August 2025 of Unstarred Question number 1647 regarding the Smart City Mission it is mentioned that Amritsar, Jalandhar and Ludhiana have been selected as Smart Cities for the state of Punjab.

At the onset I would like to make a humble request to your goodself to kindly include Mohali and Patiala as well in the Smart City Mission and in addition to this I would like to bring attention of your goodself that the existing Smart Cities of Punjab have nothing to be visible as "Smart" with utmost congestion, uncleanliness, lack of Solid Waste management etc.

Especially Amritsar which is one of India's most historic and culturally rich cities. Home to the holiest Sikh shrine, which draws over 1.5 lakh pilgrims everyday from across the globe. The old city, with its narrow lanes and centuries-old layout, is struggling to accommodate modern-day traffic and rising footfall. The vehicular congestion around the Golden Temple area has reached alarming levels, severely impacting movement, safety, and the overall experience of visitors and residents alike. A timely and well-thought-out intervention is urgently required to preserve the sanctity of this spiritual hub and improve the quality of urban life in Amritsar.

In this context, I humbly request the following proposals for your kind consideration and early implementation under the Smart City Mission in Amritsar:

1. Mass Rapid Transport System (MRTS) for Amritsar

Introducing a MRTS corridor connecting the GT Road to Sri Darbar Sahib. this initiative can serve as a high-capacity public transport solution to reduce road congestion, cut down travel time, and provide last-mile connectivity in a seamless, efficient manner.

2. Underground Tunnel to Sri Darbar Sahib and Multi-Level Parking

A dedicated underground tunnel for E-vehicles and Gold Carts from a key parking facility (located at a reasonable distance from the shrine) directly to the periphery of the Golden Temple complex can greatly ease pedestrian movement and reduce

vehicular load in the core city area. Along with this, construction of multi-level car parking infrastructure near entry points of the city will help accommodate tourist vehicles, commercial cars, and buses without crowding the temple vicinity.

3. Capsule Car System

Inspired by successful models in London and other global cities, a capsule car system could provide an innovative and eco-friendly mode of last-mile connectivity around the congested old city. These compact aerial or underground cable cars will allow controlled and structured movement of devotees, ensuring convenience and reducing pressure on surface transport.

4. Elevated Monorail from GT Road to Golden Temple

A sleek and modern elevated monorail system from the GT Road leading to the Golden Temple can serve as a clean and efficient mode of transport. This elevated route would bypass traffic bottlenecks, safeguard the heritage aesthetics of the city, and offer quick and safe access for lakhs of pilgrims daily. It could become a model for integrating heritage with smart urban mobility in India.

I trust that under your visionary leadership, these transformative ideas can be brought to life for the spiritual capital of Punjab. The people of Amritsar and the global Sikh community look forward to your continued support in making the holy city more accessible, cleaner, and future-ready.

With Warmest Regards



Dr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, Padma Shri
Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha

Sh. Manohar Lal Khattar
Hon'ble Union Minister of Housing & Urban Affairs