

Coming: Colonies for construction workers

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CUTTACK: To ensure better living conditions for construction workers and their families, the Cuttack Municipal Corporation (CMC) has decided to build colonies for them. The CMC has decided to construct two colonies initially.

"We have requested the collector to provide us at least one acre of land each at CDA and Jagatpur area. The majority of construction workers reside in these areas so the colonies can immensely benefit them," CMC commissioner Gyana Das, said.

"It is often seen that construction workers and their families live in precarious conditions at construction sites only as they cannot afford house rent. Our aim is to provide rented house to them at affordable rates. These two colonies will be exclusively meant for masons and construction workers," Das added.

The CMC has decided to construct multi-storied structures which will have both dormitories and apartments. Each of the colonies can accommodate around 100 people. CMC officials said construction workers living alone in the city can opt for dormitory facility while those with family can avail individual apartments.

"We will charge nominal rent from these construction workers. Besides, we will create proper drinking water and toilet facilities at the colonies," said a CMC official.

The civic body has plans to start the project by the end of this year and complete it within six months.

The civic body aims to spend around Rs 1.5 crore on the project. Officials claimed the CMC will seek financial help from state

construction workers' welfare board for the project. Though the civic body has planned the ambitious project, it is yet to ascertain the total number of construction workers residing in the city.