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## **Mayor promises basic amenities**

Special Correspondent

COIMBATORE: The sanctioning of Rs.118 crore by the State Government on Monday was timely and this will help in providing basic amenities to the multi-storeyed tenements being constructed for people living in the slums on water bodies in the city, Mayor R. Venkatachalam said. Thanking the State Government for the sanction of the funds, the Mayor said the Government and the Coimbatore Corporation wanted the construction of the tenements under the Basic Services for Urban Poor scheme to be speeded up in view of the World Classical Tamil Conference in June.

The scheme aimed at turning Coimbatore into a slum-free city, he said.

Mr. Venkatachalam said 2,904 tenements of 297 sq ft each were being constructed at Rs. 68 crore at Ukkadam and 1608 tenements of 261 sq ft were being built at Rs. 50 crore at Ammankulam under the scheme.

To be made into housing colonies for the urban poor, these areas would have storm water drains, underground sewers, drinking water supply lines, street lights, tar roads and parks. The Government had sanctioned funds on Monday to provide these amenities, the Mayor said. Bio-metric survey of the beneficiaries had been done in a couple of wards to prepare a database of their details. On completion of the construction of the tenements, the beneficiaries would be asked to move out of the water bodies they had encroached.

The construction of these multi-storeyed tenements was to ensure that the encroachments were removed and the water bodies rejuvenated under another scheme.

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Written by Administrator

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The housing scheme was one of the nearly 10 infrastructure projects the Corporation would implement under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission. It was being implemented at an outlay of Rs. 443 crore.