

# Former IFP Boss Muller Dies at 69

**Express News Service**

**Puducherry:** Former director of French Institute of Pondicherry (IFP) Jean-Pierre Muller passed away in Paris on August 25 at the age of 69. Muller is survived by wife Sita, who is from Puducherry, and their children.

Passionate about the development of South and South-east Asia, specifically India, he assumed the position of director of the IFP, one of the main research and training institutions under the supervision of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2003 and served the institute till 2008.

Muller implemented a policy of project-based research and initiated mechanisms to enable researchers to look for finances and raise external funds, according to a IFP press release.

An agronomist by training, a soil scientist and a specialist of lateritic soils and their mapping, he worked in many tropical countries such as Africa, Asia and South America in close collaboration with scientists and officials of these countries.

Jean-Pierre Muller devoted his entire career to North-South scientific cooperation.