

# PWD-IL&FS signs MoU for road devtpt, maintenance

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■ **Staff Reporter**  
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PUBLIC Works Department, Government of Chhattisgarh on Monday signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the leading infrastructure and financial services company named Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services (IL&FS), Mumbai for joint development and maintenance of more than 1300 kilometres of road network in the State, at an estimated cost of Rs 1400 crore.

Chief Minister Dr Raman Singh was present during the signing of agreement at the Mantralaya. Principal Secretary Public Works P Joy Oomen for State Government and Managing Director Harishankaran for IL&FS signed the dotted lines.



Principal Secretary of Public Works Department P Joy Oomen and Managing Director of IL&FS Harishankaran exchanging documents in the Mantralaya on Monday, after signing the Memorandum of Understanding. Chief Minister Dr Raman Singh and Minister of State for PWD Rajesh Munat look on.

Chief Minister said that State Budget has its own limit. A limited amount is received from Centre for maintenance of national highways. The financial constrains delay the road projects. It is a good decision to work on road projects through SPV platform. He pointed out that more than 4000 kilometres of road has been construct-

ed in states, of Karnataka and Rajasthan. Forest and Revenue Minister Brijmohan Agrawal, Panchayat and Rural Development Minister Ajay Chandrakar, School Education Minister Megharam Sahu, Public Works Minister of State Rajesh Munat, Public Health Minister of State Kedar

*(Contd on page 6)*

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Kashyap, Health Minister of State Dr Krishnamurthy Bandhi, Member of Parliament Ramesh Basi, State Industrial Development Corporation Chairman Rajinder Pal Singh Bhatia, Text Book Corporation Chairman Bheemsen Agrawal, Raipur Development Authority Chairman Shyam Bais besides others were present on the occasion. Chief Secretary R P Bagai, ACS duo B K S Ray and Shivraj Singh, Principal Secretary Finance D S Misra, besides other senior officials were also present. The joint venture will form a Special Purpose Vehicle Company (SPV) to undertake the road development projects in accordance with the National Highway Authority standards in next two years. The annual maintenance of these roads will be carried out till 15 years.

In each five-year the roads will be renewed. The private investor will receive the amount in instalment with time span of 15 years. The Joint Venture company Chairman and Director Board will have State Government nominated representatives. A technical sub-committee having two representatives each of government and the private investor will be formed under the Director Board. It will look into the construction of road, ensuring the quality of roads and maintain transparency in project implementation. Company Director Board Chairman, nominated by government, will lead the technical sub-committee. The technical subcommittee will work on selection of construction agency, laying out specification and standards and regular technical advice.