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## **Solid waste management scheme progressing, says Corporation**

Special Correspondent

COIMBATORE: The Rs.96-crore Integrated Solid Waste Management Scheme of the Coimbatore Corporation is well on course, according to Corporation Commissioner Anshul Mishra.

“The scientific closure of accumulated waste at the compost yard at Vellalore was on and the work on creating a landfill site for the disposal of non-biodegradable waste is over,” the Commissioner said. The works to establish a facility to convert biodegradable waste into manure had begun. Two out of the four transfer stations had been completed.

Garbage collected from houses or shops would first be offloaded at the transfer stations. From there, it would be taken to the Vellalore yard.

The works were on from two ends – primary collection and disposal – because both should be in place if waste disposal had to be complete.

The purpose of segregating waste at source would be defeated if the composting and landfill facilities were not established. At the same time, disposal would become difficult if waste was not segregated at the point of generation (houses and commercial establishments).

Therefore, the Corporation had already created nine model wards in the city to try out source segregation. Bins to biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste separately had been distributed and conservancy workers assigned to these wards had been trained to propagate

the message of segregation.

“The first phase of awareness creation the model wards is over. We plan to intensify it with volunteers from schools and colleges,” the Commissioner said. “The model wards are a testing ground for the scheme. We intend to identify the problems in the implementation of all components of the scheme and rectify these. In three to four months from now, we will launch an intensive drive in the other 63 wards in the city,” he said.

The Corporation had tied up with the Karl Kubel Institute of Development Education at Mangarai near the city to provide orientation to conservancy workers.