ABSTRACT

The soil survey of Kochi Corporation was carried out to ascertain the nature and causes of flooding with special reference to the type of soil and water table level.

Kochi Corporation suffers from a variety of problems, which one way or other hinder the development of this only metropolitan city in the state. Most of the problems are the result of modernization, while a few natural hazards, especially the seasonal flooding poses the most serious threat, not to mention the pollution hazards of air and water, which exceeds the threshold levels.

Flooding is a grave seasonal problem faced by the residents of Kochi corporation. Most of the residential areas are under flood waters during monsoons. Flood water often rises to the extent that thodes and roads become indistinguishable from one another. These waters carry the city garbage with it, thereby creating an unhealthy general environment which may result in outbreak of epidemics. It could be observed that flooding intensity is most serious in Ernakulam and least in Wellingdon island.

Filling up and clogging of existing waterways and paddyfields, slow to very slow run-off and high watertable are the principal flood-contributing factors, which results in water stagnation. By deepening and widening the existing water ways and by providing more drainage systems wherever necessary, flooding in Kochi Corporation area can be brought within controllable limits.