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Corporation Budget to Focus on Feeder System for Metro Rail

The budget of the Kochi Corporation for the year 2014 which will be pre-sented soon after this year's State Budget is expected to give special focus on devel-oping feeder system for the Kochi Metro Rail.

This is the first budget of the Corporation after the commencement of Kochi Metro Rail works and ac-cording to a top Corporation official, this year's budget is crucial as there are certain infrastructure projects that need to be completed along with the Metro Rail project.

“The projects like widen-ing of the South Railway Over Bridge (RoB), widening of Thammanam-Pullepady Road, construction of Atlantis RoB, Goshree-Mamangalam Road and re-construction of PVS culvert are some of the key proj-ects that needs to be com-pleted along with the Kochi Metro Rail.

Meanwhile, the Pachalam RoB is another major project. Hence

the Corporation will have to include provisions for these projects in the budget,” the official said. Meanwhile, some of the key proposals mooted in last year’s Corporation budget are yet to be materialised.

The formation of the Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority (UMTA) as an umbrella body to regulate the traffic issues of the city, construction of new sewage treatment plants, mini sewage plants and anti-mosquito programmes with the support of the Vector Control Research Institute were some of the key proposals in the last year’s budget.

The Corporation is also planning to launch road development schemes using modern technologies, but failed to carry the plan forward. Even the suggestions mooted during the Road Conclave held two years back were not implemented. Another non-starter is the upgradation of the existing facilities and the development of the Solid waste Treatment Plant at Brahmapuarm.

The Corporation had also promised in its annual budget a sewerage treatment plant, which will be set up in West Kochi. Another allocation for West Kochi was the preparation of Study Report for Edakochi Sustainable Development Project.

“The non starters are likely to be included in this year’s budget. the main focus will be on infrastructure development,” the official added.