

SEPTIC TANK IN THANE



Fig 1. Man going to defecate in the open on army training grounds.



Fig 2. The streets of the slum at Lokmanya Nagar.

The slums at Thane, were found to be very large and was found to be very interesting in terms of the spaces that were created. Most of the houses in the slum have been given toilets under the Swaach Bharat Mission.

Since there was no way that S.A. could provide drainage lines in this area due to its steep slopes which is why septic tanks have been used as a solution. However, since the streets in the settlements are extremely narrow, there is no way to place prefabricated septic tanks as it is difficult to transport them and instal them in the settlement. Due to these factors the people used to defecate at the open in the army training grounds where the people used to go despite the risk of being shot by bullets.

Although, the streets are mostly paved streets and are fairly clean, the settlement of Shastri Nagar and Lokmanya Nagar have been engaging in a lot of papad making which was found all over the street.

The community toilets in the area were also found to be pay and use wherein each family paid ₹30 for the toilet for a month. Most Community toilets were found to be isolated from the slum and hence there was a need to build their own toilets in the community.



Fig 3. The dynamics of housing in a slum and the high rise apartments



Fig 4. Water Stand Post used by the community.



Fig 5. Papad making at Thane.



Fig 6. Building of the toilet, using brick masonry.

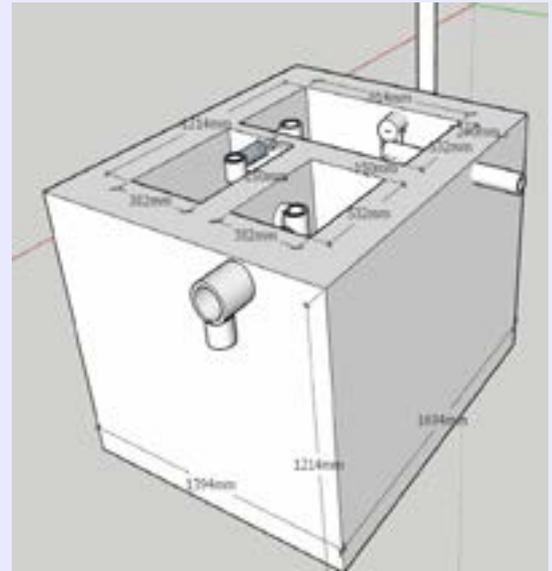


Fig 7. 3-D representation of the septic tank made in Thane



Fig 8. The map of the existing drainage line, Lokmanya Nagar.

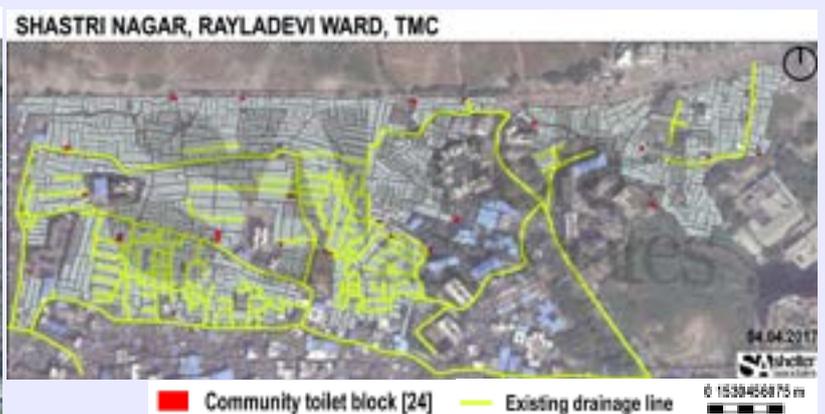


Fig 9. The map of the existing drainage line, Lokmanya Nagar.

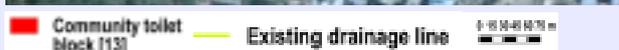


Fig 8. The map of the existing drainage line, Lokmanya Nagar.

The making of the septic tank is done with the help of brick masonry. It has three part storage system which helps in keeping the septic tank from being drained out for longer duration.

Earlier there was a lot of user load on the community toilet block in Thane. For example; there are 13 C.T.B's in Lokmanyanagar despite which 110 household used to defecate in the open area shown in Fig 10.

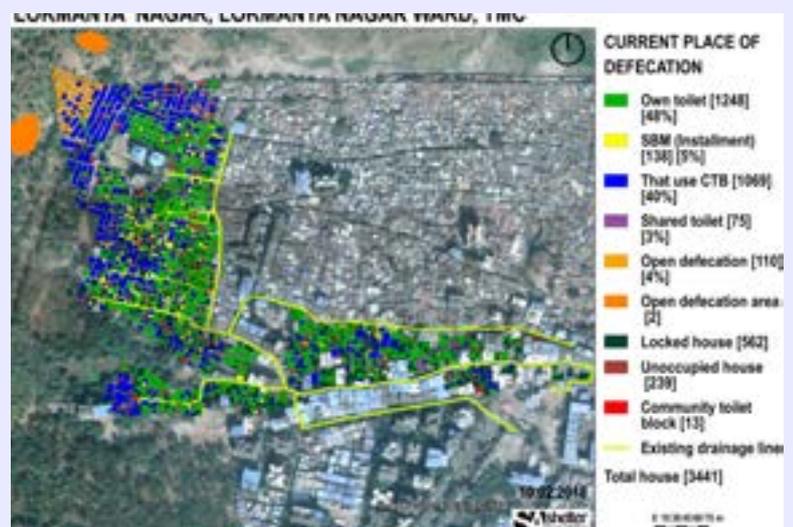


Fig 10. Area of Lokmanya nagar where open defecation happens.



Fig 11. Toilets which are used to wash utensils.



Fig 12. Unconventional public spaces that are used for various purposes.



Fig 13. Telecommunication tower that is being used for drying clothes and used to keep plants and water drums.



Fig 14. Vijaynagar Slum during the evening hours without any light in the lanes.

There is very little space in slums for community gather however, there are certain spaces that have been created which can be used as community spaces.

The lanes are as wide as 2m and as narrow as 0.8 m.

There is a telecom tower which as you can see from (Fig 13.) has been used to dry clothes and keep water drums and some potted plants which also add a certain character to the space and also perhaps becomes the congregational space for the community during meetings.

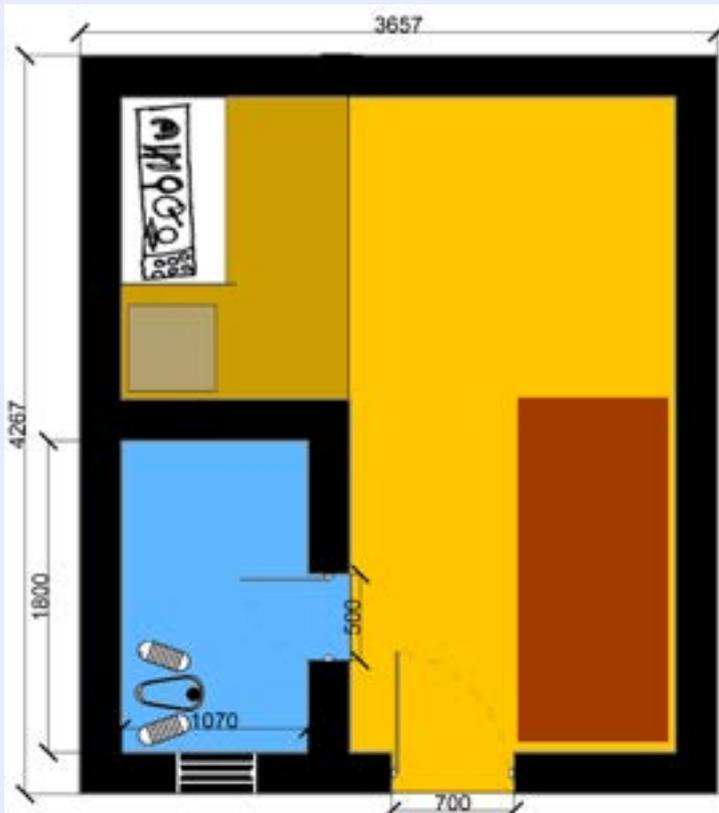


Fig 15. Plan of the House number 548, Lokmanya Nagar



Fig 16. Toilet at the house used to store a lot of thing.

House No. 548.

The house is 12ft by 14ft. There are 5 people who live in this house. They own a lot of utensils and vessels, them being placed next to the toilet block is something that is interesting in most case since it is breaking two taboos with one stone. However, it was found that the men of the house still use the Community toilet block.



Fig 17. Plan of House 545, Lokmanya Nagar.

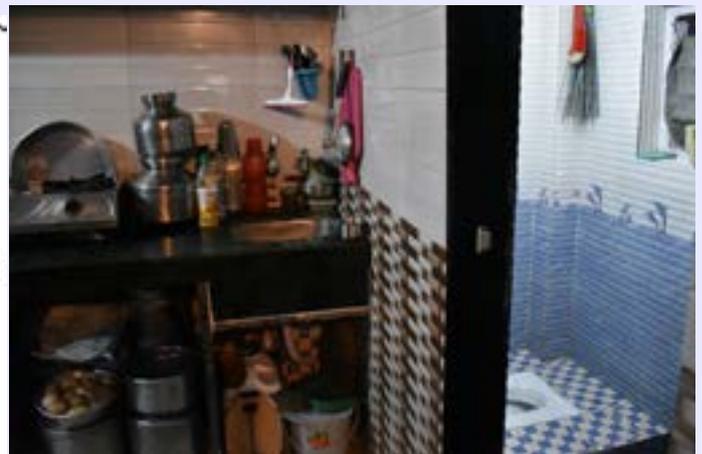


Fig 18. Toilet at House No. 545 used next to the kitchen with minimal bathing area.





Fig 19. Plan of House No. 1250 at Shastri Nagar, Thane.



Fig 20. View of the kitchen with separate toilet and bath area recently completed.

House No. 1250

The house built decided to build the toilet and the bathroom separately. The house is also new which is why they haven't fixed a door yet to the bathroom only the toilet has a door. The house is 15.4 ft by 15.4 ft and their toilet is 80 cm by 1.2 m and the bathroom is 1.2 m by 1.2 m. The bathroom is often used as a multifunction space and as an extension of the kitchen.

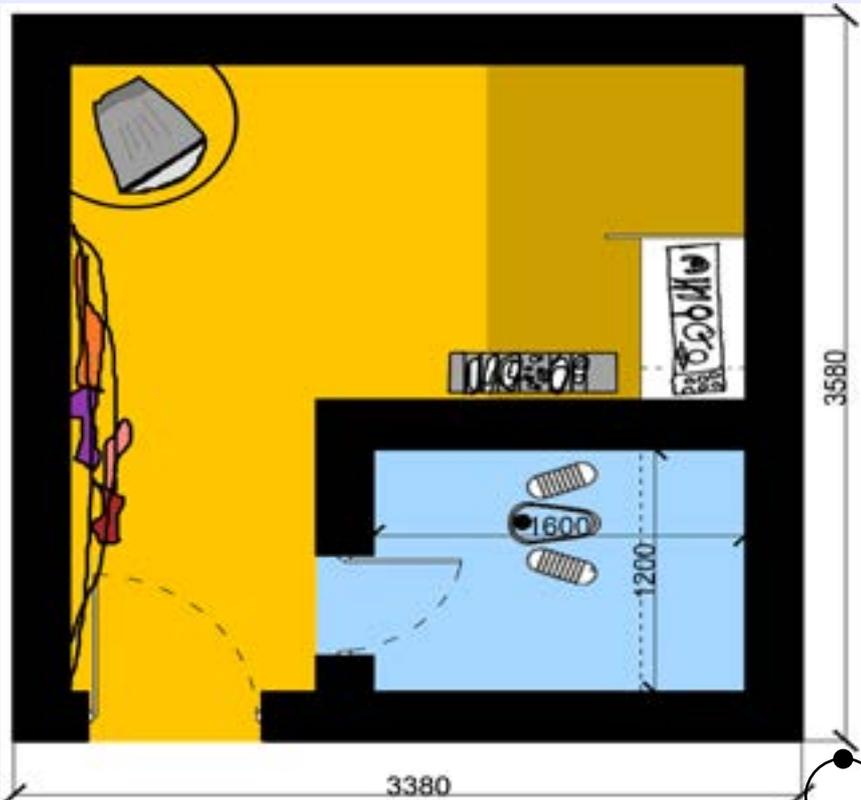


Fig 21. Plan of House No. 416 at Vijay Nagar, Thane.



Fig 22. Toilet that has a staircase cutting through at House No. 416 at Vijay Nagar, Thane

The **House No. 416** is a house which has the toilet at the threshold of the entrance of the house. The house is 3.3m by 3.5 m and the toilet is 1.2m by 1.6m. While there is a staircase that is taking over that space for about 0.6 m. The house no. 377 is a very small house of 2.7 m by 2.4m which has a toilet of 1.5m by 0.8 m at the door where there is a small platform used as a kitchen which is used for cooking food.

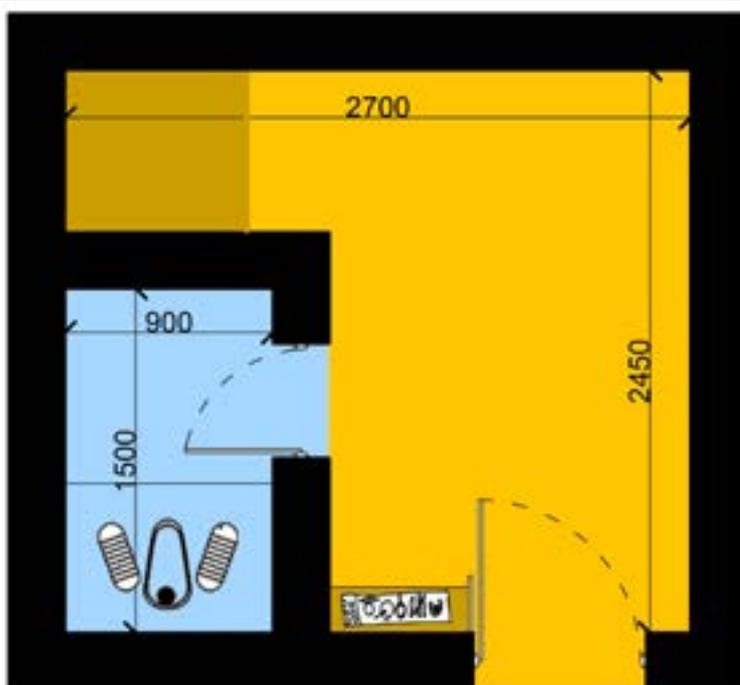


Fig 26. Plan of House No. 377, VijayNagar, Thane.



Fig 27. The toilet at VijayNagar house 377being so cramped that one could not capture the entire house from the inside.

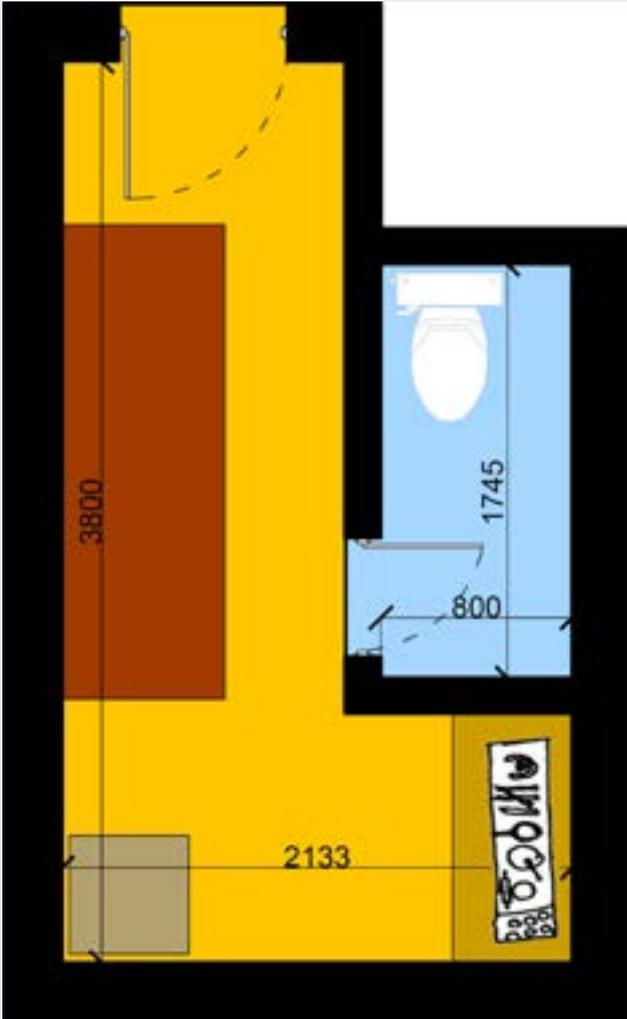


Fig 23. House No. 287 at Vijay Nagar, Thane.

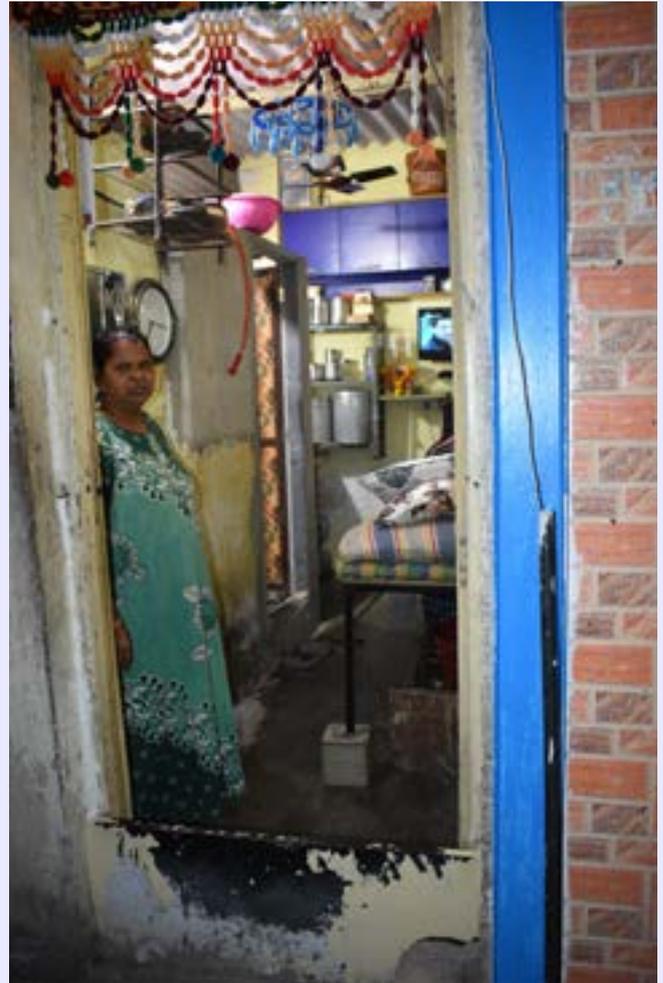


Fig 25. The view of the House No. 287 from outside.



Fig 24. The toilet at the House No. 287 and how they have invested for a W.C rather than an Orissa Pan

House No. 287 at Vijay Nagar, has 4 women who stay in the house. The family comprises of one widowed woman and one of them has a hip problem due to which the family has invested in getting a W.C instead of an Orissa Pan design.

The house is 3.8 m by 2.1 m with a toilet of 1.7m by 0.8m where in there is one bed beside the bathroom and where two people sleep under the bed at night. The kitchen is at the corner of the room which is 1.0m wide.