

Safe and secure shelter is one of the basic needs of human being and the right to shelter has been recognized as a fundamental human right in international covenants. The International Covenant of United Nations on economic, social and cultural rights, to which India is a signatory, upholds the right to adequate housing as a human right. Article 21 of the Constitution of India which defines the protection of life and personal property encompasses the right to shelter and right to livelihood also which are integral to the dignified living of the individual.

Homelessness in India has been a problem for centuries; causing the average family to have an average of five generations being homeless. Homeless or houseless are defined as- those who live in “the open or roadside, pavements, in hume-pipes, under fly-overs and staircases, or in the open places of worship, mandaps, railway platforms etc.”

At least 23 million people are homeless in India, despite the country growing in global economic stature. There is a shortage of 18.78 million houses in the country. Total number of houses has increased from 52.06 million to 78.48 million (as per 2011 census). The rise has "happened because of the liberal loan given by the banks. The census figures of 2011 show that in total, India has 78.87 million households in the country against which it has 78.48 million houses which means there is a shortage of just 0.39 million houses in the entire urban area.

To solve the housing issue of the poor people in India, Govt. of India as well as the state governments initiated so many projects. Most of the projects succeed in achieving the project goal. Even though we succeeded in the mission the no of homeless increased day by day. Urbanization of nearby villages and migration from villages from town for better life amenities and career trigger the issue of

urban houseless poor. Keeping this fact in mind Govt. of India had implemented three more housing projects for the urban houseless. All these projects helped to address the issue to some extent. But a comprehensive solution for the same has not yet been reached. Now, Prime Ministers Awas Yojana occupied the place of various housing projects to find a comprehensive solution for the issue of urban homeless.

Believing on the grass root level network and social acceptance, State poverty Eradication Mission (Kudumbashree) had been selected as the implementing agency of all these housing schemes in the state of Kerala. Implementation of these housing schemes marked Kudumbashree as one among the professionally qualified implementing agency for various centrally sponsored schemes in the country.

VAMBAY

VAMBAY stands for “Valmiki Ambedkar Aawas Yojna”. It is a central govt. sponsored programme for the slum dwellers living in different towns and cities all over the country. The target groups under the VAMBAY are all slum dwellers in urban areas that are below the poverty line including members of Economically Weaker Section (EWS) who do not possess adequate shelter. Another very important and basic amenity for slum dwellers is the lack of rudimentary toilet facilities.

Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP)

Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP) is a sub-component of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM). The duration of the Mission is seven years beginning from 2005-06. The main thrust of the sub-mission on Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP) will be on integrated development of slums through projects for providing shelter, basic services and other civic amenities with a view to provide utilities to the urban poor. In Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram and Kochi Corporations were identified for implementing BSUP. A City Development plan (CDP) would be required before the city can access mission fund. The City Development Plan of Thiruvananthapuram included 5 adjacent Gramapanchayats in addition to Corporation area. 13 adjacent Grama Panchayaths and Thripunithura, Kalamassery Municipalities are included in the City Development Plan of Kochi. Four phases of projects worth Rs.208.01 crores and three projects worth Rs.135.66 crores were sanctioned for Thiruvananthapuram and Kochi Corporation respectively. The total central share for sanctioned projects of Thiruvananthapuram and Kochi is Rs.233.56 crores.

Under this scheme, homeless poor are able to setup a reliable and decent habitat with better standard of living. By improving the habitat environment they are able to improve the social status as well as their health and standard of living

Rajiv Awas Yojana (RAY)

"Slum Free India" with inclusive and equitable cities in which every citizen has access to basic civic infrastructure and social amenities and decent shelter was

the prime aim of RAY. To achieve the goal we had concentrated on improving and provisioning of housing, basic civic infrastructure and social amenities in intervened slums. Enabling reforms to address some of the causes leading to creation of slums. Facilitating a supportive environment for expanding institutional credit linkages for the urban poor. Institutionalizing mechanisms for prevention of slums including creation of affordable housing stock. Strengthening institutional and human resource capacities at the Municipal, City and State levels through comprehensive capacity building and strengthening of resource networks. Empowering community by ensuring their participation at every stage of decision making through strengthening and nurturing Slum Dwellers' Association/Federations.

Status of Housing Scheme – Kudumbashree as SLNA

Particulars	VAMBAY	BSUP	IHSDP	RAY	Total
No of ULBs	55	2	45	6	
No of projects sanctioned	55	7	53	6	115
Houses sanctioned	32575	23577	26295	2159	84606
Project cost	121.78Cr	343.67Cr	273.32Cr	160.76.Cr	899.53Cr

To fulfill the above said goals and modernize the face of the slums in the outskirts of corporations and cities we had conducted the following implementation strategies. Identified the slums in the cities and tabulate them as notified and de notified through continuous consultation with experts and technical men, prepared comprehensive plan for rejuvenating the face and facilities within the slum. Through this scheme we are able to give wings to the housings dreams of families.

For a shelter less person, getting a house brings about a profound social change in status and welfare, endowing him with an identity and integrating him with his social milieu.

Reconstruction of existing dwellings helped to increase the confidence of the rural poor and provide them hope on better living condition.

Better standards and facilities in the habitual environment itself acting as prime factor in deciding the social status of an individual. By providing a better habitat we are able to lit up the light of hope in the future generation of urban poor.