



## GLOBAL BEST PRACTICES

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<b>FIRST NAME</b>	Raghav
<b>MIDDLE INITIAL</b>	S
<b>LAST NAME</b>	Nandyal
<b>ORGANIZATION</b>	SITARA Technologies Pvt. Ltd.
<b>CATEGORY</b>	Transportation

### Introduction

In busy cities of India that have a large density of people per square kilometer, the existing footpaths are unusable and/or improperly structured for pedestrian traffic. Having pedestrian walkovers like how it is followed in most parts of Bangkok, Thailand is an excellent way to streamline pedestrian traffic besides improving the security of individuals who resort to walking on the pavement. This measure will prevent jaywalking and also inappropriate pedestrian behavior that is so very common and is the single most cause for all accidents on the streets.

### Existing Status

Footpaths or pavements have been gradually encroached in order to accommodate road widening. As a consequence, the existing footpaths are neither usable nor are safe for pedestrian traffic in cities with high pedestrian density. Pedestrians therefore resort to walking on the streets and also jaywalking. Crossing the road at will and wherever possible is often seen as a big deterrent for smooth traffic flow and also the reason for the large incidents of road accidents.



## Proposed Improvement

The reported best practice is observed in most cities of Thailand, Bangkok in particular. Pedestrians have to use walkovers for crossing roads. Walkovers are bridges that are spaced in short intervals that bridge two roads for pedestrian traffic. The footpaths are also decongested because people are forced to use these bridges whenever they need to walk. In India, parallel to the road, an overhead pedestrian pass over can be constructed on either side to ensure that these overheads are used by pedestrians instead of the pavements that have become totally unusable. Besides ensuring safety of passage for pedestrian traffic, they will help to streamline road traffic that otherwise gets very messy with people jaywalking and crossing the road at will. These walkovers are a blessing in highly congested areas that are also school zones for school children to use.

## Brief Implementation Strategy

The Public Works Department and Transportation Department can pilot this study in highly congested areas and school zones and study the effectiveness of improved safety and ease of traffic congestion. This will require ensuring that these bridges and overpasses are safe and are of sound construction to enhance their use. With today's construction technology, building such overpasses and bridges is a quick and easy.

## Support Requirements

Governmental funding and public awareness.

## Case Studies

Most overpasses that are described here are in use in Bangkok, Thailand and other cities of Thailand.

**EMAIL ID**

Raghav\_nandyal@SITARATECH.com