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**DESIGNING THE URBAN COMMONS THROUGH SOCIO-CULTURAL AND ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS OF NEIGHBOURHOOD ,A CASE OF ATTUKAL ,THIRUVANANTHAPURAM**

Urban commons is space of social interaction where resources are utilized by the communities. Commons are considered as the public property or those properties over which a community at large has an interest. Urban commons include community gardens, riparian edge, temple grounds and “homegrown parks.” Commons help in increasing the social interaction as well vibrancy in public realm. The encroachment of open spaces, regulating the river morphology, excessive construction along ecological sensitive area and over polluting has led to fragmentation of commons. This resulted in change of commons from active urban public realm to negative voids ,breeding ground for antisocial activities. The decommunization of the common is major strategies followed in smart city plan and restoration projects by evicting the commoners from these commons. The enclosing of Beach sides, river fronts, lakes and parks which result in space being accessible only to those who can pay, and available only for recreational use, often coupled with recreation activities which affect the existing ecological systems. The urban designers and planners has to emphasis the importance of the commons in the sustainable development of the city .The commons management plan and maintenance should be give importance in city development plan as well as Master plan prepared by the designers and planners. This thesis deals with understanding the situation of Thiruvananthapuram city with respect to the urban neighborhood commons .The mapping of the urban common of Thiruvananthapuram city is done to understand the need and requirement for the revitalization of the commons in city level as well as neighborhood level. The pervious master plan of Thiruvananthapuram had emphasized the deficiency in the green spaces accounts for 1%of total city area with respect to UDPRF guidelines of 18 to 20% of city area and also lack of river plan for management. In order to have a better understanding the need for revitalization of urban common, in depth study of Attukal region is taken for precinct study.

The Attukal region has vacant lots or underutilized spaces which can be potentially converted to urban neighbourhood common . The region mainly depend on the CBD even for the daily activities whereas commons in CBD is under pressure to feed both local community and tourists. The revitalization of urban common in Attukal region can reduce the pressure on central business district and create a neighbourhood level ecological spine for the Attukal which in turn can act city level plaza bringing more income generating opportunities for the local community. The overall impact of urbanization can be analysed by initially by understanding effect on a Attukal region through variables identified from the literature studies and suggest the revitalizing measures for regenerating neighbourhood commons of the community through communing. The thesis help in creating design solutions for these underutilized commons in Attukal region. This thesis deals with common typology in neighborhood context and reimaging it for creation of inclusive, equitable and sustainable neighbourhood. The revitalization measures involves networking of urban neighbourhood commons, user based design solutions and local economy improvement. The thesis develop Attukal temple premises as both cultural and ecological centre for the city which promotes the social interaction as well as live hood for the local community. The temple ground is connected to other urban common through killi river which act as an ecological spine or blue green corridor. This corridor creates a series of networks linking various common into urban fabric and acts as a recreation as well as fitness network for the neighbourhood. The civic common in the region is also developed to induce community interaction which in turn creates an inclusive and equitable neighbourhood. The Attukal region help to demonstrate the legitimate utilization of urban neighbourhood common which can result in improving the socio ecological and economical background of the neighbourhood.

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