After 2 proposals, steps on for new Smart City project

Govt initiates steps for project under Pondy municipality; draft proposal by March 2017

DEBJANI DUTTA @ Puducherry

THE government has initiated steps for a new Smart City Project under Puducherry Municipality after learning from the failures of two earlier proposals for Smart City Project under Oulgaret Municipality.

"An action plan is being evolved on which the city can focus, by taking inputs from stakeholders, non-governmental organisations, developmental experts, French Institute of Puducherry, Auroville and Agence Française de Développement, (French Development Agency) AFD," said P Jawahar, Secretary, Local Administration and Town and Country Planning.

"Real estate consultant Jones Lang LaSalle who has successfully prepared the action plan for Bhubaneswar, Amritsar and Chennai, has been assigned the task of preparing the Smart Cities action plan," said Jawahar.

Puducherry has been advised by the Union Ministry of Urban Development to go for retrofitting of Smart Cities instead of Green Field Smart City Project submitted earlier by the government.

"Now the government is planning Smart City proposal by bun-