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ACTION HISTORY OF RTI REQUEST No.WLIOI/R/2017/50006

Applicant Name

Vrinda

Text of Application

It is in news that the institute is promoting the use of drones for monitoring and surveillance of wildlife. In terms of Project tiger, how much of budget is earmarked for drone monitoring and surveillance and how much has been spent so far. Can private companies apply for it and is their tendering for it. If any private player has applied before, please share the pitch document. What other wildlife surveillance is being considered for drone monitoring. What has been the outcome of the use of the drones in wildlife monitoring. Were the learnings about using drones in monitoring wildlife adopted from any other country that has used drones, what are those countries and who decided on applying those learnings.

Reply of Application

Dear Ms.Vrinda, Kindly see the reply uploaded in the RTI portal.

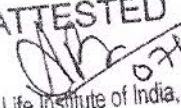
SN.	Action Taken	Date of Action	Action Taken By	Remarks
1	RTI REQUEST RECEIVED	28/06/2017	Nodal Officer	
2	REQUEST FORWARDED TO CPIO	28/06/2017	Nodal Officer	Forwarded to CPIO(s) : (1) Anju Baroth
3	REQUEST DISPOSED OF	10/07/2017	Anju Baroth- (CPIO)	

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Response to RTI

Reference to the RTI application by Ms. Vrinda, L-1002, Sector-5, Vaishali, Ghaziabad, seeking information on (a) how much of budget has been earmarked for drone monitoring and surveillance, (b) how much has been spent so far, (c) can private companies apply for it, (d) is there tendering for it, (e) if any private player has applied for it (share the pitch document if so), (f) what other surveillance is being considered for drone monitoring, (g) what has been the outcome of the use of drones in wildlife monitoring, (h) were the learnings about using drones in monitoring wildlife adopted from any other country that has used drones, (i) what are those countries and who decided on applying those learnings, the following information are furnished as per the listed questions:

- a) Project Tiger through National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) has earmarked Rs. 3,53,97,000/- (Rupees Three Crore Fifty Three Lakh and Ninety Seven Thousand) for a Research and Development (R&D) Project called as 'E-bird Technology for Tiger Conservation', to be implemented in three years in 13 tiger reserves across the country. This is a collaborative project of Wildlife Institute of India (WII) and National Tiger Conservation Authority, and the respective tiger reserves will be collaborating partners.
- b) So far, Rs. 30 lakhs have been spent on the project.
- c) It is meant for R&D decided by the Technical Committee of NTCA and is not meant for general procurement, so, private company cannot apply for this grant.
- d) So far, no tender advertisement has been done, but as a part of procurement process, tendering for specific parts or whole may be done by WII as and when required.
- e) No private player has applied for it (and so, no pitch document is available).
- f) Surveillance is for detecting/preventing poaching and conflict cases, and for general paroling of the forest area where human visits are not possible more frequently.
- g) We have so far undertaken only test flights and initial data collection on the performance and quality of the photo/video capture. The initial outcome has been demonstration of the utility of the technology for wildlife management in the country, and many states are now considering the technology, if not already implemented.
- h) Initial learning was from an organization called Conservation Drones, which is a Non-governmental Conservation-oriented organization, located in Australia, USA, Switzerland and UK.
- i) Countries such as Australia, South Africa and Malaysia are using drones for research and conservation purposes, and these are mostly done by the Conservation Organizations such as World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and respective governments responsible for wildlife management.

ATTESTED

 CPIO, Wild Life Institute of India, Dehradun


 (Dr. K. Ramesh)
 Scientist-E