

Centre approves Rs 62 cr for landfills

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: The Centre has approved Rs 62.57 crore under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) for a project to create landfills in Mumbai. The BMC has termed this the first public-private partnership project in any corporation in India.

The project proposal, prepared by **Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Ser-**

vices Limited (IL&FS), had been submitted for funding under JNNURM early this year and was finally passed on Thursday. All three open dumping grounds at Gorai, Mulund and Deonar will be converted into sanitary landfill sites where garbage would be disposed off in a scientific manner. While Gorai will be the first ground to be closed completely, there will be partial closure at Mulund and Deonar. Another landfill

will be created at Kanjurmarg, which will be used for waste management.

"The proposal was met with opposition by those who believed that bio-manuring was a better option. But finally, the government went with us and thought it was a viable proposal. In addition, three experts of the Clinton foundation felt that our proposal did have some merit," said additional municipal commissioner R A Rajeev.