

## **Material for Indo French Joint Working Group**

An Indo-French Joint Working Group on Urban Development was set up with the French side lead by Head of International Affairs in the Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure, Tourism and Sea of Government of French and the India side lead by Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development. The mandate of the Working Group is to foster active cooperation in the field of water supply, sanitation, solid waste management and urban transport. The order constituting the Joint working group at annexure "I"

So far six sessions of the Indo-French Joint Working on Urban Development have been held. The last session of the Joint Working Group was held on 21/9/2009 in Paris. The progress of MoU between National Building Construction Cooperation (NBCC) and Bureau de Recherches géologiques et minières (BRGM) was reviewed. Both the sides expressed their desire for further co-operation in the field of sustainable urban development.

The first "Indo-French Seminar on Cooperation between States and Regions and Local Authorities - Local Governance, Sustainable Management and Regional Development" was held in New Delhi during 15-17 January, 2010 as a part of 'Bonjour India' which is the festival of France in India. The purpose of the Seminar was to enable French territorial authorities meet their counterparts at all levels (Central, State and Local) in order to encourage better exchange of ideas in respect of governance systems; intensify existing Indo-French decentralized partnerships (10 decentralized cooperation arrangements as of now); facilitate interaction with French territorial authorities in implementing new multi-player decentralized development, country and town planning, training of elected local representatives; public private partnerships, etc. One of the purposes of the seminar was to work out partnership arrangements between Indian and French cities. Officials and Elected Representatives both from the French and Indian side attended the Seminar.