

INDO-JAPAN WORKING GROUP ON URBAN DEVELOPMENT

In pursuance of the Joint **Statement Towards Japan–India Strategic and Global Partnership** announced by the Prime Ministers of Japan and India in December, 2006, inter-alia, referring to the launching of working groups by the two countries in the field of urban development, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Japan on cooperation in the field of Urban Development was signed on 1.5.2007 at New Delhi. MoU was signed by Minister of Urban Development on behalf of Government of India and Minister of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, Government of Japan on behalf of Government of Japan. The Working Group be co-chaired by the Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India and Vice-Minister for Engineering Affairs, Ministry of Land Infrastructure and Transport, Government of Japan. There are separate Sub-Working Groups on Water Environment, Urban Development and Urban Transport. The Sub-Working Group deal with the subjects listed below:

- 1) **Sub-Working Group on Water Environment**
 - Urban Flood Management, Sewerage and Wastewater Management
- 2) **Sub-Working Group on Urban Development**
 - Urban Renewal and Disaster Mitigation (excluding issues dealt with the Sub-Working Group on Water Environment)
- 3) **Sub-Working Group on Urban Transport**
 - Urban Transport Planning, Development of Public Urban Transport, Intelligent Transport System.

Six meetings of the Indo-Japan Joint Working Group have been held till date thrice in Tokyo and thrice in New Delhi. Two workshops on water environment have been organized in 2009 and 2012 and two Workshops on Intelligent Transport Systems have been organized in 2010 and 2012 respectively. In Addition to above Ministers from both countries visited each other. IDI Japan visited India twice to study the developments in the DMIDC region.

The sixth meeting of the Indo-Japan Joint Working Group was held in New Delhi on 4.10.2012. The meeting was attended by senior officers from India and Japan. The meeting was also attended by a delegation of Japanese firms working in the areas of urban development. It was resolved to work further in close cooperation in the field of urban development. The next meeting of the Indo-Japan Joint Working Group will be held in Tokyo in 2013.