

IIT-Chennai develops database on infra projects

STATE BUREAU

Hyderabad

The Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai, has launched a data platform of 'Integrated Database on Infrastructure Projects' (IDIP) aimed at enhancing the efficiency of infrastructure development in India and enable effective decision-making among different stakeholders involved in the infrastructure sector.

India's infrastructure network is among the largest in the world. The Government of India along with different State governments and local agencies has embarked on an ambitious investment-led plan to boost the capacity and quality of infrastructure services.

The Data Platform was launched on Wednesday during the 15th World Con-

ference on Transport Research (WCTR) conference held at IIT Bombay in a special session on Public-Private Partnership in Indian Transport Sector. It can be accessed at www.idip.co.in. The data platform was released by Prof G Raghuram, Director, Indian Institute of Management Bangalore, in the presence of Prof Thillai Rajan A, IIT Madras, and Prof Swapnil Garg, Associate Professor, Indian Institute of Management, Indore and co-ordinator of PPPIN-DIANET.

Real issues

Speaking about the importance of this Infrastructure Data platform, Prof G Raghuram, said, "Databases such as the IDIP highlight what the real issues in the sector are. Such data also help investors and develop-

ers to understand the performance of the existing projects and formulate their investment strategies for the sector."

The initial focus of IDIP would be on the Road Sector, which has received the highest private investment among all infrastructure sectors. The PPP (Public Private Partnership) programme in the roads sector in India is the largest in the world.

Highlighting the unique points of this database, Principal Investigator of the Project, Prof A. Thillai Rajan, Department of Management Studies, IIT Madras, said, "Availability of high quality and reliable data has been biggest bugbear in the Indian Infrastructure Development.

The objective of IDIP is to address this strong need.