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Corp to issue smart cards to BPL families

KOCHI: The Kochi Corporation Council which met on Saturday has approved a scheme to issue `smart cards' to members of the Below Poverty Line(BPL) families, under the National Urban Health Mission.

Holders of the smart cards will get insurance coverage for meeting hospital expenses. Under the scheme, each eligible family can avail a maximum benefit of Rs 30,000, annually.

The facility will be available at all government hospitals, all ESI hospitals and selected private hospitals. The smart cards will be issued by United India Insurance Company.

“Members of the family can avail themselves of a total reimbursement of Rs 30,000 annually, either individually or collectively.

The project will be implemented with the help of the Kudmabasree units,” said Mayor Mercy Williams.

The Council has also passed a resolution to entrust the construction of the Goshri-Mamangalam road, the Pachalam flyover, the Thammanam-Pulleppady road, the Ponnuruthy railway overbridge and the Atlantis railway overbridge with the Kerala Roads and Bridges Corporation.

These projects are included in the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM).

Construction of the Panampilly Nagar flyover, the Island-Kanhangad bridge and the Rajaji Road-Gandhinagar railway overbridge will also be entrusted with the Kerala Road and Bridges Corporation. The preparation of the detailed project reports of these projects is progressing,” the Mayor said.

She also said that the Corporation would take the necessary steps to remove all the unauthorised hoarding in various parts of the City.