7.0 URBAN POOR AND SLUMS

7.1 INTRODUCTION

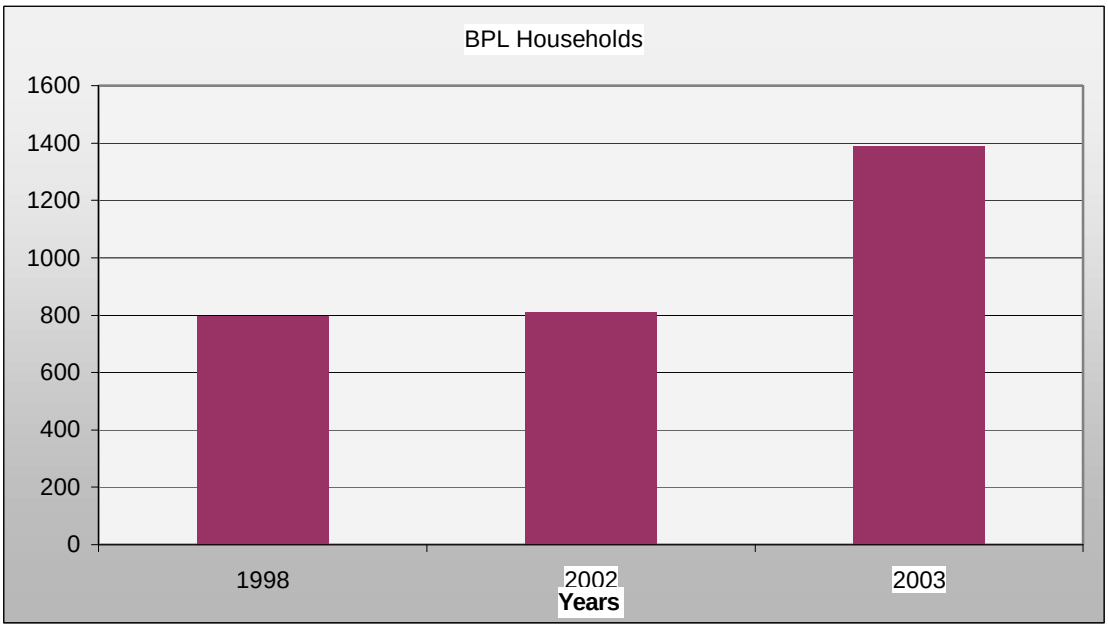
Paradox of economic growth in urban areas is the gro wing number of urban poor. In spite of Udaipur's prominent role in economy of the region, urban population and especially urban poor faces serious problems in terms of access to infrastructure, diversity of livelihood opportunities, and basic services. Inc reasing population pressure resulting in deterioration of physical environment and quality of life further aggravates the problem. In this chapter, dimensions of urban poverty and key issues for urban poor and those living in slums are discussed in detail. The dimensions of poverty and slums have been discussed in detail as part of this chapter.

7.2 DIMENSIONS OF URBAN POVERTY

Proportion of Below Poverty Line (BPL) population as compared to total population represents the most expressive form of poverty in urban areas. In Udaipur, about 2% of households are below poverty line. Recent below poverty line estimates for the city show that there are 1388 households that are below poverty line. A major proportion of urban poor lives in 58 slums that sprawls the city. Majority of urban poor are concentrated in old parts of the city, which is also the center of major economic activity and tourist center.

There has been an increasing trend in BPL households particularly between last BPL census in 1998 and the late st census in 2003.

FIGURE 7.1: DISTRIBUTION OF BPL HOUSEHOLDS IN UDAIPUR CITY



Source: BPL Survey, 1998 and 2003.

7.3 SLUM CLUSTERS IN UDAIPUR

The most recent survey on slum localities in Udaipur City was conducted by the RUIDP in the year 2002. The survey depicts that the city have 15 clusters that can be distinguished on the basis of proximity and topographical continuity. There are two large clusters – the Machla Magra (1261 households) and Mullah Talai (1237 households) and five mid-sized ones – Kishanpole (594 households), Neemach (610 households), Pichola-side (527 households), Pahada (516 households), Hiren Magri Sector 9 (431 households) and the Nehru Hostel (410 households).

7.4 SLUMS IN UDAIPUR

There has been rounds of discussions with various department involved and keep statistics on the slum situation in the city, and this proves fair amount of ambiguity in the total number of slums in the city.

A note by the Depart ment of Local Self Government, Government of Rajasthan, Jaipur, mentioned the number of slums in Udaipur city to be 48, and estimated slum population as per a 1998 survey as 50,000.
The RUIDP Project Background note explains 34 regularized and 17 non -regularized slums with about 1.19 lakh inhabitants.

A note from UIT lists 16 slum areas with 3,893 households under its jurisdiction. Another note from UIT lists 34 slums handed over to the Municipal Council by UIT in 1996 "as all persons identified as per t he 1981 survey have been benefited and development works have been completed in all chosen slums". The note goes on to say that in future all State Government rules, byelaws and regularization orders would be applicable to these areas. From the above it wo uld appear that the 34 slums presently falling under the Municipal Council are regularized and the 16 slums falling under the UIT are non -regularized (i.e. a total of 50 slums).

MAP 7.2: LEGAL STATUS OF SLUMS

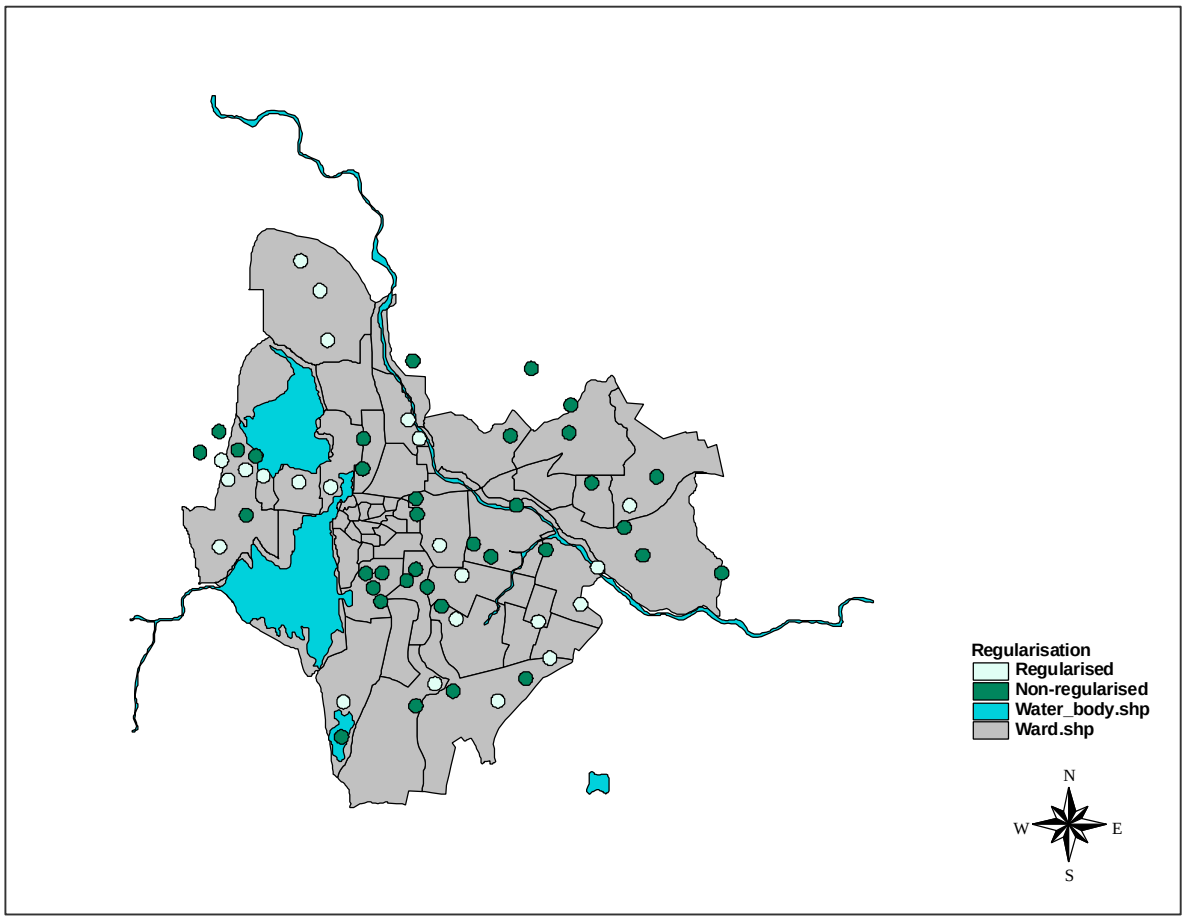


TABLE 7.1: NUMBER OF SLUMS, SLUM HOUSEHOLD AND TENURE STATUS

							Not Surveyed			
	Slum		Slum		Slum	H/Hs	Slum	H/Hs	Slum	H/Hs
UMC	42	6517	13	1837	9	1047	6	950	14	2683
UIT	16	4055	11	2980	0	0	0	0	5	1075
Total	**58**	**10572**	**24**	**4817**	**9**	**1047**	**6**	**950**	**19**	**3758**

Source: RUIDP Slum Improvement Plan, 2002.

7.5 SLUM INFRASTRUCTURE ASSESSMENT

In terms of basic infrastructure, housing is one of the basic necessities in urban areas for urban poor. In Udaipur, majority of the urban poor lives in kutcchi bastis and jhuggis, as they prefer to stay closer to work. The following table provides information related to access to basic infrastructure such as access to drinking water and drinking water sources, access to drainage and sources of lighting for the city of Udaipur. While this provides the picture for the city, it also provides an indirect indicator regarding access to these basic services by urban poor.

TABLE 7.2: ACCESS TO INFRASTRUCTURE AT HOUSEHOLD LEVEL

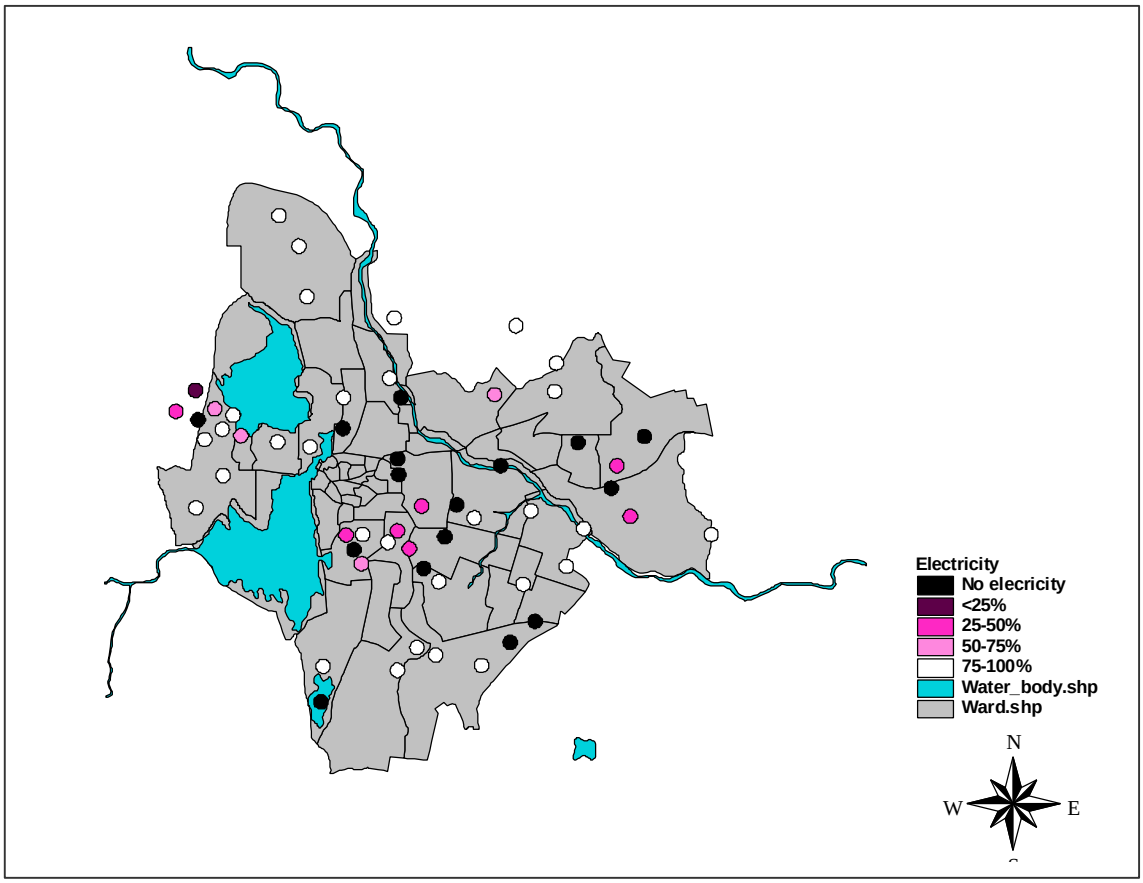
		Percentage of Households
Location of Water Source		
Within Premises	63413	85
Near Premises	7218	10
Away from Premises	3804	05
Source of Drinking Water		
Tap	56317	76
Hand pump	7046	9
Tube-well	10272	14
Wells and others	800	1
Source of Lighting		
Electricity	72274	97
Kerosene	1944	2.6
Others	217	0.4
Access to Drainage		
Closed	29022	39
Open	40047	54
No Drainage	5366	7

Type of Latrine in the House		
Pit Latrine	4273	6
Water Closet	45001	60
Other Latrine	16710	22
No Latrine	8451	11

Source: Census of Indi a, 2001.

Contrary to the above-mentioned urban households based scenario the following section discusses the access to various basic infrastructure services in the urban slums.

MAP 7.3: AVAILABILITY OF ELECTRIC CONNECTIONSIN SLUMS



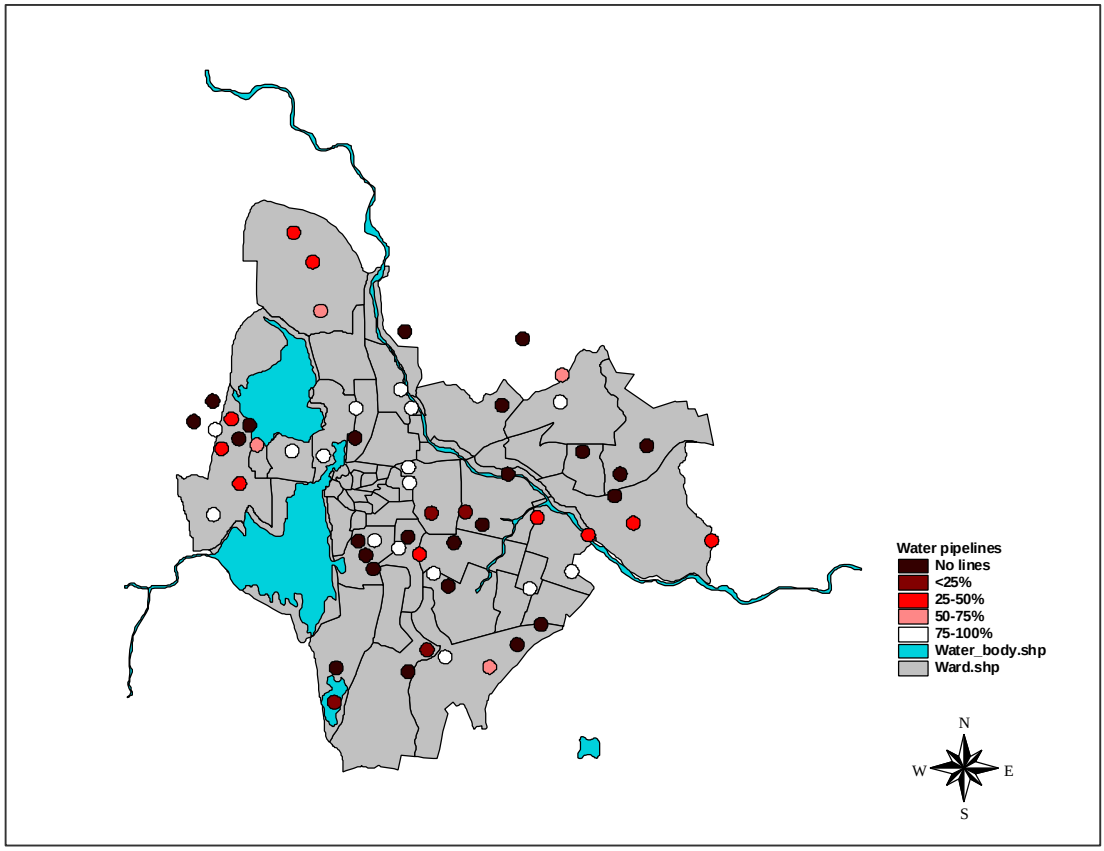
7.5.1 Water Supply

The 10,572 slum households in Udaipur (spread across 58 slums) obtain water from at least eight types of sources: legal water supply connections from PHED (33 % of all household), illegal connections (estimated at 10 %), hand pumps (perhaps 22 %), water bo ught from tankers (may be 15 %), Panghats (perhaps 10 %), PSPs and wells / private boring arrangements (perhaps 5 % each) (this is a rough estimation).

In general piped water is available to Udaipur households for two hours every alternate day.

An individual water connection appears to be considered a necessity by slum households as nearly all take connections when pipelines in their street are available. Few individual connections in a slum and dependence on Panghats / PSPs / hand pumps invariably indicates insufficient water supply infrastructure in the area. Moreover, adequate piped water supply inside the home appears to be a pre-requisite for investment in and use of private toilets, generally seen as the only satisfactory solution for sanitation needs.

MAP 7.4: AVAILABILITY OF WATERTHROUGH PIPES IN SLUMS



Lack of focus on enabling water supply connections

In general, the authorities do not appear to focus sufficiently on the great demand for individual water supply connections in slums. Thus their investment on water supply often take the form of Panghats, PSPs and Hand pumps, even though households in those areas want water connections and can pay for them.

Without an individual water connection, a slum dweller can not build a private toilet. As public toilet facilities remain unsatisfactory, most of the slum population continues to defecate in the open, leading to inconvenience for themselves and pollution of nearby water bodies. As local agencies must currently bear the maintenance costs of public facilities, that theoretically entails an additional Rs 0.7 lakhs a year spent on O&M of the public facilities.

The anomaly occurs because the water supply infrastructure is with PHED while, funds for slum development are normally spent through UMC an d UIT. They do coordinate with PHED sometimes as in giving it funds to install Panghats, but clearly this coordination is not such that slum households are enabled to obtain private water supply connections on priority (it seems advisable for Central and S tate Governments to allocate a proportion of funds meant for slum improvements directly to PHED). Bettor -off households in Udaipur nearly always dig their own bore wells to supplement the supply from PHED, but slum households are not able to do so. The con sequence of lack of individual water supply in slums is open defecation by large numbers of people, which affects the environment of the whole city.

Reportedly, almost all households in better -off colonies supplement the supply from PHED with private bori ng arrangements.

Thus in a way one can say that slum households ought to be a priority for enabling water supply connections with adequate pressure (as most better -off households in Udaipur are able to have private boring arrangements) - or atleast they should be treated on par with the better - off residents.

Public water supply facilities

The Udaipur Municipality and the PHED have developed an innovation regarding water supply, which is not found in the other two cities. They have applied the 'Panghat' scheme to slums, normally offered by the PHED only in rural areas Upto 50 families can apply jointly for access to piped water supply on approval.

It is suggested that the maintenance system suggested above be further explored rather than discontinuing P anghats as residents to PSPs and hand pumps prefer them. Hand pumps are as subject to discrete maintenance issues as are Panghats so that does not seem to be a valid enough justification for discontinuing Panghats.

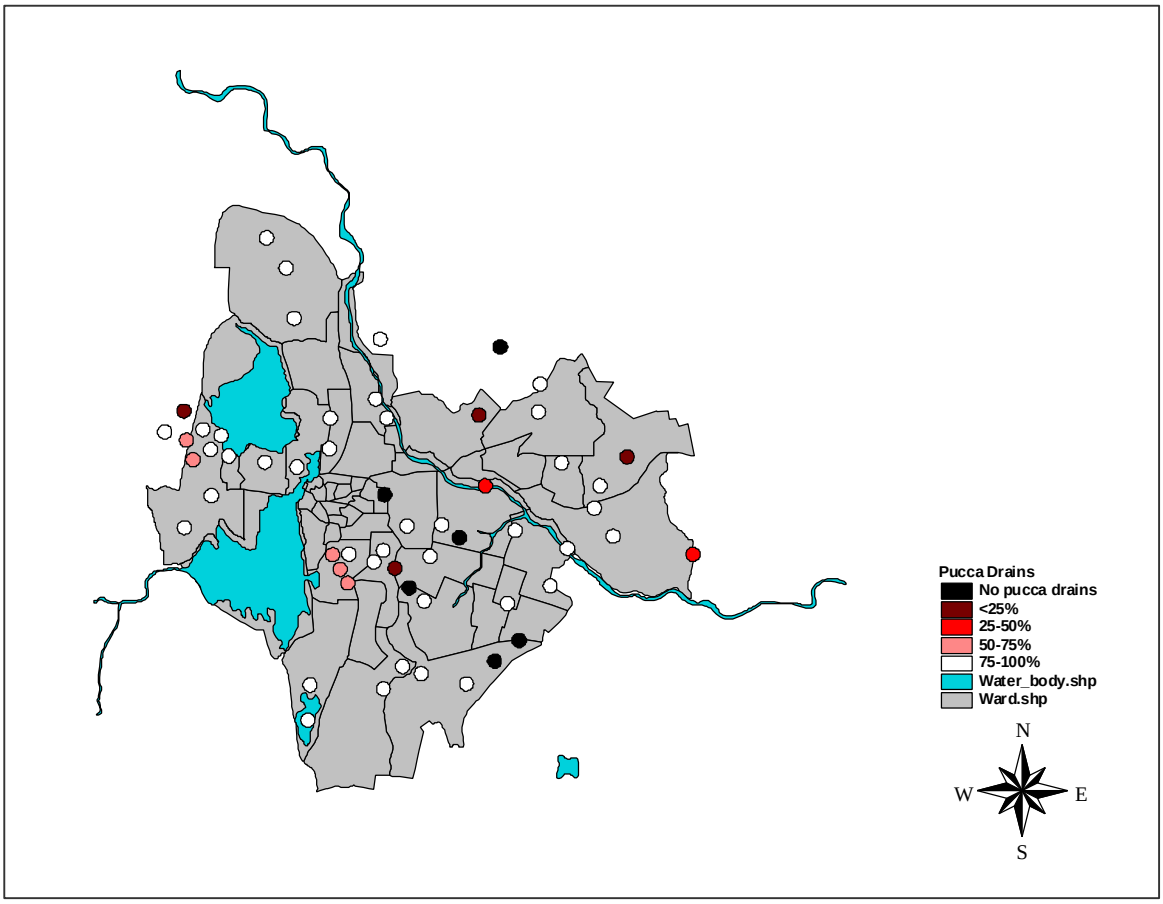
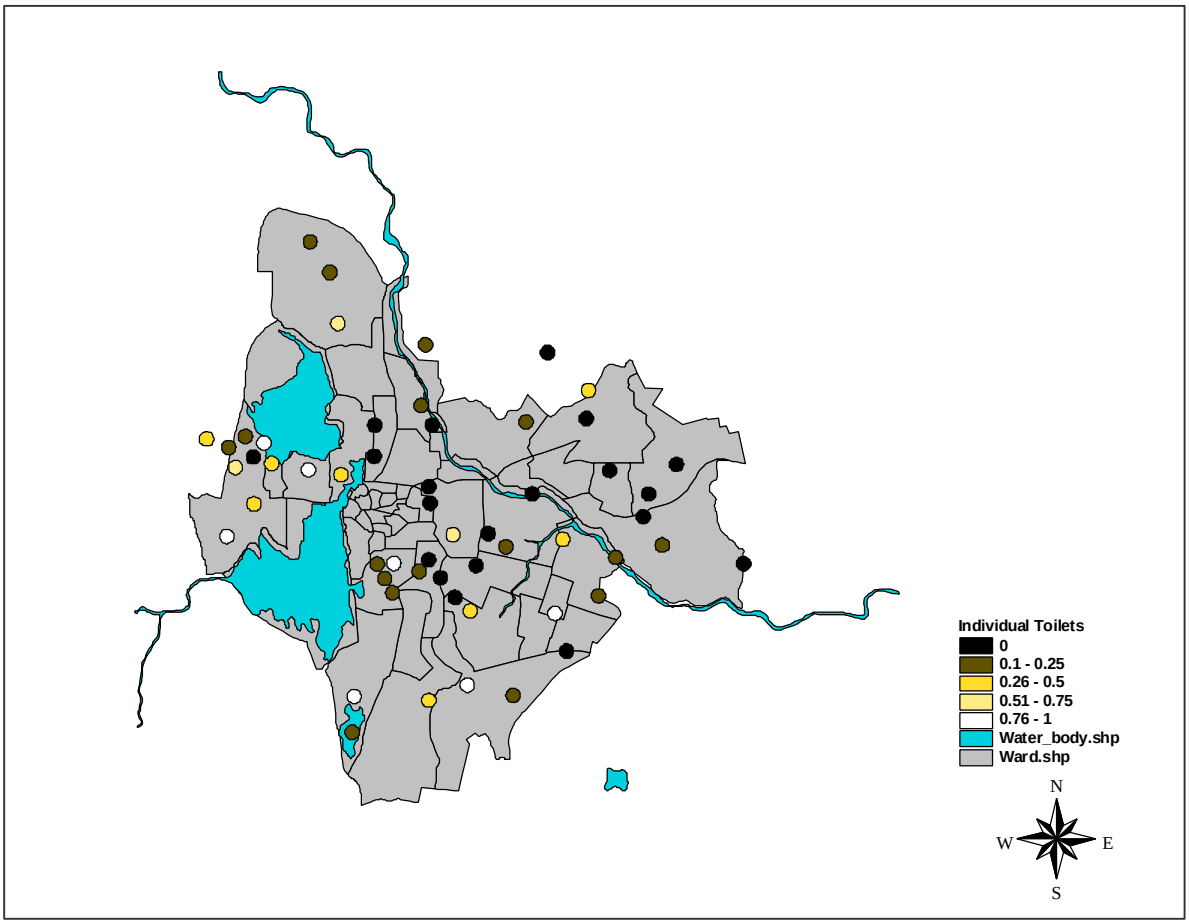


TABLE 7.3: ACCESS TO SANITATION

Parameters	Area prop. to be sewered under High Court orders	Area (out of 14 slums) where sewer cons. prop. in SIP rep.	Other areas where sewer cons. are prop. In SIP Report	Already sewered (out of 15 proposed to be sewered by SIP Rep.)	To be cover (out of 15) under RUIDP / NRCD / UIT
No. of slums	14	12	3	2	8
No. of households.	2690	2488	799	316	1562
% Households. With toilets	46%	46%	23%	53%	39%

MAP 7.6: INDIVIDUAL TOILETS IN SLUMS

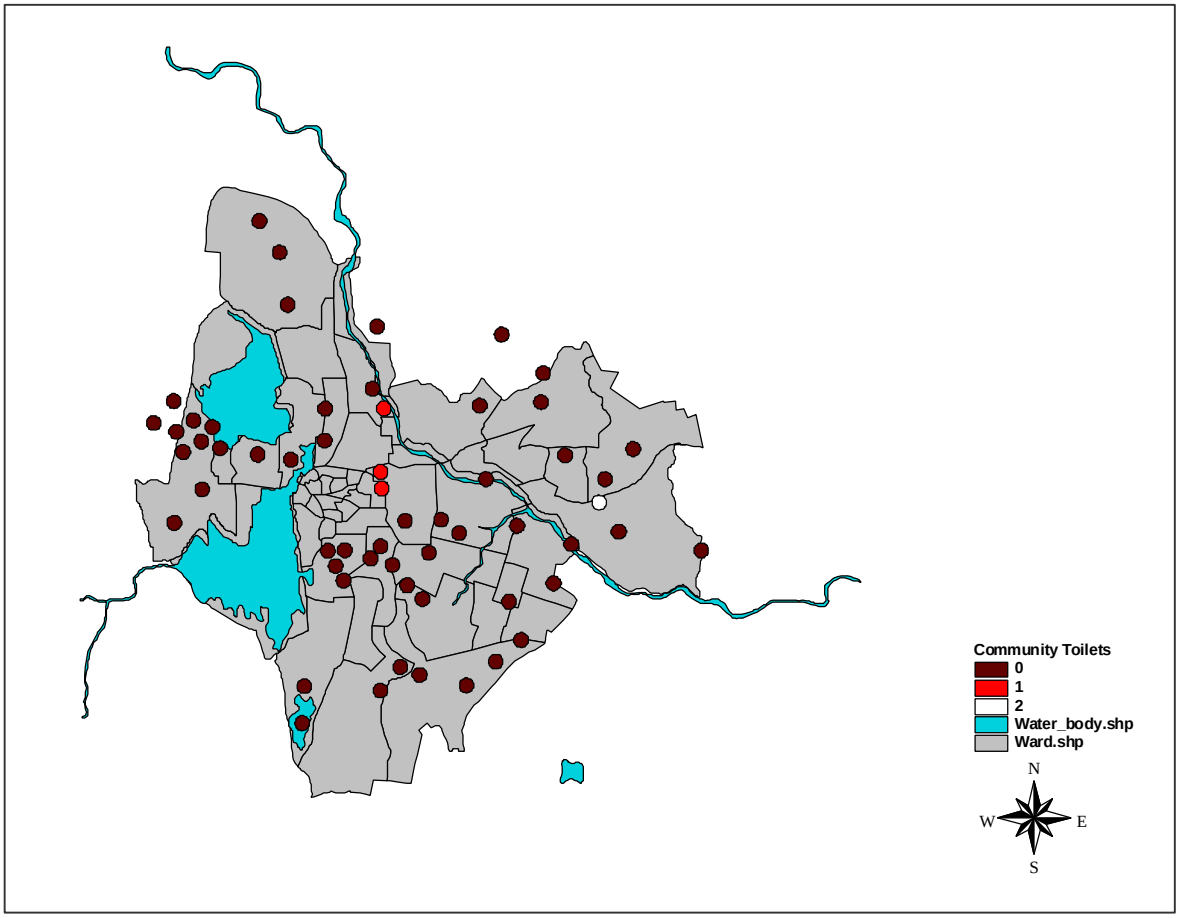


It is expected that if sewerage connections were offered in the 2971 (28 % of total slum) households as per the recommendations in this report, all households here with water supply connections would have built toilets by 2004.

7.5.3 Public Toilets

The Udaipur Municipality pays a Contractor (Sulabh International) for the maintenance of its 19 Community toilets Complexes (with a total 406 seats) and 3 urinals. Three of the Complexes are at the Municipal premises, the Bus Stand and the Court, five in slums and the rest appear to be in commercial areas. The urinals are also in commercial areas.

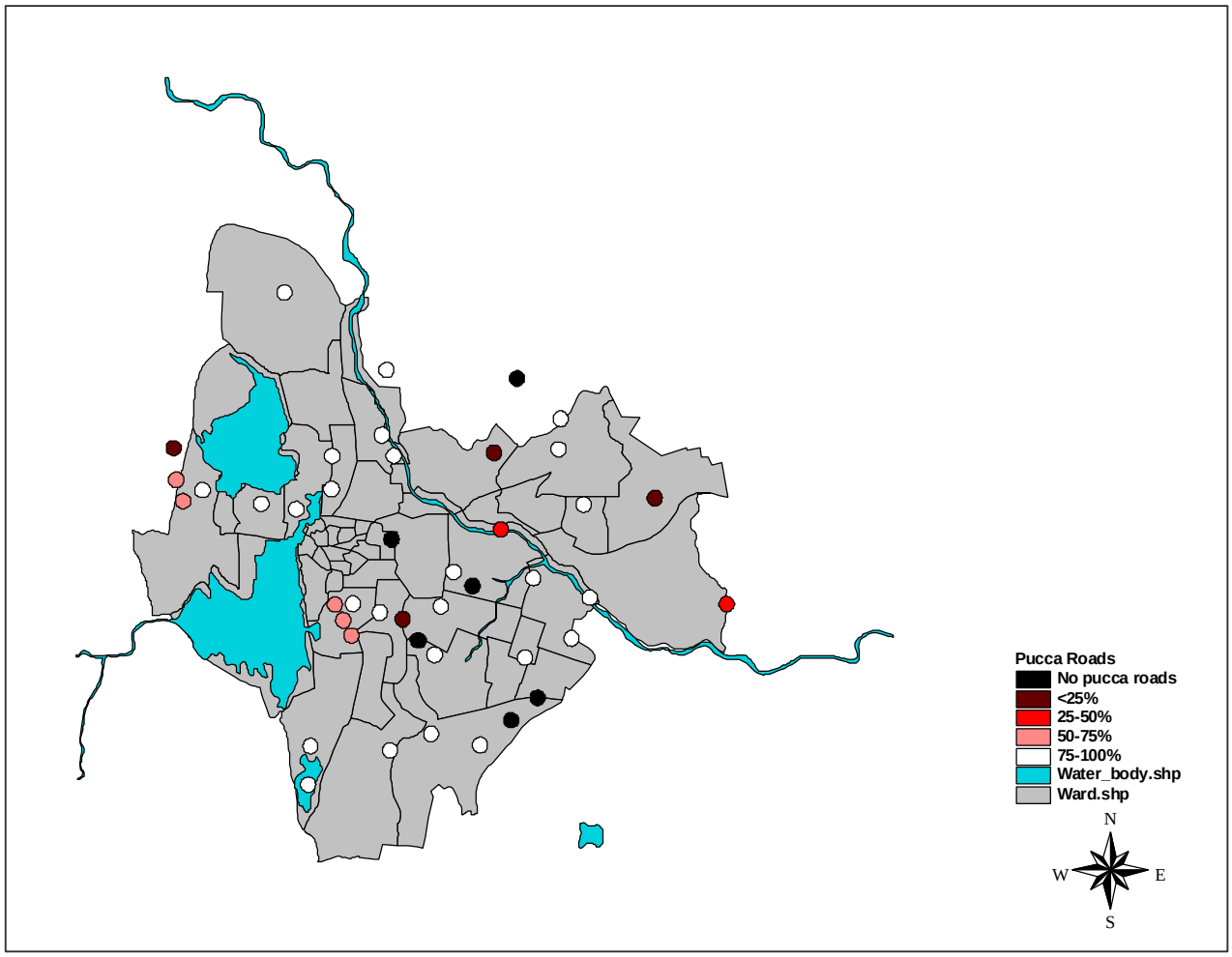
MAP 7.7 COMMUNITY TOILETS IN SLUMS



7.5.7 Roads & Drains

Roads & Drains are, inmost cases, provided. The quality of the roads and drains may not always be optimal, or they may need repairs, but they are nevertheless, usable. Compared to say, sanitation facilities, investments in the roads and drains sector have been proportionately more.

MAP 7.8: PUCCA ROADS IN SLUMS



7.6 ABILITY TO PAY

It is generally felt by planners and service providers that slum households cannot afford to pay for infrastructure costs and services. This assumption can be questioned based on the following observations.

Many slum households have piped water connections

- A Significant proportion has private toilets (estimated 27 %) with most also investing in septic tanks (cost of toilet + septic tank atleast Rs. 6,000). If piped water connections were easily available to all households and pattas had been granted to all, a much larger proportion of the households would expend in private toilets. Even those who find the cost of a septic tank in the plain area with soil (Rs. 4000-5000)

steep, say they would expend in a toilet if sewerage connections were available, as that would reduce both cost and other concerns.

- In electrified slums, it was very rare to find a household that had not taken an electricity connection (new electricity connections reportedly cost Rs. 10,000 but Government allows those living in slum areas to obtain these for about Rs. 5.000). For those not taking a connection the reason might have been poverty, but equally, the lack of a patta may have been a factor.
- It is well appreciated that households encroach on land for housing not necessarily because they are too poor to afford to pay for the land (they could for e.g. afford to buy plots on agricultural land), but because a sufficient supply of affordable and serviced small plots Is not usually encouraged by government agencies (see Discussion paper on slums dated 4.12.01). Also in the current socio-political scenario they see encroaching as a legitimate way of acquiring housing in urban areas.

Households spend on maintenance as well:

- According to PHED, slum households with legal connections pay regularly for their water (some Rs. 30 a month).
- A guess is that some 15 % of slum households purchase water from tankers weekly at a cost of Rs. 100 per week.
- Several of the slum households have metered electricity connections.