

Mayawati announces housing scheme for urban poor

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Mayawati Tuesday announced a housing scheme for the urban poor, envisaging construction of 100,000 houses a year.

Mayawati said the first phase of the 'Manyavar Kanshi Ram Shehri Awas Yojana' - named after the founder of her Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) - would cover all the 70 district headquarters in the state. The houses would be equipped with electricity and drinking water connections, while approach roads would also be built.

The chief minister said 1,500 houses would be built in large districts and 1,000 in the smaller ones. The second phase would cover cities which have municipal councils, and the next will focus on towns.

Mayawati said destitute widows, physically challenged people and those belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes would be given preference.

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