



# News of Transport Industry in November–December 2022

## ABSTRACT

*Our Journal publishes a selection of materials prepared based on news reports of the press centre of the Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation and dedicated to several significant events of the past two months and some results of the entire 2022. The information refers to implementation of the national project «Safe High-Quality Roads», supply of new rolling stock for urban public passenger transport systems, modernisation, and safety of roads in general and on tourist routes, the impact of implementation of*

*the national project on assessment of quality and accessibility of roads by public opinions. The information also covers issues of introducing new intelligent transport systems in cities, new legislative regulation of taxi services, the work of the CIS Transport Coordination Meeting, and reconstruction of the border crossing between Russia and Azerbaijan. In terms of the activities of the transport education system, attention is drawn to the past competitions of transport universities.*

**Keywords:** highways, tourist routes, road safety, intelligent transport systems, urban public transport, international transport cooperation, border crossings, transport education.

## National project «Safe High-Quality Roads» Tourist routes

In 2022, due to the national project «Safe High-Quality Roads», the pavement was updated on more than 400 sections of regional and local roads leading to various attractions. Their total length was over 2 thousand km.

«The development of domestic tourism gives an incentive to the economic growth of the regions: new jobs are being created, local crafts are being supported. Thanks to the national road project, the roads along which popular tourist routes pass are constantly updated. This season alone, a new pavement has appeared on another 418 objects», said Marat Khusnullin, Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation.

Transport accessibility is as important for travellers as service and comfortable accommodation. That is why, from the very beginning of implementation of the national project, special attention has been paid to roads to tourist sites. From 2019 to 2021, over 800

facilities with a total length of over 4000 km were repaired.

In Irkutsk region, this year Irkutsk–Bolshoe Goloustnoye highway has been completely brought to the conditions meeting the standards. This is one of the most popular routes to Lake Baikal in the region. Major repairs have been carried out here since 2017, in November 2022 the last section of the route was put into operation – from 98<sup>th</sup> to 114<sup>th</sup> km.

In the Republic of Mari El, 32 km of Sernur–Kazanskoye–Kuknur highway was repaired, which leads to the village of Kuknur in Sernur district. Here are the possessions of the Mari Father Frost named Yushto Kugyz. On the section from 0 to 19<sup>th</sup> km, specialists laid new asphalt concrete, strengthened roadsides with crushed stone, installed side stones and equipped bus stops.

On the same road, repairs were carried out in parallel on the segment from 31<sup>st</sup> to 43<sup>rd</sup> km. The contractor not only replaced the pavement of the

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*The full text of the editorial in Russian is published in the first part of the issue.*

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roadway and updated the culverts but completed the entire range of works aimed at improving safety: new signs and signal posts were installed at the facility, markings were applied. Earlier, in 2019, a 10-kilometer section of Sernur–Kazanskoye–Kuknur highway (from 21<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> km) was brought to the condition meeting the standards.

In Vladimir region in 2022, more than 130 km of roads were repaired as part of the national project, including those to the historical town of Murom, merchant Gorokhovets, princely Yuryev-Polsky, and Suzdal described in chronicles. In particular, 15 km of Murom–Volga highway in Gorokhovetsky district, which provides transport links to the oldest cities of Vladimir region: Murom and Gorokhovets, has been brought to the condition meeting the standards this year. The track is part of a new unique route «Epic Way». This is the path of Russian heroes from Murom to Gorokhovets, with visits to key points – Murom, the village of Karacharovo, Gorokhovets.

### ***Deliveries of urban passenger transport***

Deliveries of ground public passenger transport to urban agglomerations have been completed as part of the national project «Safe High-Quality Roads», scheduled for 2022.

In total, in accordance with the annual plan, 353 vehicles were transferred to regional carriers for operation in 9 urban agglomerations (330 buses to Astrakhan, Kursk, Nizhny Novgorod, Perm, Sochi, Ulan-Ude and Chelyabinsk agglomerations, 23 trolleybuses to Novosibirsk and Bryansk).

The implementation of the road national project in terms of modernisation of urban passenger transport makes it possible to update regional fleets with a high level of equipment wear and tear. The large-scale supply of new and convenient public vehicles directly affects improvement of quality of transportation services and increase in mobility of the population. In 2023–2024, another 808 vehicles are scheduled to be delivered to 19 urban agglomerations.

The program has been implemented by JSC «State Transport Leasing Company» (STLC) since 2020 using the leasing mechanism and state support in the form of subsidies from the Ministry of Transport of Russia. Due to co-financing from the federal budget, regional carriers lease environmentally friendly and comfortable vehicles suitable for people with disabilities at a significant discount.

The total investment in purchase of vehicles under the 2022 program amounted to 6,3 billion rubles, of which 2,7 billion rubles falls on budget funding.

Since 2020, just during two years, thanks to the federal project «Development of Public Transport», 1131 vehicles have been delivered to 19 agglomerations.

### ***Preliminary results of road maintenance and repair works in 2022 and road safety issues***

In 2022, road works were carried out at 5,9 thousand facilities of the national project «Safe High-Quality Roads», about 16,8 thousand km of roads were brought to the condition meeting all necessary standards.

The actual area of new surfacing layers exceeded 135 million square meters. About 420



billion rubles were allocated from the budgets of all levels for development of regional and local roads.

Particular attention in implementation of the national project is given to sites leading to socially significant facilities. In 2022, over 1 thousand road facilities (3,2 thousand km) leading to educational and children's leisure institutions were updated, as well as 181 sections with a length of 725,2 km leading to sports and recreation centres and 726 roads (3,6 thousand km) to medical institutes.

Thanks to the national project, new main streets, bypasses of cities are being built, artificial structures of grandiose scale and significance are being erected. So, in 2022, more than 430 bridges located on the regional and local road network were included in the work program. It was possible to make about 30 thousand linear meters fully compliant with standards instead of the planned 16,3 thousand linear meters, that is almost 2 times more.

The construction and reconstruction of sections of federal highways is also underway. In 2022, such work was carried out on 229 km of roads administered by Rosavtodor, as well as on 60,3 km of toll roads of the Avtodor State Corporation. About 300 billion rubles of federal funds were allocated for these purposes.

Today, one of the priority tasks of the national project is to reduce road accidents. By 2030, road traffic death rates should decrease by 3,5 times. To achieve this goal, measures are provided to ensure not only high-quality pavement, but also arrangement of road infrastructure elements.

To ensure safety in 2022, almost 195 thousand road signs were installed along with

about 1,4 million linear meters of barrier and more than 222 thousand linear meters of pedestrian barriers, about 2,3 thousand traffic lights and 546 thousand linear meters of stationary lighting. Over 21,6 million linear meters of marking were applied to the roadway, and more than 1,5 million linear meters of sidewalks were arranged along the roads.

In addition, to improve safety, within the framework of the federal project «System-wide measures for development of the road economy», measures were taken in 42 territorial entities to introduce intelligent transport systems. The work was carried out in 49 urban agglomerations. Funding at the amount of 7,35 billion rubles was provided for these purposes.

### ***More than half of Russians are satisfied with quality and accessibility of roads***

Thanks to the national project «Safe High-Quality Roads», development of the road network continues in Russia, and positive changes are noted by the population of the country's regions: 52 % of residents are satisfied with quality and accessibility of roads, and note improvements in the road transport infrastructure.

The data was obtained during a study conducted in December 2022 by the All-Russian Public Opinion Research Center (VTsIOM). 170 thousand respondents took part in the survey.

The respondents consider the increase in the volume and quality of road repairs, the construction of new routes and sections of roads, bridges, and transport infrastructure as the main positive changes. Citizens note the efforts of the authorities in terms of providing the population with high-quality, affordable, and safe roads







(first, through implementation of timely high-quality repairs and construction of new roads, interchanges, infrastructure).

More than half of the respondents – 54 % – noted an improvement in quality of roads within settlements over the past year, regarding regional roads this figure was of 62 %.

At the same time, 44 % of survey participants noted an improvement in accessibility of roads within settlements, and more than half of the respondents (51 %) indicated an improvement in accessibility of regional roads.

Recall that by 2030 the share of regional highways in compliance with standard condition should be at least 60 %, the share of the street and road network of agglomerations should be at least 85 %.

### ***The Russian government expanded the program for introduction of intelligent transport systems in the regions***

The government continues to support introduction of intelligent transport systems (ITS) in the regions. Such solutions make it possible to automate traffic control processes and, as a result, improve road safety. The federal budget for these purposes in 2023 provides for more than 5 billion rubles.

Government Decree amended the state program «Development of the transport system». New stages of adoption of intelligent transport systems in the cities implementing these projects, as well as their main parameters, have been added to the program.

For example, in such cities it is planned to gradually cover all public transport with information and navigation systems. With their help, people will be able to choose a convenient route and track the transport they need online. It is also planned to connect at least 85 % of traffic lights to traffic control centres. This is necessary to analyse the intensity of transport flows to

provide drivers with the optimal mode of crossing intersections and reduce congestion.

Besides, at least 60 % of parking spaces are expected to be connected to parking space management systems. This solution will help reduce traffic and make it easier for drivers to find empty parking lots.

Also, as part of the program, information boards with data on at least nine parameters should appear on the roads, including weather conditions, repair work and the situation on the roads in general. With their help, drivers will be able to choose the best route and avoid traffic jams.

Work on introduction of ITS is carried out in urban agglomerations with a population of over 300 thousand people. Now 49 cities from 42 regions take part in it, including those from Bashkiria, Buryatia, Udmurtia, Chuvashia, Yakutia, Altai, Zabaikalsky, Krasnoyarsk, Khabarovsk, Belgorod, Voronezh, Kaluga, Kemerovo, Kirov and Kursk regions.

The program has become a logical addition to comprehensive development of road transport infrastructure. Because of the significant increase in traffic in cities, new solutions were required for safety and comfort of people.

### ***The government has allocated 16,5 billion rubles to support passenger rail traffic***

16,5 billion rubles have been allocated from the reserve fund of the Government of the Russian Federation to support railway passenger companies. The corresponding order was signed by Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin.

The funds will be allocated to the owners of the railway infrastructure for providing a preferential tariff to companies that transport passengers in suburban and long-distance trains. The funds will also be used to modernise and purchase new passenger wagons.

The solution will help maintain affordable ticket prices, ensure uninterrupted rail traffic and safety of passengers.

## New law on taxi

The new Federal Law «On organisation of transportation of passengers and luggage by passenger taxis in the Russian Federation, on amendments to certain legislative acts of the Russian Federation and on expiration of certain provisions of legislative acts of the Russian Federation» introduces regulation of the activities of aggregators, their legal relations with taxi carriers and passengers. It also distributes the responsibility of participants in transportation for damage caused as a result of a road traffic accident, creates a legal basis for the work of the self-employed in the industry.

The adoption of the law became a necessity due to the fact that, until recently, the legislation had not regulated the activities of aggregators, their legal relations with passenger taxi carriers and passengers, while the aggregators have become the market driver in recent years, providing a sharp increase in the number of passenger and luggage transportation by passenger taxis. An equally important issue is distribution of responsibility, considering the emergence of new market participants.

The law is primarily aimed at ensuring protection of the interests of passengers and taxi carriers. The specification and legislative consolidation of mandatory requirements for the activities of passenger taxi carriers, taxi ordering services, the admission of self-employed individuals to provision of transportation services, as well as requirements for taxi drivers will create more favourable and safe conditions for citizens to use taxis, as well as will increase the efficiency of business entities' activities in this area.

The federal law introduces several fundamentally new provisions. In particular, it establishes the possibility of obtaining a permit for transportation by passenger taxis by self-employed persons. This will legalise the activities of drivers currently working in the «grey» zone (according to expert estimates, this concerns 25 % of taxi drivers).

For the first time, rights, obligations are defined and, importantly, the responsibility of the aggregators providing services for ordering a passenger taxi is established. In addition, a transition to a registry model for the provision of public services is planned with digitalisation of procedures for admission to transportation by passenger taxis and control over such transportation. The law provides for creation of



three regional taxi registries: a regional register of taxi ordering services, a regional register of passenger taxi carriers, and a regional register of passenger taxis. It is also planned to create a federal state information system for passenger taxis.

The law comes into force on September 1, 2023, except for certain provisions that will come into force on September 1, 2025.

## *42<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Coordinating Transport Conference of the CIS Member States*

Representatives of the transport departments of the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, associate members of the CIS CTC, as well as representatives of the CIS Executive Committee, the Eurasian Economic Commission, representatives of business-communities, international and public organisations took part in the event of the CTC, key transport organisation of CIS, that was held on Moscow.





The main attention was paid to the issues of ensuring stable operation of the transport complex in the face of existing constraints and additional challenges in 2022.

The participants considered it important to focus on removing barriers to economic cooperation, developing updated approaches to ensuring transit of goods flows, organising the transportation process along the international transport corridors of the CIS using digital services.

During the meeting, the Minister of Territorial Administration and Infrastructures of the Republic of Armenia Gnel Sanosyan was elected Deputy Chairman of the CIS CTC. Also, according to tradition, awards were presented to representatives of transport departments who participated in the meeting.

### ***Reconstruction of the checkpoint Yarag–Kazmalyar***

Cargo transport traffic was launched in the Republic of Dagestan, in a test mode, along five new additional lanes built as part of reconstruction of Yarag–Kazmalyar automobile checkpoint on the border with Azerbaijan. Additional lanes can be used both for the exit of cargo vehicles from the customs territory of the EAEU, and for entry. Now there are 11 lanes for cargo transport at the checkpoint. The possibility of passing up to 1100 trucks per day is provided.

Yarag–Kazmalyar checkpoint, which is part of the North–South international transport corridor, is the busiest on the Russian–Azerbaijani section of the state border and actually operates exceeding the designed capacity by 1,5–2 times. Due to the reconstruction project implemented by the Ministry of Transport of Russia and FGKU Rosgranstroy, the capacity of the border crossing will be increased almost three times.

The planned completion date for Phase II of the project is the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2023.

In addition, on the border with Azerbaijan, by the end of 2026, it is planned to modernise Novo-Filya and Tagirkent–Kazmalyar checkpoints, which are also part of the North–South international transport corridor. The development of ITC infrastructure will help strengthen trade and economic ties, optimise the transport and logistics system, create new infrastructure routes and increase the volume of cargo transportation between states.

### ***XII International Spartakiad of Students of Transport Universities***

The competitions were held as part of the Transport Week 2022. The solemn closing ceremony of the Spartakiad, held on November 14, 2022, at the House of Physical Education of Russian University of Transport (MIIT), was attended by Deputy Minister of Transport Alexander Poshivai, RUT Rector Alexander Klimov, representatives of the agencies subordinated to the Ministry of Transport and sports communities, students and team coaches.

The largest number of awards in the unofficial team standings was won by students at Ural State University of Railway Transport (UrGUPS) from Yekaterinburg. The second place was taken by the athletes of Russian University of Transport. The third place went to the team of the Emperor Alexander I St. Petersburg State Transport University (PGUPS).

Competitions of the XII International Spartakiad of students of transport universities were held from 12 to 14 November. More than 700 athletes took part in them. 18 teams from 11 cities of the country competed for the victory. The participants competed in 7 sports: chess, swimming, table tennis, mini-football, volleyball, basketball, and boxing.

### ***Compiled based on the news of the press centre of the Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation:***

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