Designing, Constructing, and Maintaining a New Age Toilet at Kanakakunnu, Thiruvananthapuram

The Department of Tourism and Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) invite startups and designers to participate in a challenge to design, construct, and maintain a modern, eco-friendly toilet at **Kanakakunnu**, Thiruvananthapuram. This initiative aims to address public sanitation needs by creating a clean, sustainable, and aesthetically appealing facility that blends with the cultural heritage of the location.

Challenge Brief:

Kanakakunnu, one of the most popular cultural hubs in Kerala, attracts a large number of visitors daily. The proposed new-age toilet should reflect the essence of the location, focusing on sustainability, modern technology, and convenience for all users, including tourists and locals.

Site Inspection Report - [Click here](#) to read

Image and Videos - [Click here](#) to view.

Design and Operational Requirements:

1. **Eco-Friendly Construction:**
   - Use sustainable, environmentally friendly materials for construction.
   - Incorporate solar-powered lighting and energy-efficient fixtures.
2. **Aesthetic Design:**
   - Blend the design with the natural surroundings and cultural heritage of Kanakakunnu.
   - Include traditional Kerala architectural elements while maintaining a modern appeal.
3. **Technology Integration:**
   - **Smart Toilets**: Sensor-based, touch-free systems for hygiene.
   - **Waste Management**: Automated or semi-automated waste treatment systems to ensure cleanliness and odor-free maintenance.
   - **Water Conservation**: Greywater recycling systems and low-water-use fixtures.
4. **Accessibility and Inclusivity:**
   - Ensure the toilet is accessible for people of all abilities (wheelchair-friendly, Braille signage, etc.).
   - Include baby-changing stations and areas for nursing mothers.
5. **Hygiene and Maintenance:**
   - Design for ease of regular cleaning and maintenance.
   - Ensure proper ventilation and odor control mechanisms.
   - Use of automated cleaning systems, where possible.
6. **Safety and Security:**
   - Well-lit areas with CCTV surveillance.

○ Emergency alarm systems, particularly for women's sections.

Submission Process:

1. **Expression of Interest (EOI):**
   ○ Interested startups and designers are requested to submit their EOI
2. **Interaction with Officials:**
   ○ Shortlisted participants will be invited for an online or offline interaction with officials from the Department of Tourism and KSUM.
3. **Design Submission:**
   ○ Participants will submit their designs after the interaction, which will be evaluated based on creativity, functionality, sustainability, and integration with the surroundings.
4. **Interview and Selection:**
   ○ Selected participants will be invited for an interview to discuss their designs in detail.
5. **Finalization and Implementation:**
   ○ Once the design is finalized, a startup/agency will be selected to construct and maintain the toilet facility.

Key Dates:

- **Last Date for Submission:** October 23, 2024