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States order 7,815 buses under urban renewal mission

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Our Bureau

New Delhi, June 2 Various States have placed orders for 7,815 buses under the one-time economic funding measure by the Ministry of Urban Development to boost urban transport under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM).

The Government has so far sanctioned purchase of 14,695 buses for the various mission cities under JNNURM. According to an official release, Andhra Pradesh has placed the largest order, for 1,500 buses followed by Uttar Pradesh (1,310), Maharashtra (1,250) and Karnataka (1,100).

The orders include air-conditioned -low-floor, non-AC-low-floor, semi-low-floor and mini buses.

“West Bengal has finalised the purchase of 710 buses. Delhi has ordered 625 and Kerala 320 buses so far under the scheme,” the release said.

Under the second stimulus package announced by the Government earlier this year, it was decided that States would be provided assistance in the form of a grant under the JNNURM for the purchase of buses before June 30.

The financing is meant exclusively for city bus service and Bus Rapid Transit System for all mission cities.

“The funding of buses under JNNURM will give a boost to the automobile industry.

The funding is shared by the Centre, States and the Municipal bodies.

The size of the Central allocation depends on the population density of the recipient mission cities,” the release pointed out.