

Chapter -6

BASIC SERVICES TO THE URBAN POOR

6.1 Introduction

The policy of Govt. of Kerala towards urban poverty is defined in Kerala Municipalities Act 1994 which provides a strong framework for an integrated and city based approach including the establishment of UPA cells in ULB's to co ordinate all poverty alleviation programmes. The state poverty Eradication Mission-Kudumbashree started in the year 1998 aims at eradicating absolute poverty within 10 years under the leadership of the Local Self Govts. The mission launched by the State Govt. with the active support of Govt. of India and NABARD has adopted a different Methodology in wiping out absolute poverty by organizing the poor into Community Based Organizations. (CBO's). The UPAD was initiating and implementing the poverty reduction programmes in Kochi Corporation and UPA Cells in Municipalities. From 1999 onwards the above two cells are merged with Kudumbashree. At State level the poverty alleviation activities of ULBs and Panchayaths are Co-ordinated and monitored by Kudumbashree.

As per the Section 284 of the Kerala Municipality Act 1994, 2% of the income of each ULB is to be spent for Urban Poverty Alleviation Programme. The ULBs are transferring such amount to the CDB annually, as its share for UPA budget. The other sources of income to the CDS for UPA activities, include the transfer from GoK under S.P.A.M.(Kudumbashree), centrally sponsored UPA programmes and institutional finance for Self Help Groups.

Exploring the multifarious possibilities of Kochi, every cross sections of people from the adjacent localities come over here because of multifold reasons, especially for employment on various organized/unorganized sectors, trade, industries, for availing better standards of living in terms of services like better transportation, electricity, water supply, education, luxury, amusements...etc. Industrial and commercial development, the modernization of the port, triggered urban migration to Kochi and unplanned urban expansion has contributed to both growth in slums and urban poor population. Growth of Kochi is also marked with the growth of slums. Mattancherry the word itself means 'slum' which is considered as one of the major slum areas known not only in Kerala but widely familiar in India itself. The shift of economic activities from the western part of Kochi to the east also accelerated poverty and growth of slums in the western part. More than 280 slums are located in Kochi in which 70% of the slums and urban poor are located in West Kochi. The suburban areas cover 32% of urban poor.

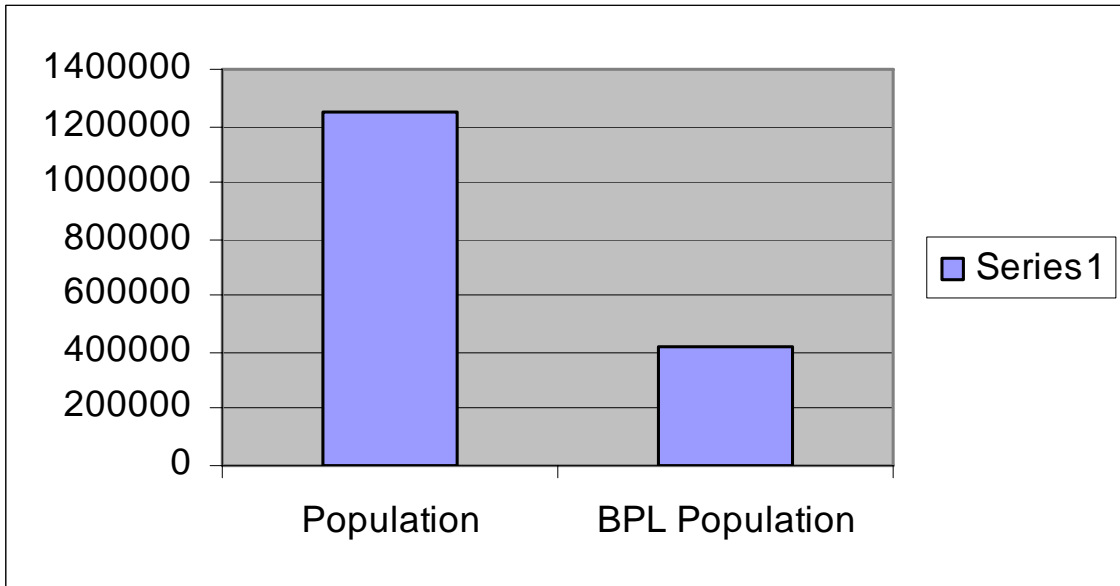
6.2 Present Scenario

Kochi Corporation, surrounding Municipalities and Panchayats (CDP Area) constitute a total BPL population of 34 Percentage. The table given below illustrates the urban poor population of Kochi Corporation and surrounding Municipalities and Panchayats.

Table 6.1 Urban Poor Population

Sl. No.	LSG	Population 2006	BPL Population	%
1	Kochi Corporation	603597	213120	35
2	Kalamassery Municipality	71941	10405	14
3	Thrippunithura	68264	8110	12
4	Kumbalam	32232	13901	43
5	Kadamakkudy	18005	10000	56
6	Cheranelloor	32919	9160	28
7	Elamkunnappuzha	59159	26280	44
8	Thirvankulam	25409	7632	30
9	Kumbalangi	31193	17595	56
10	Chellanam	42365	33090	78
11	Eloor	41620	9000	22
12	Thrikkakara	78718	18205	23
13	Njarakkal	33605	7526	22
14	Mulavukadu	26725	15870	59
15	Maradu	56455	16560	29
16	Varapuzha	28693	8400	29
Total		1250900	424854	34

Figure 6.1 Urban Poor Population



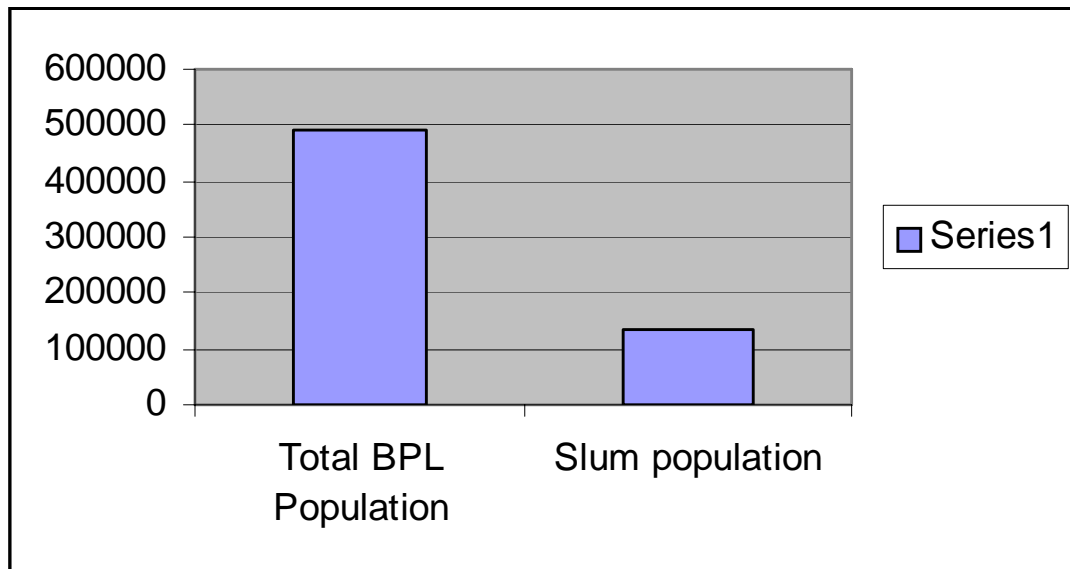
6.3 Slums in Urban agglomeration

Kochi with a population of about 603597 is the largest and most densely populated city in Kerala. About 132420 people equivalent to 32 percentage of BPL population now live in slum areas/colonies. In these areas poverty is high both in relative and in absolute terms.

Table6.2 shows the number of existing slums and location.

Location	No.of Slums	Slum population	Total BPL Population
Kochi	280	127872	213120
Urban out skirts	131	4548	276226
Total	411	132420	489346

Figure 6.2 BPL Population and Slum Population



6.4 Identification of poor families

The poor families are not identified on the basis of level of income. The Risk indicators to identify urban poor family is as follows

1. Less than 5 cents of Land / No Land
2. Dilapidated House / No house
3. No Sanitary Latrine
4. No access to safe drinking water within 150 meters
5. Women headed households
6. No regular employed person in the family
7. Socially Disadvantaged Groups SC/ST
8. Mentally retarded / Disabled / Chronically ill member in the family
9. Families without colour TV

The criteria for identifying poor families in rural areas are;

1. No Land / Less than 10 cents of Land
2. No house / Dilapidated House
3. No Sanitary Latrine
4. No access to safe drinking water within 300 meters
5. Women headed house hold / Presence of a widow, divorcee / abandoned lady / unwed mother
6. No regularly employed person in the family
7. Socially Disadvantaged Groups (SC/ST)
8. Presence of Mentally or physically challenged person / Chronically ill member in the family
9. Families with an illiterate adult member

The identified poor in urban and rural areas are organized into Neighbourhood Groups consisting of 20-40 families. At ward level these NHGs are federated to Area Development Societies and at LSG level all ADS are federated Community development society - a registered organization of the poor under Charitable Societies Act. All the poverty reduction programmes are implemented through CDS.

Figure 6.3 Kudumbashree CBO- Structure

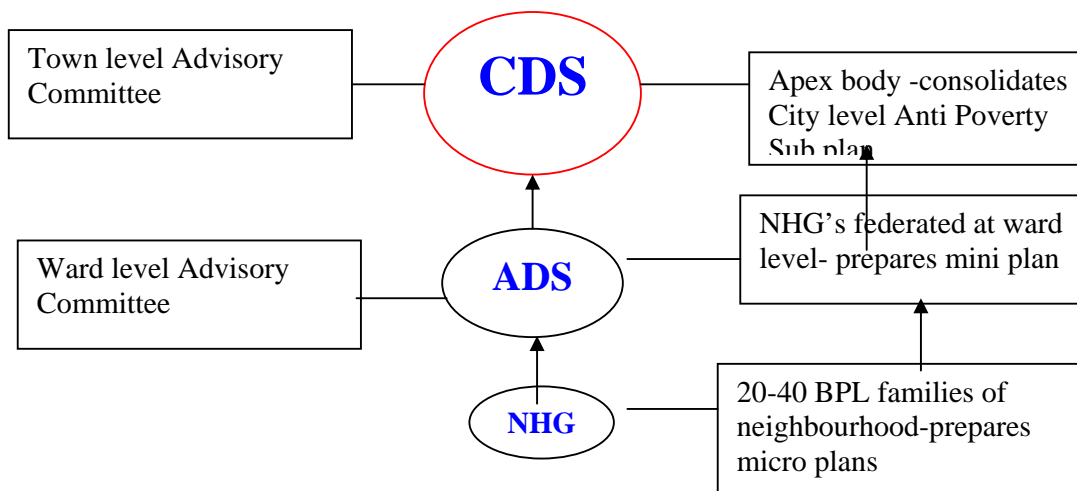


Table 6.3 Number of existing NHGs ADSs and CDSs

Name of ULB or Panchayat	BPL Families	No of NHGs	No. of ADSs	No of CDSs
Kochi	42624	1242	79	2
Urban out skirts	39286	2176	241	15
TOTAL	81910	3418	320	17

6.5. Major Poverty Alleviation Interventions:-

It was only in the late eighties that an integrated approach was formulated. Considering the magnitude of the Poor, various Welfare and poverty alleviation programmes were carried out in order to improve their living conditions. The programmes implemented in rural and urban areas are shown in the table.

Table 6.4 Programmes implemented

Sl.No.	Name of the Programmes	Central/ State/ULB/External Aid	Implemented By
1	SJSRY	Central/ State	SPEM/CDS
2	SGSY	Central/ State	Rural development
3	NSDP	Central/ State	SPEM/CDS
4	CUPRP(Cochin Urban Poverty Reduction Project funded by DFID,U.K.)	External Aid	UPAD/ULB
5	VAMBAY	Central/ State/ULB	SPEM/CDS
6	ICDS	Central/ State	Social Welfare Dept:
7	PMRY	Central/ State	District Industries Centre
8	Various Welfare programmes	State	KSWDC,BCDC,SC/ST Dept & Corpn, S.W Dept:
9	Kerala Development Plan (Poverty Alleviation is one of the major sector)	State	LSGD
10	Poverty Alleviation Programme for Mattancherry	Central/ State/ULB	CDS
11	Schemes under Kudumbashree	Central/State	LSG/CDS

The CUPR Project was aimed at securing better access for the poor of Kochi to improved services and livelihood opportunities by improving their capacity to identify needs and plans for improvement. It was a joint venture of COC and DFID. The project was implemented for the years 1998 to 2004 and the total outlay was Rs.70.76 crores.

Project Goal	Project Purpose
<i>Sustained improvements in livelihoods in Cochin and Replication of the Model throughout the State</i>	<i>Better access by the poor of Kochi to improved Livelihood opportunities and services.</i>

Components of the project.

- Infrastructure- Inslum and citywide
- Health care
- Economic development
- Land tenure
- Capacity building
- Community development
- Monitoring and evaluation

Major Achievements

- Rehabilitated 275 street children and 160 destitute with the support of NGOs

- Legal Literacy and Legal awareness given to 35000 members with the support of NGOs
- Support given to 260 destitute and mentally challenged persons through the PRS
- Possession Certificate issued to 296 families, 300 tenants converted as title holders Rehabilitated 275 street children and 160 destitute with the support of NGOs
- City wide and inslum improvement programmes.
- Strengthened CBO structure.
Rehabilitated 260 families by constructing multi dwelling units.

Poverty Alleviation for Mattancherry

A special project under SJSRY, first in India for the poverty Eradication of Mattancherry area started in 2004 with a central share of Rs.3.5 crores and state Share of 1.17 crores. The major achievements of the scheme include initiation of 77 DWCUA units, 726 USEP units, Skill training to 1056 members and renovation of 2 Govt.hospitals under UWEP.

Table 6. 5 Socio Economic Profile of Urban Poor

Employment	70% in unorganized informal sector
Sc/STPopulation	5%
Rented Accomodation	14%
Destitute/Women	30%
With acute alcoholic/Drug Addicts	25%
Without the Capacity to take 2 square meals a day	32%
Without access to safe drinking water within 15 Mts.	82%
Without Having a sanitary Latrine	60%
With Children Below 5 Years	45%
Living in Huts/Substandard Houses	85%
With no regular employment/Only one member with regular employment	93%
Street Children	2076
With an Illiterate person	20%

6.6 Challenges & Key Issues

As a first stage in the analysis, general issues facing people in urban poor circumstances can be identified. The study confirmed the range of problems facing the down trodden

- Insecurity of tenure and housing
- Poor sanitary facility
- Acute scarcity of Potable water
- Poor standards of Health & Nutrition
- Social Security-Threat faced by women headed families, most vulnerable, physically mentally challenged, bedridden, chronic ill patients and street children
- Poor standards of Education and Literacy, which has a particular impact on women and children., especially Muslim Women face particular problem because of levels of illiteracy
- Poor transportation facilities from remote slum settlements to the mainstream.
- Extremely limited employment and income earning opportunities
- Limited provision of Environmental services and infrastructure

Vision

“A city without slums by the year of 2016”

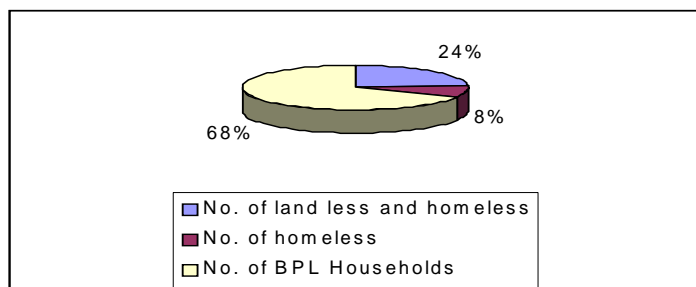
A comprehensive and sustained strategy with the participation of all stakeholders designed for the full fledged development of the potentials of the Urban poor by utilizing the existing resources to tackle

the multi fold problems related to infrastructure, environment and livelihood to equip them for future threats.

6.7 Land Tenure and Housing

Access to secure tenure and housing has been a perennial issue plaguing the urban poor.. The tenure problem of the urban poor in the city is complex in nature. Slums in Kochi are scattered all over the city and that makes it difficult to distinguish slum area from regular habitation. The exception is Mattanchery where one can see real slums. Over crowded and dilapidated buildings owned by private individuals and trusts are threats to the residents. In many cases the owners of these buildings have no other property and share the premises with slum dwellers. An analysis of the insecurity experienced by the poor clearly suggests the need to specifically target groups whose vulnerability is increased by the nature of their living arrangements. These have been identified as the homeless, landless, various types of tenants and encroachers on government and private land even on the verges of canals and roads.

Figure 6.4 No. of Land less and Home less house holders



About 90% of the housing shortage pertains to the weaker section, hence the affordable housing to the economically weaker sections and low-income category through a proper programme of allocation of land; extension of funding assistance and provision of support service is essential.

Vision

Ensure living security and shelter to urban poor in Kochi and urban agglomeration by 2016

Table No.6.6 LBwise Landless,Homeless and BPL Population

Name of ULB	No. of land less and homeless	No. of homeless	No. of BPL Households
Kochi	15000	5000	42624
Other Municipalities and Panchayaths	7000	7500	39286
Total	22000	12500	81910

TableNo6.7 Rental and Tenure Arrangements Amongst the Urban poor in Kochi

Section	Category	Population	Nature	Condition
Most Vulnerable	Home less	2000	Sleeping on Street	No Security
	Transient	5000	Renting space/bunks on nightly basis	
	Tenants	40000	Weekly/monthly tenants 11 month lease/deposit Large Multi family Dwelling Absentee landlord with middle man Slum dweller owner	
Vulnerable	Encroaches	500 1100 1000 2000	On GOI, Railway land GoK, PWD land Private trust land GoI Port Trust land	Perceived Security

		5000 10000 5000 5000 20000 100 2000	KSEB land GCDA land GoK Dept. of Revenue Dept. of Irrigation CoC land GoK Evacuee Properties WAKF Board	
Likely to less vulnerable	Secure Occupants	5000	Tenants by choice Absentee landlord	Legal Support
	Owners/ Quasi Owners	10-15000 40000	Owners without legal documents Owners making repayments Owners with legal documents	Functional Security Legal Security

Poverty Reduction Initiatives

As part of the poverty reduction initiatives of Kochi, several projects have been implemented. The Kochi Urban Poverty Reduction Project supported by the DFID during 1998-2004, NSDP and VAMBAY were major initiatives under the scheme. The details of the activities are presented below.

Table No6.8 **Activities of DFID, NSDP and VAMBAY**

Scheme	Activities
DFID	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Transferred title deed from WAKF Board to 202 families ◆ Pattayam allotted to 900 families ◆ Possession certificate issued to 296 families ◆ 218 families were given shelter under 5 projects of multifamily dwelling units. ◆ Five innovative cluster housing schemes, which seeks to overcome the stipulation of minimum land requirement under Govt. scheme. ◆ Legal literacy and legal aid through NGO's
NSDP	◆ 2497 houses constructed
VAMBAY	◆ 3565 houses constructed

Details of Centrally Sponsored Programmes upto 20/08/2006

SJSRY

Year	Opening Balance	Receipts	Expenditure	Closing Balance
2003-2004	4665350	11892302	2436784	14120628
2004-2005	14120628	10134799	13334206	12643721
2005-2006	12643721	2045628	3227334	9420154

VAMBAY

Year	Opening Balance	Receipts	Expenditure	Closing Balance
2003-2004	2399850	85390820	56845660	33710660
2004-2005	33710660	10972585	16053245	16053245
2005-2006	16053245	14627027	13085000	17595272

NSDP

Year	Opening Balance	Receipts	Expenditure	Closing Balance
2004-2005		9408749	144212	9264537
2005-2006	9264537		313172	8951365

2% UPA SAHRE : Nil

Figure 6.5 A Rehabilitation Project Under DFID



Before Rehabilitation



After Rehabilitation

6.7.1 Key Issues

- Rapid increase of migrant population
- Due to Scarcity and Soaring price of land urban poor are persuaded to stay in Puramboke lands or rental homes.
- Lack of tenure security
- Lack of land management strategy for the city
- Legal and administrative problems related to grant of pattayam
- Lack of awareness in low cost technology and tenure issues
- Dilapidated buildings in Mattancherry.
- Cost of construction and building materials are increasing
- Administrative delay, shortage of skilled staff and lack of coordination.

- Lack of land use data bank

6.7.2 Strategies

- Issue photo identity cards to Puramboke dwellers to safe guard poor families from threat of eviction without alternative rehabilitation
- Establishment of land management unit under the town planning department of Kochi
- Identification and planned use of vacant land
- Geographical Information system on land management
- Public private partnership for land development
- Conversion of slum dwellers as title holders
- Land sharing and land readjustment.
- Provision of infrastructure to start income activities in the premises of shelter.
- Provision for loan with reasonable terms as well as additional loan for the construction of a house.
- Channelize self help groups and other financial institutions to arrange credit for housing
- Promote housing co-operatives to acquire land, which will be subdivided after the project is completed.
- Construction of multifamily dwelling unit to most vulnerable homeless, landless people and occupants of dilapidated buildings.
- Cluster housing scheme for most vulnerable amongst the poor those who have inadequate land to access subsidies or loans
- Relocation of slums located in hazardous and vulnerable areas
- Co ordination with Government Departments and Trusts.
- Access to legal service related to land tenure
- Scheme for providing loans for construction of houses with reasonable pay back facilities to EWS and LIG
- Schemes for making available developed land for housing in the residential zones delineated by GCDA at reasonable cost by convergence with plan fund
- Land Bank – Plots of vacant land are acquired by the corporation and set apart for the purpose of housing to be under taken by the Co operative societies

6.8 SANITATION

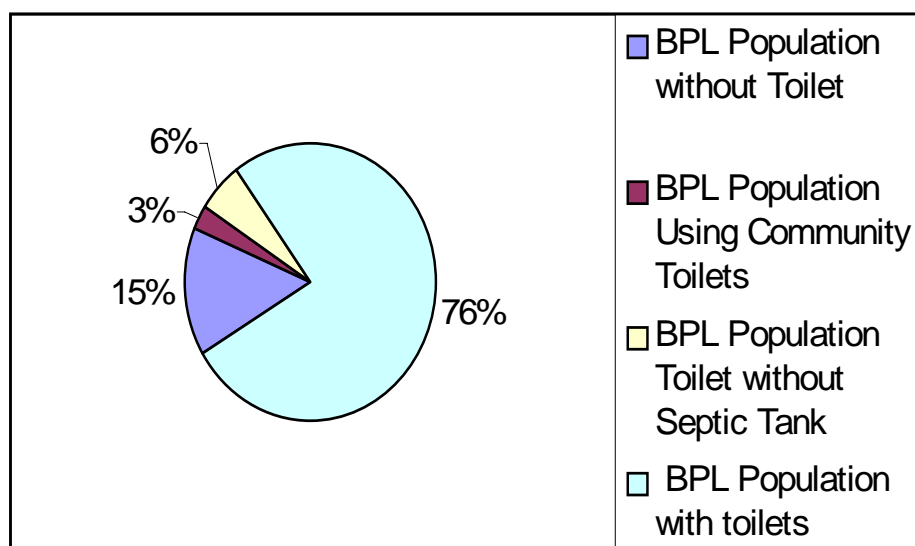
Lack of proper drainage, sewerage and toilets are major hazards in slum area. In Kochi Urban agglomeration 70 % of Urban poor families are in coastal areas and they have no proper toilet facilities. This situation creates serious issues in rainy season. The following table shows number of BPL Population without toilets in Kochi and surrounding ULBs.

Table No. 6.9

LSG	BPL Population without Toilet	BPL Population Using Community Toilets	BPL Population Toilet without Septic Tank	Total BPL Population
Kochi Corporation	40000	11500	16000	213120
Municipalities and Panchayaths	56210	8000	22750	276226
Total	96210	19500	38750	489346

Figure 6.6

No. of BPL Population without proper toilet facilities



In Kochi Corporation with the help of DFID CUPR Project it was targeted to construct 10000 individual toilets to Urban Poor. This scheme was started at the ending phase of the Project and the target is not yet completed. Only 50% of the target is achieved so far. Besides 2000 toilets were constructed under NSDP.

6.8.1 Key Challenges.

- Lack of individual toilet facilities for slum dwellers and urban poor in Kochi and surroundings.
- Many of the existing toilets are lacking vent pipe covering.
- Inadequate public toilets and community toilet facilities.
- Poor maintenance of community toilets.
- Lack of awareness among the urban poor regarding proper use and maintenance of existing toilet facilities
- Outlets of existing toilets are connected to open drainage and this creates health issues.
- Lack of space in slum households to construct individual toilets.
- Absence of sewerage system connected to slum areas.
- Inadequate and unhygienic toilets in schools in the slum areas.

6.8.2 Strategies

- Construction of community toilets/Shared toilets for 10-15 families in slums where space is not available to construct individual toilets.
- Extension of sewerage networks to slum areas and connect toilet outlets to sewerage network.
- Develop mechanism for operation and maintenance of community/shared toilets.
- Construction of individual toilets to those BPL families having space for toilet construction.
- Improvement/reconstruction of existing community toilets and individual toilets.
- Awareness programs to slum dwellers for proper use and maintenance of toilets
- Provision for biogas plants adjacent to community toilets.

6.9 Potable water

Water is one of the prime necessities of life Water shortage is a chronic problem irrespective of any area including Urban Agglomeration. The rapid development of the city in recent decades has placed an ever-increasing demand on the water supply system, the capacity of which is barely capable of meeting 50% of present total demand.

Vision

Sufficient water for all the inhabitants especially the slum dwellers by the year of 2016

6.9.1. Key Issues

- The existing water connecting pipes are leaking and dilapidated
- There exist slums without common taps
- Potable water is using for other purpose.
- Problems related to the supply of water-irregularity.
- The hardship faced by women both mental and physical hazard while fetching water
- Wastage of water from common taps
- The connecting pipe lines through drains.

6.9.2 Strategies

- Individual pipe connections to the slum dwellers.
- To promote Rain water Harvesting including storage and management.
- Develop strategy for the use of water from natural sources and To identify other sources of water for house hold purpose. (Bore wells, ponds, Backwater, Rain water etc)
- Replacement of damaged pipes from drains and improves delivery pressures at public stand posts.
- The volume for the supply of water should be standardized.
- Establishment of water usage Monitoring Committee-The Community Based Organisations can play a vital role in this regard

6.10 HEALTH

The environmental conditions in the slums and other settlement areas of the urban poor are very poor and they lack proper health care facilities. In Kochi Corporation and its surroundings, the slums and the other urban poor residential areas are prone to common diseases like typhoid, Cholera, dysentery, malnutrition, liver enlargement, gastroenteritis, tuberculosis, scabies and other skin diseases. Rapid urbanization results in the increase of health problems. Majority of the poor in urban agglomeration depends on General Hospital, Ernakulam for all their serious ailments.

Table 6.10 Methods of Treatment

Mode	Estimated population %
Allopathic	80%
Ayurveda	6%
Homoeopathic	14%

Figure 6.7

Modes of treatment

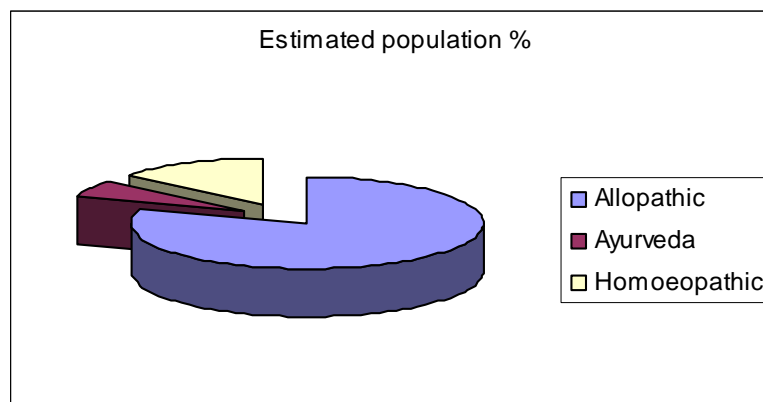


Table No. 6.11 Medical Institutions

Allopathic		Ayurveda		Homeopathy	
Hospitals	Dispensaries	Hospital	Dispensaries	Hospitals	Dispensaries
10	8	4	13	2	15

While considering the health status of the slums it is necessary to analyze the various existing health care facilities accessible to the urban poor in the area.

Compared to the urban poor population, existing health care institutions accessible to them are inadequate to meet their requirements. Studies show that health campaign Programmes are very limited in Kochi and its peri-urban areas, especially that of the urban poor. The usage of preventive vaccines is low due to ignorance. Economic instability is the major reason for malnutrition in children and women. Since a good percentage of the male among the urban poor, the sole bread winners of the family are under the wrath of such diseases it has resulted in the disintegration of these families and hence the society.

Table No. 6.11 No. of institutions in LBs

Name of ULBs and Panchayats	No. of CHCs	No. of MCW Centers	No. of Govt Hospitals (Allopathy)	No. of PHCs
Kochi Corporation		13	7	
Kalamassery mMunicipality		4		1
Thrippunithura			1	1
Elamkunnappuzha Panchayat	1			1
Njarakkal				
Mulavukadu		1		1

Kadamakkudy		4		1
Cheranellore		6		1
Eloor		5		1
Varappuzha		4		1
Thrikkakara	2	4		2
Thirvankulam		1		
Maradu		5		2
Kumbalam		6		1
Kumbalangi	1	6	2	1
Chellanam		7		2
Total	4	66	10	16

The ICDS feeding/pre school programmes for children make an important contribution to their nutritional status, reducing their risks of ill health and malnutrition increasing their learning ability and reducing the exposure of their households to treatment costs for ill health.

Table 6.12 Anganwadis

Sl. No	Name of ULB	No. of Anganwadies	Own Buildings
1.	Kochi Corporation	280	20
2.	Kumbalam	20	5
3.	Kadamakudy	13	3
4.	Cheranallor	18	4
5.	Elamkunnappuzha	8	0
6.	Thiruvankulam	13	9
7.	Kumbalangi	29	5
8.	Mulavukadu	13	5
9.	Njarackal	14	6
10.	Chellanam	8	0
11.	Eloor	20	14
12.	Maradu	30	9
13.	Varappuzha	20	1
14.	Kalamassery	15	5
15.	Thrikkakara	36	5
16.	Thripunithura	31	8
	Total	568	99

Through the CUPRP project, financial assistance was given to the victims of TB, Cancer, the Mentally challenged, and vulnerable families. The patients who need super specialty surgery and investigation were given support. Under Kudumbashree this project also trained 1200 Community health volunteers in collaboration with Amritha Institute of Medical science, and equipped them with medical kit.

Cochin Corporation started a "Blood Literacy Project" from 2002 onwards with the aim of issuing health cards to the urban population.

Sexually transmitted diseases like HIV and AIDS have emerged as an important public health problem and it is a developmental challenge. Ignorance about the diseases and its transmission and intervenal drug abuse and indiscriminate sexual behavior leads, these uneducated poor to contract these fatal diseases.

6.10.1. Key Issues.

1. Poor infrastructure in existing Govt. Hospitals PHCs, CHCs, and MCW centers, cancer detection center, Kaloore, T.B Centre Karuvelippady..
2. Lack of awareness about preventive medicines, nutrition, and other health care measures.
3. Increase of alcohol/drug abuse, STD, AIDS etc.
4. Inadequate institutions and treatment for the mentally and physically challenged persons
5. Increase in life style diseases like diabetes, Blood pressure, cholesterol etc
6. Use of contaminated drinking water.
7. Improper drainage and absence of sewage system

8. Reluctance to use alternative treatment facilities like Ayurveda and Homeopathy
9. Non Convergence of activities of various departments/bodies/ inadequate publicity to health care programmes

6.10.2. Strategies

1. Infrastructure development and adequate stock of medicines in all the existing Govt. Hospitals, PHCs, CHCs, MCW Centres, Cancer Detection Centre, Kaloore, T.B. Centere Karuvelipady, Anganwadies in the area and so on.
2. Consistent health awareness programs through advertisements, print, and visual media in selected areas.
3. Supply of free medicine for the chronically ill through health centers
4. Strengthen the CHV's with medical kits.
5. Conduct monthly medical camps and immunization programs in slums
6. Issuing health cards to all the urban poor
7. Health assistance to victims of all chronic diseases among the urban poor
8. Start well equipped mobile clinics with ambulance service
9. Strengthening the distribution of supplementary nutrition through ICDS and community health centers also include children up to three years in the Anganwadies with a minimum fee. (Considering as day care centres)
10. Convergence and Co-ordination of different community health care activities of different Govt. and Non-Govt. institutions.
11. Bring all urban poor under medical insurance scheme with an affordable beneficiary contribution
12. Enhance voluntary counseling and testing centers (VCTC) in selected areas.
13. Promoting Ayurveda and Homeopathic systems of medicines.

6.11 EDUCATION

There are several educational institutions in the city that meet its educational needs. As per data available for the year 2001, there are 119 schools within the Corporation of Kochi. This includes lower and primary schools and high schools. Majority of these institutions are run by the private agencies. Just 21 of the 119 schools in the Kochi Corporation are run by the Government. There are 22 higher secondary (including Vocational) schools in the Kochi Corporation. 10 of them are in the Government sector and the remaining 12 are run by the private agencies.

Number of Government schools in Kochi Urban agglomeration by level of class.

Table.No. 6.13 Govt. Schools

Sl. No.	Name of ULB	High School	UP School	LP School
1.	Kochi Corporation	4	6	11
2.	Cheranalloor	0	0	2
3.	Kumbalam	0	0	1
4.	Kadamakkudy	1	0	0
5.	Elamkunnappuzha	1	2	2
6.	Thiruvankulam	1	0	0
7.	Kumbalangi	0	1	1
8.	Mulavukadu	0	0	1
9.	Njarackal	0	1	1
10.	Chellanam	1	0	0
11.	Eloor	1	1	1
12.	Maradu	1	0	2
13.	Thrippunithura	1	6	1
14.	Thrikkakara	0	2	0
15.	Kalamassery	1	1	1
16.	Varapuzha	0	1	0
	Total	12	21	24

6.11.1. Key Issues

1. Lack of building infrastructure in existing schools in slum areas.
2. Increases of drop outs among urban poor.
3. Due to financial constrain reluctance for higher education.
4. Trend to close down existing schools in slum areas.
5. No modern facilities in slum schools to compete with other schools like computer labs, Edusat, school library etc.
6. Lack of basic amenities like drinking water and proper toilet facilities in schools.
7. Lack of special/skilled training along with education.

6.11.2 Strategies

- ✦ Improve the building infrastructure of the existing schools in urban agglomeration.
- ✦ Provision of basic amenities in schools like drinking water, improved toilets etc girl-friendly
- ✦ Provide facilities like computer lab, Edusat connection, School library etc. to slum schools.
- ✦ Promote higher education among the urban poor by engaging scholarships and grants.
- ✦ Strengthen continuing education centers to provide learning facility to urban poor adults.
- ✦ Strengthen the Balasabhas and Balapanchayath to promote extra curricular activities of urban poor children.
- ✦ Provide career guidance counseling in schools
- ✦ Provide Education assistance to students belong to vulnerable families
- ✦ Encourage skill training along with regular education.

6.12 Social Security

Social security measures for the most vulnerable groups like street children, street adults, destitutes, unwed mothers, beggars, abandoned women, physically and mentally challenged are the important areas for concern. Many times the poor remain in the street without any secure place to stay or sleep. Aged people are facing the problem of isolation and many are victims of dementia, depression, and other chronic diseases. Owing to the port and wider employment opportunities Kochi city, attracts a range of poor migrants who end up and sometimes remain on the street, sleeping in bus stand, railway stations, and beach and in the market. These transient groups have little capacity to help themselves to break this cycle and often remain in the street indefinitely. There are 1000 - 2000 people living under these circumstances. Bench marking survey is being conducted under Kudumbashree to identify destitute families in Kochi and surrounding LSGs. Thiruvankulam and Elamkunnappuzha panchayaths are implementing Ashraya Project.

TableNo. 6.14 Category of children at risk

	Male	Male	Female	Female	total	total
Category	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Children of sex workers	79	6.7	59	8.4	138	7.3
Migrant children	159	13.6	131	18.7	290	15.5
Street children	58	4.9	8	1.1	66	3.5
Hotel workers	207	17.6	1	0.1	208	11.1
children of slum colonies	671	57.2	503	71.7	1174	62.6
Total	1174	100	702	100	1876	100

Interventions

At present various programmes have been implemented by the Corporation and many of these activities are implemented by providing financial support to NGOs and CBOs working for the most vulnerable. It is commendable to note that Corporation of Kochi is unique in the setting up of a relief settlement for destitutes and vagrants. Presently 280 inmates are admitted in PRS. Corporation has also constructed night shelters for women, street girls, street boys, street adults and other 5 rehabilitation centers. Night shelter and shelter for

street girls, women and adult are managed by NGOs with the financial support. Pension schemes are also implemented for the most vulnerable like widows, aged and single woman above the age of 50.

6.12.1 Key issues faced by the vulnerable groups

- Inadequate food and medicine
- Inadequate shelter to destitutes and vagrant
- Lack of access to basic amenities and services
- Lack of infrastructure and other facilities in existing rehabilitation centers
- Lack of night shelter for women
- Lack of counseling and proper guidance
- Insecurity and threat from antisocial elements

6.12.2 Strategies

- ASHRAYA (Destitute Identification Rehabilitation and Monitoring) project under Kudumbashree for destitutes in Kochi and surrounding local bodies
- Need based rehabilitation programmes suitable to the needs of various vulnerable groups
- Rehabilitation centers for mentally and physically challenged people
- Education for street children and school dropouts
- Shelter for street children, adults and destitute
- Construction and maintenance of Old age homes and day care centers for the aged
- Counseling centers
- Convergence of programmes of various departments and NGOs.
- Community based rehabilitation centers and community kitchen
- Recreational centers for children, aged and destitutes
- Short stay homes
- Home placement programmes
- Housing programmes for widows and women headed families and handicapped
- Social insurance schemes including unemployment wages, insurance, income support, old age pension, sickness and maternity benefit, injury and disability benefit and access to education
- Awareness program against sex abuse
- Relocation and construction of Palluruthy Relief Settlement
- Alzheimer's care centers
- Formation of Juvenile home
- Organizing livelihood and income generation programs for vulnerable urban poor

6.13 URBAN POOR AND LIVELIHOOD

All urban poor families depend on city's economic activities for livelihood. Most of them work in unorganized informal sectors like fishing, akry collection, construction work, cloth selling or work as vegetable vendors, coolies, carpenters etc. Seasonal unemployment, irregular employment and low payment are major hazards. The informal activities mainly concentrate around major road network in the city such as road margins, foot paths, space in small market areas etc. spread all over the corporation and surrounding municipalities and Panchayaths. The major areas of informal activities in Kochi city are Shanmukhm Road, Broadway, M. G Road etc.

6.13.1 Key Issues

- Those Urban Poor families engaged in fishing occupation face the problem of seasonal unemployment. More over they face threats to potential earnings due to changing technology and depletion of fish stocks in rivers and seas.
- Non- availability of fish landing centers at suitable locations
- Non availability of commercial spaces for marketing products of micro-enterprise units is a major constrain for urban poor entrepreneurs
- Majority of Urban poor engaged in unskilled or semi skilled low paid work.
- Lack of marketing, quality checking facility to the products of urban poor entrepreneurs.
- Absence of database to co-ordinate the job opportunities available to urban poor.

6.13.2 Strategies

- Construction of low cost workspace in different slum pockets and other market areas
- Fix an affordable user charge for the work space
- Develop a data base on job opportunities suitable for urban poor with **Keralashree**-a Virtual employment exchange initiated under Kudumbashree in different employment generating sectors like sea port, Vellarpadom Container Terminal, Kochi Special Economic Zone, Info Park etc including Public/Private Sectors..
- Set up a quality checking system for the products of urban poor entrepreneurs.
- Advanced EDP Training to eligible entrepreneurs.
- Establishment of a marketing/resource/advisory centers. Major functions of the centers would be following:
 1. Provide marketing opportunities to the products urban poor enterprises
 2. Counseling to those entrepreneurs facing different constraints
 3. Standardization of prizes of products of urban poor
 4. Form a guild of urban poor who engaged in similar work and make networks with larger business groups in the field to obtain subcontracts
 5. Diversification of traditional work carried out by urban poor like fishing
 6. Organize multi purpose job clubs of skilled and semiskilled workers among the urban Poor including women.
 7. Promote new areas of income generation to urban poor like urban agriculture, fish farms, domestic animal farms, horticulture etc within urban and peri-urban areas
 8. Development of fish landing facilities

6.14 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS

The Urban Poverty Study Undertaken in late 1995 indicated that deficiencies in the city wide services such as Flood Control and Protection, In slum Transportation, Street lighting, are keenly felt by the urban poor, particularly the most Vulnerable Groups, who are least able to adopt 'coping strategies to reduce the adverse effects of inadequate provision of these services.

6.14.1 key challenges

- Flooding during Monsoon causes silting up of drainage channel and the restriction natural flow caused by accumulated rubbish in channels.
- The poorest people have no means of escape from the consequences of flooding and it presents a significant threat to health particularly for children.
- There are 37 slums in the city that are severely affected by flooding
- Dilapidated Drains and Canals
- Lack of protection walls and culverts in order to ensure natural flow

6.14.2 Strategies

- ✓ Raising and protecting canal banks.
- ✓ Construction of retaining walls wherever required
- ✓ Placing land fill in critical low lying areas
- ✓ Inserting culverts in key locations
- ✓ Major canal maintenance including de silting.
- ✓ Purchase of slum friendly adequate equipments for de silting.
- ✓ Renovation of existing Drains
- ✓ Awareness to the public on O&M.

6.14.3 Roads and Transportation

Better access of the poor to the public transport is of great significance related to their poverty. Inaccessibility leads to lack of opportunity, growth and development. One of the problems identified, related to this sector, is that the residential areas of slum dwellers are inaccessible to public transportation facilities. Dilapidated and poor roads, sub roads and bye lanes make their life pathetic.

6.14.4 Key Challenges

- Existing dilapidated roads, sub roads, bye lanes etc
- Low lying roads (flood affected)
- Poor and unhygienic pedestrian lanes
- Inaccessibility of urban poor to the work place and mainstream of the city.
- Shortage of water transportation facilities
- Lack of public transport facilities extending to slums

6.14.5 Strategies

- ✓ A demand led approach for the improvement of access to public transport.
- ✓ Realizing the geographical conditions and climate, choose appropriate technologies to build roads. (Nature of areas – riverside, coastal, low-lying)
- ✓ Develop usable inland water transport facilities.
- ✓ Ensuring the mobility of slum dwellers, Project should intervene promotion of mini bus services (Local area network), extension of existing bus routes to inner slum areas and purchase of new vehicles for public transport.
- ✓ Construction of all weather roads to the pedestrians
- ✓ Ensure people's participation in operation and maintenance of public transport

6.14.6 Electricity and Streetlights

There are urban poor families with no household electricity connection. KSEB is providing free connections to below poverty line families but many of the BPL families do not use this benefit due to financial constraints to finish wiring work. There is coverage of streetlights in Kochi city but the peri-urban areas need special attention

6.14.7 Key Challenges

- Most of the Slum Households have no electricity connections
- Lack of adequate streetlights in peri urban areas
- Existing streetlight are not working properly
- Financial constraints of urban poor to avail individual electricity connections
- Frequent voltage fluctuations in slum settlements

6.14.8 Strategies

- ✓ Promotion of solar, and bio gas technologies to produce energy
- ✓ Coverage of streetlights to all localities and scattered areas of urban poor including peri-urban areas.
- ✓ Ensuring complete coverage of household electric connections to the urban poor
- ✓ Promotion of streetlights using solar energy techniques
- ✓ Ensure electric connections in all civic amenities in slum like community hall centers, reading rooms, public health centers, community toilets etc.

6.14.9. Civic Amenities

The high density of population with limited space in slums makes the environment congested. The coordination and harmony of the people are an essential component for the smooth functioning of the society. Improved social awareness is a pre-requisite. The Social behaviour of every individual can develop through the improvement of environment and surroundings.

When analyzing a slum situation it is generally considered as the place of many social ills, all types of heterorganic amoral and asocial evils. A positive change is effective when there are accelerated improvements in the environmental conditions.

6.14.10 Strategies

- ✓ Development of existing community hall centers, community toilets, libraries, reading rooms, and other recreational centers.
- ✓ Construct parks in appropriate vacant lands in and around slum settlement.
- ✓ Construction of new community hall centers/reading rooms
- ✓ Development of new and existing plays grounds.
- ✓ Day care centers for Babies.
- ✓ Improve the condition and infra-structure of schools in slums
- ✓ Construction of new community toilets and improvement of existing ones
- ✓ Construction of Working Women Hostels
- ✓ As a part of environment improvements, promote social forestry attempts and strategies.

6.14.11 SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

The urban poor do not generate large quantities of solid waste and tend to recycle any thing of value. The remaining waste is either allowed to accumulate near their dwellings, or is thrown in any convenient drain or canal. However, there are significant hazards to slum communities in these practices. Decomposing of organic materials releases toxic gases and foul smell, plastic and other inorganic materials block the drainage channels and cause frequent health issues and flooding in rainy season. The slaughterhouses in slums dump their waste to the nearby canals flowing to river. This practice creates blocks in the flow of canal water and pollutes the environment and also creates a mosquito friendly atmosphere in the areas.

Initiatives

In Corporation and surroundings Clean Kerala Units were started to collect solid waste from households and hotels in the city through Kudumbashree units. At present there are 21 units functioning. These units are doing collection and dump this waste to common bins. In Corporation and surroundings there are very few units of biogas plants and vermi compost units. But there is no provision for segregation/ treatment.

6.14.12 Key Issues.

- City wide waste collection service does not reach most of the slums and urban poor residential areas.
- Absence of efficient and effective primary waste collection in Kochi and Surroundings.
- Lack of awareness among the urban poor regarding proper solid waste disposal.
- Open drainage, canals and vacant land become waste dumping places.
- Inadequacy of waste bins in slums.
- No provision for daily removal of waste from existing bins creates environmental pollution.
- Urban poor have limited land premises to segregate or dispose waste.
- Reluctance of slum dwellers and urban poor residence to pay a nominal collection Charges or service charge.

6.14.13 Strategies

- Provision of simple waste bins at convenient locations within the slums.
- Collection of waste by small ubiquitous collection vehicle capable of carrying up to 2.2 Cubic meters of waste and can traverse footpath not more than two meters wide.
- Door to door waste collection service to slum and urban poor residents.
- Generate employment opportunities to urban poor in collection of waste.
- Create awareness to urban poor regarding solid waste management through popular media.

- After segregated collection regular removal waste to secondary collection points outside slums.
- Affordable collection charges can be introduced to urban poor.
- Promote Provision for disposal of bio wastes in building plans.
- Promote vermi composting in house holds
- Provision for biogas plants within the slums and it will generate employment opportunity to urban poor.

6.15 Financial Plan

In order to decide the allocation of funds to the different local bodies for the projects identified for them the data collected through a workshop conducted for this purpose was utilized. Representatives of CBOs, Municipal councilors, Grama Panchayat and Block Panchayat Presidents along with their members and Project officers of Kudumbasree participated in this. Their aspirations were consolidated and based on the BPL population of each LB and their need the allocations were arrived at. The table below shows distribution of finance envisaged during the period of CDP.

Table No. 6.15

BSUP- FINANCIAL PLAN (2006-2012) Rs.IN CRORES - ULB WISE

Component	CoK	Thripu Mun	Kala Mun	Kumbalam Pt.	Kumbg Pt.	Chell Pt.	Elam Pt.	Njara Pt.	Varap Pt.	Cheran Pt.	Ellor Pt.	Thrika Pt.	Maradu Pt.	Thiruv a Pt.	Mulavu Pt.	Kada Pt.	Total
Development of Comprehensive Data Base	1.50	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	3.00
Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building	3.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	6.00
Environmental improvement of slums	29.70	1.00	1.00	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.90	1.00	0.90	0.50	0.60	0.50	39.60
Electricity and street light	9.50	1.00	1.00	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	18.00
Civic Amenities	85.00	8.00	8.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	166.00
Land Tenure and Housing	187.60	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	307.60
Social Security	35	5.05	5.05	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30	62.00
Livelihood	20	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	35.00
Health	99.50	13.15	13.15	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	158.30
Education	25.00	10.00	10.00	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	64.50
Operation & Maintenance Cost	12.25	1.50	1.50	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	25.00
	508.05	49.00	49.00	21.35	21.35	21.35	21.35	21.35	21.35	21.35	21.75	21.85	21.75	21.35	21.45	21.35	885.00

Conclusion:

34% of the total population in the CDP area falls in the BPL category. There are more than 280 slums of which 70% are in West Kochi. The key issues faced by the urban poor are insecurity of tenure, poor sanitary facility, scarcity of potable water, unsafe housing, poor standards of health, nutrition, education, social security threats, limited income and lack of social & environmental services.

Strategy includes creation of data base about the urban poor, their needs and potentials, provision of housing, ensuring security of tenure, institutional strengthening for continuous involvement in the urban poor needs and provision of social and physical infrastructure for their development. The project cost comes to 885 crores.