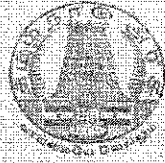


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ABSTRACT

Forests – Tamil Nadu Innovation Initiatives (TANII) - State Innovation Fund 2016-2017 (2nd round) – For Surveillance of Forest and Wildlife areas through Drone Technology in 5 divisions in Tamil Nadu on a pilot basis - Rs.20.00 lakhs - Sanctioned – Orders - Issued.

ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (FR.5) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(D) No.27

Dated: 08.02.2017

துன்முதி, தை 26

திருவள்ளூர் ஆண்டு 2048

Read:

1. From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests letter. No. J1/22729/2016, dated 15.07.2016.
2. From the Member Secretary, State Planning Commission, Chennai letter No. 1960/PC/SPC 2016-2, dated 20.12.2016.

ORDER:

The Hon'ble Minister for Forests has made the following announcement on the floor of Assembly on 02.08.2016:-

“தமிழகத்தின் பல்வேறு வன நில அமைப்புகளைக் கொண்ட வனப்பகுதிகளில் வேட்டையாடுதலைக் கண்காணிக்கவும், வனஉயிரினங்களின் நடமாட்டத்தினைக் கண்காணிக்கவும், உள்நாட்டிலேயே குறைந்த செலவில் நவீன தொழில் நுட்பத்தின் மூலம் பிரத்யேகமாக வடிவமைத்து தயாரிக்கப்படும் ஆளில்லா ஆகாய ஊர்திகள் (ட்ரோன்கள்) தமிழ்நாடு வனத்துறையால் பயன்படுத்தப்படும். இத்திட்டம் இந்திய பாதுகாப்புத் துறை, இந்திய விமான நிலைய குழுவும் மற்றும் தொடர்புடைய துறைகளிடமிருந்து உரிய அனுமதி பெற்று 2016-17 ஆம் ஆண்டில் ரூ.20.00 இலட்சம் செலவில் 5 ட்ரோன்கள் வாங்கி பயன்படுத்தப்படும்.”

2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Department) has stated that the protection of Forest and Wildlife are becoming a big challenge due to biotic pressure and its commercial value. The deployment of additional manpower shall have huge additional cost on exchequer. Further, manually it is not possible for a human being to protect the valuable resources of the forests and wildlife round the clock. Therefore, there is an urgent need of technology to supplement the protection of forests and wildlife through effective surveillance, thereby reducing the recurring cost.

(P.T.O.)

3. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, (Head of Department) has further stated that the total notified forest area in Tamil Nadu is 22,877 Sq.Km which is 17.59% of geographical area of the State. The forest areas are also having large population of wildlife. At present approximately 30% vacancies exists for the frontline staff (i.e. mainly in the category of Forests Guard, Forester and Forest Range Officer).

4. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, (Head of Department) has stated that to overcome the vacancy as well accessibility of area, it is proposed to use the Drone for improvement of Forest and Wildlife. Drones come in very handy during man animal conflicts. They can be useful in search and rescue operations, tracking / monitoring translocated animals, injured animals, spotting dangerous carnivores without putting any staff to risk, which is very often the case nowadays. Further, drones can be used in manhunts when poachers or other forest offenders are on the run or in hiding inside forests. Many unwanted and unlawful activities shall be prevented just because of the fear of being "discovered" or identified by the drone surveillance.

5. Considering the effectiveness of the Drone Technology, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Department) has proposed surveillance of forest and wildlife in the state by the "Drone Technology". This shall be pilot venture, implemented, and used by working plan Officers and concerned Divisions for reconnaissance of forest types, forest health, stock quantity etc. He has, therefore, proposed to use drone technology for improved management of Forest and Wildlife in Tamil Nadu in 5 divisions namely, Coimbatore, Tirunelveli, Madurai, Trichy and Kanniyakumari on a pilot basis at a unit cost of Rs. 4.00 lakhs for each division with a total cost of Rs.20.00 lakhs. The source of funding is Tamil Nadu Innovation Initiatives Fund.

6. The State Planning Commission has recommended the said proposal.

7. The Government after careful consideration accept the proposal of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and accord sanction for a sum of Rs.20.00 lakhs (Rupees Twenty lakhs only) for Surveillance of Forest and Wildlife areas through Drone Technology in 5 divisions namely, Coimbatore, Tirunelveli, Madurai, Trichy and Kanniyakumari in Tamil Nadu on a pilot basis, on the condition that service maintenance contract for the drone should be at least for a period of three years.

8. (i) The expenditure sanctioned in para- 7 above shall be debited to the following head of account:-

"2406 FORESTRY AND WILD LIFE - 02. Environmental Forestry and Wild Life - 110 Wild Life Preservation, SCHEMES IN THE TWELFTH FIVE YEAR PLAN - II, State Plan - JM Surveillance of Forest and Wildlife areas through Drone - Scheme under State Innovation Fund - 19 Machinery and Equipments, of Purchase.
(DPC - 2406 02 110 JM 1918)"

(ii) The expenditure shall be met from the State Innovation Fund by deducting under the following head of account:-

"2406 FORESTRY AND WILD LIFE - 02. Environmental Forestry and Wild Life - 902 Deduct - Amount met from State Innovation Fund. SCHEMES IN THE TWELFTH FIVE YEAR PLAN -II. State Plan - JA Deduct - Amount met from State Innovation Fund - 30 Inter - Account Transfers.

(DPC - 2406 02 902 JA 3000)"

And Contra - debiting the following fund account :-

"J - Reserve Fund (b) Reserve funds not bearing interest - 8229- 00 - Development Welfare Funds - 200. Other Development and Welfare Funds - BE State Innovation Fund.

(DPC - 8229 00 200 BE 0006) (Outgo)

9. Necessary funds are included in the Supplementary Estimates 2016-17.

10. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests is authorized to draw and disburse the amount sanctioned at para 7 above and he is requested to ensure that the amount sanctioned above is utilized in full during 2016-17 and to send the Utilization Certificate as soon as the work is completed.

11. This order issues with the concurrence of Finance Department vide its U.O. No.4432/Finance (AHD&F) Department/ 2017, dated : 06.02.2017.

(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)

ATULYA MISRA
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Chennai-15

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden, Chennai -15

The District Treasury Officer,

Coimbatore, Tirunelveli, Madurai, Trichy and Kanniyakumari.

The Pay and Accounts Officer (South), Chennai-600 035

The Principal Accountant General, (A&E) Chennai - 18.

The Accountant General-I/II, 361, Anna Salai, Chennai-18

The Resident Audit Officer,

Office of the Principal Accountant General,

(General and Social Sector Audit)

Tamil Nadu Secretariat, Chennai - 9.

Copy to:

The Finance (AH&F) Department, Chennai-9

The Financial Adviser,

Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai - 15.

The Environment and Forests (FR-VII) Department, Chennai-9

SF/SCe

FORWARDED BY ORDER

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8/2/17

SECTION OFFICER

8/2/17