

Dhanya John “Impact of urbanization on sustainable environment in Kerala - a study based on Thrissur district.” Thesis. Research and Post Graduate Department of Economics, St. Thomas’ College (Autonomous), University of Calicut, 2019.

Declaration

I, Dhanya John, do hereby affirm that this written account entitled **“IMPACT OF URBANIZATION ON SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT IN KERALA- A STUDY BASED ON THRISSUR DISTRICT”** is a bonafide record of research done by me under the guidance of Dr. K. M. Francis, Associate Professor (Rtd), and the co-guidance of Dr. Sabu P. J, Assistant Professor, Research and Post graduate Department of Economics, St. Thomas’ College (Autonomous), Thrissur. I also declare that this thesis has not been submitted by me earlier for the award of any degree, diploma, fellowship or any other similar title.

Place: Thrissur

Date: 08/11/2019


DHANYA JOHN

“It is a great pleasure to express my gratitude to all who supported and encouraged me for carrying out this study. I humbly place my sincere gratitude to my family and parents. Their whole hearted support and blessings have renewed me every day, all the way on the journey through my Doctor’s. I dedicate this thesis to my family”.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

*I would like to express my immense gratitude to my guide **Dr.K.M Francis**, Associate Professor(Rtd), Research and Post graduate Department of Economics, St.Thomas' College(Autonomous), Thrissur. Throughout my research study I have been fortunate enough in seeking and obtaining the persistent and enlightened guidance to enter into deeper core of my subject through my respected guide. I am indebted to him for his valuable guidance, encouragement, valuable criticism and devotion to my work.*

*I would like to place on record my sincere gratitude to my co-guide **Dr.SabuP.J**. His valuable suggestions and support towards completion of this research work are praise worthy.*

*I extend my sincere thanks to **Dr. Joy K.L** Principal,St.Thomas' College(Autonomous), Thrissur, for all the help and support provided me during my research period. I would also like to express my special thanks to **Dr. Jenson P.O** and **Dr. Ignatius Antony** former principal for their great support and encouragements to complete my research work.*

*Just a few words of thanks will not be enough to express my gratitude to **Dr.Joby Thomas Kakkassery**, Vice-Principal and Research Co-ordinator, St. Thomas' College(Autonomous), Thrissur, for his constant encouragement, sustained interest and generous assistance at every stage of my work.*

*I express my special thanks to **Dr.K.P Mani**, Professor and Head of the Department of Economics(Rtd), Dr. John Matthai Centre, University of Calicut, Aranattukara, Thrissur for his excellent guidance, valuable suggestions and constructive comments to my work.*

*I am really thankful to **Dr.K.C Francis**, Head of the Research Department of Economics(Rtd), St.Thomas' College(Autonomous), Thrissur for his constructive suggestions and support. I also extend my sincere thanks to the teachers of Research Department of Economics, St.Thomas' College(Autonomous), Thrissur for their constant support and assistance.*

I also express my thankfulness to the librarians of St.Thomas' College(Autonomous), Thrissur, Dr. John Matthai Centre, Aranattukara, Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, and KILA, Thrissur for their sincere help for reference.

I would like to place on record my sincere thanks to the officials of Thrissur Municipal Corporation and the administrative body of TMC for their support and help for my research work. I am also thankful to the government officials,

and other NGOs, from Thrissur who helped me to collect information and data for prosecuting the research study. My heartfelt thanks to all the respondents for cooperating with my primary data collection and making this research work to take this shape.

*There are no words to express my heartfelt feelings of love and thanks to my husband **Mr. Jackson N.P** for his immense support and encouragement for successful completion of my work. I am also grateful to my son **Emmanuel Jackson** and daughter **Evania Jackson**, for bearing with me and for extending their cooperation, love and adjustments, without which it would have been difficult for me to complete this work.*

*I am thankful to my parents **Mr.K.C John** and **Mrs.Gracy John** for moulding me towards research and giving all the necessary help. I am also thankful to my father in law **Mr.N. C Paulose** & mother in law **Mrs. ElsyPaulose**, my brother, sister and all my relatives for their support throughout my research journey.*

I express my thankfulness to all my friends Mr.Sasi C, Dr.Dhanya Shankar, Mrs.Anila C, Mrs.Shijitha M, Mrs.Liji Dominic, Mrs.Nisha, Mrs. Mary Francis, Mrs.Jeena and Mr.Sajesh for their constant support. I am also thankful to all my friends of various research departments of St. Thomas' College, Thrissur.

I wish to acknowledge with thanks for the services rendered by Mr.PaulyManjaly for the neat execution of my computer work.

*Above all, I am blessed by '**My Lord**', the Giver of all Wisdom and Power, who has sustained me and given me strength to carry out this work.*

Any omission in this brief acknowledgement does not mean lack of gratitude.

DHANYA JOHN

(Researcher)

“The ‘Environment’ Is Where We Live; And ‘Development’ Is What We All Do In Attempting To Improve Our Lot Within That Abode, The Two Are Inseperable”.

Our Common Future (WCED, 1987)

Abstract

Urbanization is a worldwide phenomenon in more developed as well as less developed regions. The World Urbanization Prospects in its studies revealed that the rate of urbanization is higher in less developed regions than highly developed regions of the world. Urban issues are becoming of critical importance around the world, and urbanization is expected to continue with close to half of the world's population already living in urban areas and some cities now reaching unprecedented size. The over populated Cities of India are characterized by over population and the related environmental problems which are the main contributors of health risks. The present study of the impact of urbanization on sustainable environment in the state of Kerala is an attempt to analyze the devastating effects of environmental degradation in urban areas with special attention to its health impacts on urban households. The problem of environmental degradation in the context of growing urbanization based on a detailed study of Thrissur city area specifies the attention on issues of environmental pollution and its impact on health conditions of urban people.

The study concentrated on urban Kerala exhibits the environmental degradation in urban areas of the state which ultimately influences the health and living conditions of households. The magnitude of water pollution in the state is high which pulls up the urban households to diseases/ health hazards. Due to such health issues the households have sufferings physically along with economic burden. Similarly, the magnitude of air pollution in the state is also high which produces respiratory diseases and related uncomfortable situations to households. The generation of solid waste in the state is marked as high and the wastes generated in cities are not collected and treated properly due to inefficiency in administration. The growth of motor vehicles and construction activities in cities bring air and noise pollutions and associated health hazards. It is important to note that, all these environmental issues and related health hazards are affecting more the poor or slum households rather the rich urban households.

The sustainable urban development will consider economic, social and environmental aspects simultaneously and will inherit all the resources to future generations without damage. The use of Contingent Valuation Method and Logit Regression Model implied the attitude of people and their willingness to pay for better environment conservation methods. They showed their willingness to use public transport networks to avoid noise and air pollution levels, proper waste treatment at the household and city level and are willing to conserve the existing water resources. Hence, the government authorities should adopt environment protection measures; which incorporates the support from the citizens for environmental friendly city life. This policy fructifies sustainable urban development.

CONTENTS

Chapter Number	Chapter Name	Page Number
1	DESIGN OF THE STUDY	1-14
2	THEORETICAL BACKGROUND AND REVIEW OF LITERATURE	15-59
3	TRENDS AND PATTERN OF URBANIZATION AND ITS IMPACT ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY	61-101
4	PROFILE OF THE SAMPLE CITY	103-119
5	SOCIO – ECONOMIC PROFILES AND HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS OF SAMPLE HOUSEHOLDS	121-148
6	AN ANALYSIS OF THE IMPACT OF URBANIZATION ON ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS OF SAMPLE HOUSEHOLDS	149-222
7	FINDINGS AND SUGGESTIONS	223-238
	BIBLIOGRAPHY	239-254
	APPENDIX –I	255-263
	APPENDIX –II	264

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE. No.	TABLE NAME	PAGE. No.
3.1	Proportion of Urban Population and Rate of Urbanization of the World-The More Developed Regions and the Less Developed Regions 1950 - 2050	63
3.2	Rate of Urbanization by Major Areas	64
3.3	Total Urban and Rural Population 1950-2050	65
3.4	Trends in Urbanization in India	67
3.5	Urban Rural Population Growth Differentials	68
3.6	Population of India by Sex and Residence: 2011	69
3.7	Total Number of UAs/Towns in India	70
3.8	Growth of Population of Million Plus Cities	72
3.9	Million Plus Cities in India since 1951	73
3.10	Position of India's States and Union Territories based on Percentage of Urban Population 2011	75
3.11	Sector wise Annual Growth of GSDP (at 2004-05)	77
3.12	Trends in Development Indicators, 2011	77
3.13	Population and its Growth from 1901-2011 in Kerala	78
3.14	Trends in Urbanization in Kerala 1951-2011	79
3.15	Classification and Growth of Towns in Kerala and India According to their Status	80
3.16	Trend and Pattern of Urbanization across Districts in Kerala (2011)	81
3.17	Ranking of Districts by Percentage of Urban Population in Kerala 2001-2011	82
3.18	District Wise Classification of Towns in Kerala	83
3.19	Urbanization and Growth of Slums in India	85
3.20	Number of Statutory and Slum Reported Towns in India & Kerala (2011)	86

TABLE. No.	TABLE NAME	PAGE. No.
3.21	Slums in Kerala (1985, 1996)	87
3.22	Slum Population in Kerala – 2011	88
3.23	Source Wise Drinking Water Availability in Kerala – 2011	90
3.24	District Wise Indication of Contaminated Water	92
3.25	Composition of MSW in India and Regional Variation, 2012	94
3.26	Waste Generation Scenario in Kerala – 2006	94
3.27	Solid Waste Generation in Kerala	95
3.28	Physical Composition of Solid Waste in Kerala	95
3.29	Growth of Motor Vehicles in India, 2000-2011	96
3.30	Growth of Motor Vehicles in Kerala 2008-09 to 2012-13	98
3.31	Air Quality in Important Cities in Kerala 2012-20 (Annual Average mg/m ³)	98
3.32	Summary of Health Effects of Basic Air Pollutants	99
3.33	Ambient Air Quality Standard in Respect of Noise	100
3.34	Average Noise Levels in the Metropolitan Cities	100
3.35	Effects of Noise Pollution in Human Health	101
4.1	Annual Rainfall (mm) Received in Thrissur District	104
4.2	Distribution of Towns in Thrissur District as on 31-12-2009	105
4.3	Total Number of Villages and Towns – 2011	105
4.4	Population Statistics of Kerala and Thrissur – 2011	106
4.5	Area and Density of Population in Kerala and Thrissur – 2011	107
4.6	Sex Ratio of Kerala and Thrissur – 2011	107
4.7	Cities and Urban Population in Thrissur District	108
4.8	Socio- economic Profile of Thrissur City – 2011	110
4.9	Growth of Population of Thrissur City	110

TABLE. No.	TABLE NAME	PAGE. No.
4.10	Educational Facilities in the City	112
4.11	Health Care Facilities in Thrissur City	112
4.12	Industries in Thrissur City	113
4.13	Zone Wise Water Supply Coverage of Households	113
4.14	Status of Sewerage Network and Service Levels in Thrissur City	114
4.15	Solid Waste Generation and Collection Report of Thrissur City	115
4.16	Total Number of Power Connections in Thrissur City	116
4.17	Roads and Street Lightings	116
4.18	Range of Air Quality Index and its Interpretations	117
4.19	Environmental Pollution Aspects in Two Cities	118
5.1	Name and Frequency of Sample Zones	122
5.2	Sex Wise Distribution of the Respondents	123
5.3	Age Distribution of the Respondents	124
5.4	Literacy Status of the Respondents	126
5.5	Classification of Educational Levels of the Respondents	128
5.6	Religion Wise Distribution of the Respondents	129
5.7	Marital Status of the Respondents	130
5.8	Family Size of the Respondents	131
5.9	Occupational Distribution of the Respondents	133
5.10	Wealth Possession of the Respondents	134
5.11	Annual Household Income of the Respondents	136
5.12	Annual Expenditure on Food Items of the Respondents	138
5.13	Annual Expenditure on Non – Food Items of the Respondents	140

TABLE. No.	TABLE NAME	PAGE. No.
5.14	Monthly Savings of the Respondents	141
5.15	Type of House of the Respondents	143
5.16	The Nature of Houses of Respondents	144
5.17	Availability of Water According to the Location	145
5.18	Availability of Electricity According to the Locations	147
6.1	Environmental Problems Due to Urbanization	152
6.2	Environmental Pollution at Different Income Levels of the Households	154
6.3	Biological Water Quality Criteria	157
6.4	Quality of Water According to the Locations	157
6.5	Responses Towards Water Borne Diseases	159
6.6	Name of the Water Borne Diseases Affected by the Respondents	161
6.7	Monthly Cost incurred on Water Borne Diseases	163
6.8	ANOVA (Water-Borne Diseases)	164
6.9	Total Number of Respondent Affected by Air pollution	167
6.10	Main Contributors of Air Pollution	168
6.11	Name of the Air Borne Diseases Affected by the Respondents	170
6.12	Work Loss Days (Air Pollution) of the Respondents	173
6.13	Monthly Cost incurred on Air Borne Diseases	174
6.14	Monthly Cost of Air pollution and Air Borne Diseases	175
6.15	ANOVA (Air-Borne Diseases)	176
6.16	Chi-square Test of Water and Air Pollution Diseases and Health Cost	177
6.17	Causes for Increasing Municipal Solid Waste	180
6.18	Major Sources of Solid Waste Generation in the Sample Area	182

TABLE. No.	TABLE NAME	PAGE. No.
6.19	Major Diseases Due to Solid Waste Pollution	183
6.20	Work Loss Days of the Respondents Due to Solid Waste Pollution	185
6.21	Annual Cost Incurred on Solid Waste Pollution	186
6.22	Annual Cost of Solid Waste Pollution and WLD of the Respondents	188
6.23	Major Causes for Noise Pollution	191
6.24	Health Issues Due to Noise Pollution	193
6.25	Level of Noise Pollution in the Sample Areas	194
6.26	Work Loss Days of the Respondents Due to Noise Pollution	196
6.27	The Annual Cost Incurred Due to Noise Pollution (In Rupees)	197
6.28	Annual Cost of Noise Pollution and WLD of the Respondents	199
6.29	Chi- square Tests of Solid Waste and Noise Pollution and Health Cost	200
6.30	Willingness to Pay for Improved Quality of Water in the Sample Areas	203
6.31	Bidding Amounts for Improvement in Quality of Water According to the Sample Zones	205
6.32	The Logit Regression Model (Improvement in Water Quality)	208
6.33	The Regression Model (Logit) Related to WTP for Improved Water Quality	208
6.34	Willingness to Pay for Better Quality of Air in the Sample Areas	210
6.35	Bidding Amount for Better Quality of Air According to the Sample Zones	211
6.36	The Logit Regression Model (Better Air Quality)	212
6.37	The Logit Regression Model for Better Quality of Air	212
6.38	Willingness to Pay for Better Solid Waste Management in the Sample Areas	214

TABLE. No.	TABLE NAME	PAGE. No.
6.39	Bidding Amounts for Better Solid Waste Management According to the Sample Zones	215
6.40	The Logit Regression Model (Waste Management)	216
6.41	The Logit Regression Model for Better Waste Management System	216
6.42	Willingness to Pay for Reduction in Noise Pollution	217
6.43	Bidding Amounts for Noise Reduction According to the Sample Zones	218
6.44	The Logit Regression Model (Noise Reduction)	220
6.45	The Logit Regression Model for Reduction in Noise Level	220

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE. No.	TITLE	PAGE. No.
2.1	Environmental Kuznet's Curve	20
3.1	Rate of Urbanization by Major Areas	64
3.2	Trends in Urbanization in India	68
3.3	Population of India by Sex and Residence: 2011	69
3.4	Total Number of UAs/Towns in India	71
3.5	Million Plus Cities in India Since 1951	74
3.6	Population and its Growth from 1901-2011 in Kerala	78
3.7	Trends in Urbanization in Kerala 1951-2011	80
3.8	Trend and Pattern of Urbanization across Districts in Kerala (2011)	82
3.9	Urbanization and Growth of Slums in India	85
3.10	Source Wise Drinking Water Availability in Kerala – 2011	91
3.11	District Wise Indication of Contaminated Water	93
3.12	Growth of Motor Vehicles in India, 2000-2011	97
4.1	Map of Thrissur District	103
4.2	Map of Thrissur City	109
4.3	Growth of Population of Thrissur City	111
5.1	Sex Wise Distribution of the Respondents	123
5.2	Age Distribution of the Respondents	125
5.3	Literacy Status of the Respondents	127
5.4	Religion Wise Distribution of the Respondents	129
5.5	Marital Status of the Respondents	131
5.6	Annual Household Income of the Respondents (In Rupees)	137
5.7	Annual Expenditure on Food Items of the Respondents (In Rupees)	139
5.8	Monthly Savings of the Respondents (In Rupees)	142

5.9	Type of House of the Respondents	143
5.10	Availability of Water According to the Locations	146
5.11	Availability of Electricity According to the Locations	147
6.1	Environmental Problems Due to Urbanization	153
6.2	Photographs of Water Pollution in Sample City	156
6.3	Quality of Water According to the Locations	158
6.4	Responses Towards Water Borne Diseases	160
6.5	Name of the Water Borne Diseases Affected by the Respondents	162
6.6	Photographs of Air Pollution in Sample City	166
6.7	Total Number of Respondents Affected by Air pollution	167
6.8	Main Contributors of Air Pollution	169
6.9	Name of the Air Borne Diseases Affected by the Respondents	171
6.10	Monthly Cost Incurred on Air Borne Diseases (In Rupees)	174
6.11	Photographs of Solid Waste Pollution in Sample City	179
6.12	Causes for Increasing Municipal Solid Waste	181
6.13	Major Diseases Due to Solid Waste Pollution	184
6.14	Annual Cost Incurred on Solid Waste Pollution (In Rupees)	187
6.15	Photographs of Noise Pollution in Sample City	190
6.16	Major Causes for Noise Pollution	192
6.17	Level of Noise Pollution in the Sample Areas	195
6.18	The Annual Cost Incurred Due to Noise Pollution	198

LIST OF CHART

7.1	Concept of Sustainability in Urban and Regional Development	237
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ACRONYMS

Abbreviation	Description
CDP	City Development Plan
CO	Carbon Monoxide
COI	Cost of Illness
CPCB	Central Pollution Control Board
CSP	City Sanitation Plan
CVM	Contingent Valuation Method
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
KSPCB	Kerala State Pollution Control Board
LDR	Less Developed Regions
MDR	More Developed Regions
MSW	Municipal Solid Waste
NOX	Nitrogen Oxides
SPM	Suspended Particulate Matter
TMC	Thrissur Municipal Corporation
ULB	Urban Local Bodies
WHO	World Health Organization
WLD	Work Loss Days
WTP	Willingness to Pay