

Urban Freight and Supply Chain – The Neglected Stakeholder: An Analysis of Current Research Trends

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Abstract

The paper reviews what has been studied in area of urban freight during last two decades. A three-way approach was followed to analyse the research works. This included, the research objective, intended stakeholder and parameters/indicators used. An initial classification was done as research focused towards policy and vehicle route optimisation studies. Further we build upon these two categories by developing sub-categories within them. The parameters itself were classified in two categories – firm level and city level. Using this classification of research objectives and parameters used we identified the areas which have been studied and the areas where research gaps still exists. We conclude that firms or supply chain in the developing countries does not understand the effect of urban freight issues and regulations on them. Overall the effect has not been studied from the supply chain perspective and there may be an inherent bias towards choice of parameters/indicators.

Keywords: urban freight, supply chain, city logistics