Kerala Forest Department - Drone Surveillance Services for Human-Wildlife Conflict Management

Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWC) is a critical issue in Kerala, affecting human settlements, agricultural activities, and wildlife conservation efforts. The Government of Kerala has recognized HWC as a state-specific disaster, emphasizing the need for coordinated management and mitigation measures.

One of the major challenges in addressing HWC is the lack of real-time surveillance in conflict-prone areas. To overcome this, the Kerala Forest Department seeks to implement drone surveillance services with advanced capabilities to monitor wildlife movement and mitigate conflicts efficiently.

Objective

The objective of this EOI is to invite proposals from eligible startups to provide drone surveillance services to support the Kerala Forest Department in real-time monitoring and management of human-wildlife conflict across the state.

Scope of Work

The selected startups will be responsible for:

- Providing drones equipped with thermal cameras for night-time surveillance and detection of hidden wildlife in dense vegetation.
- Deploying high-resolution optical camera drones for daytime monitoring and real-time tracking of wildlife movement.
- Operating long-endurance drones to cover large forested areas and difficult terrains.
- Ensuring seamless coordination with Divisional Forest Officers (DFOs) for prompt deployment and effective conflict resolution.
- Maintaining and servicing the drones for continuous operational readiness.

Kerala Startup Mission will facilitate drone surveillance services through selected startups and will provide the following services:

1. Provide a list of startups across Kerala that offer drone surveillance services
2. Establishing a rate contract for drone based monitoring services, enabling the Kerala Forest Department to avail the services on an as needed basis
3. Facilitating collaboration between startups and Divisional Forest Officers across the state to ensure seamless deployment of drone technology in conflict prone areas.

The drone surveillance services will be availed as and when required by the respective Divisional Forest Officers, ensuring efficient resource utilization and timely intervention in conflict-affected regions.

The EOI process

Kerala Startup Mission is approached by various Government Departments for the development of mobile and web applications. These requests are met through a facilitation deviced by KSUM. Kerala Startup Mission facilitates the entire process by helping departments to finalise technical specifications, circulating the same among startups, initial technical assessment and short listing for the committee to take final decision.

Following are the steps involved:

1. Call for Expression of Interest among startups incubated/registered with KSUM

2. Submission of EOI (in the link provided by KSUM).

3. KSUM to organize interaction with the Department for clarifying doubts and queries of interested startups.

4. Technical Proposals are then obtained from startups who have submitted the interest.

5. Technical proposals are then evaluated.

6. Startups who qualify the technical evaluation are then asked to submit the financial proposal.