Directorate of Information Technology
Govt. of Puducherry

Partnering in Setting up of AI Center of Excellence in the UT of Puducherry

Expression of Interest

June 2026

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GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

NOTICE FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

EoI No. 13031/DIT/2026/01 Puducherry, Dated: 22-06-2026

"EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR PARTNERING IN SETTING UP OF AI CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN PUDUCHERRY"

Offers are invited from intending corporate / academic / research organizations registered under the Companies Act 1956 / relevant statutes of the Government of India / State Governments for PARTNERING IN SETTING UP OF AI CENTRE OF EXCLLEENCE IN THE UNION TERRITORY OF PUDUCHERY. The EoI details, terms and conditions, technical and operational requirements and time schedule are part of this document. The offers with the required documents may be submitted on or before 06th July 2026.

DIRECTOR
DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION TECHNOOGY

Place: Puducherry
Date: 22nd June 2026

SCHEDULE OF EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Event	Description	Timeline
EoI Notification	Publish of EoI inviting for participation	22nd June 2026
Pre-Bid Meeting	Conducting Pre-Bid Meeting	25th June 2026, 4:00 PM
Responses to Pre-Bid Queries	Publish of responses to Pre-Bid Queries	26th June 2026
Submission of Bids	Submission of Interest	6th July 2026
Evaluation of Bids	Scrutiny and Evaluation of Bids	7th July 2026
Selection of Bids	Selection of Partners	7th July 2026

1. Introduction

The Union Territory of Puducherry is expanding fast in the area of information and communication technologies. All offices of government and public sector undertakings have been connected with state wide area network with MPLS technology. It has its own state data centre for hosting software applications and maintaining backup. Currently, the services of NICSI cloud have been utilized for hosting the websites and applications. The Union Territory of Puducherry has automated most of its government processes namely salary processing, treasury payments, budgeting, utility payments, procurement, FIR filing etc. Puducherry would like to utilize emerging technologies in its government processes so that they become more efficient, reliable and robust. The use of artificial intelligence (AI) is known to make government processes more easy and convenient owing to its inherent capability to analyse huge data and learn from the data without any human intervention. Government of Puducherry intends to setup AI Centre of Excellence (AI CoE) as part of India AI mission for extensive research, promotion and use of AI in government departments and public sector undertakings.

The establishment of AI CoE, which would be Section 8 company as per Companies Act 2013, is likely to cost Rs. 20 crores spread over a period of four years. The investment will be shared by Government of India, the UT of Puducherry and industry / academic organizations in the ratio 40:40:20 respectively. The establishment of AI CoE in Puducherry would help in proliferation of AI in all sections of society and increase in usage of AI across various processes within and outside government. The purpose of this Expression of Interest is to invite various corporate / academic organizations for investing in setting up of AI CoE in Puducherry

2. About India AI Mission

IndiaAI Mission encompasses seven key pillars of the Al ecosystem:

(i) IndiaAI Compute Capacity
(ii) IndiaAI Innovation Centre
(iii) IndiaAI Datasets Platform
(iv) IndiaAI Future Skills
(v) Safe & Trusted AI
(vi) IndiaAI Application Development Initiative
(vii) IndiaAI Startup Financing

IndiaAI Compute Capacity

The IndiaAI compute pillar aims to build a high-end scalable AI computing ecosystem to cater to the increasing demands from India's rapidly expanding AI start-ups and research ecosystem

INdiaAI Innovation Centre

The IndiaAI Innovation Centre aims to undertake the development and deployment of indigenous Large Multimodal Models (LMMs) and domain-specific foundational models in critical sectors

IndiaAI Datasets Platform
The IndiaAI Datasets Platform aims to streamline access to quality non-personal datasets for AI Innovation

IndiaAI Future Skills
IndiaAI FutureSkills pillar of the IndiaAI Mission, aims to increase the number of undergraduate, graduate, and post-graduate students in AI & making AI programs more accessible. It also aims to establish IndiaAI Data and AI labs at ITIs/Polytechnics/NIELIT centres of Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities for imparting foundational-level skills on Data and AI

Safe and Trusted AI
Recognizing the need for adequate guardrails to advance the responsible development, deployment, and adoption of AI, the Safe & Trusted AI pillar will enable the implementation of Responsible AI projects.

IndiaAI Application Development Initiative
IndiaAI Application Development Initiative aims at developing/scaling/promoting adoption of impactful AI solutions with potential for catalysing large scale socio- economic transformation

IndiaAI Startup Financing
The IndiaAI Startup Financing pillar supports startups from product development to commercialization and funds industry-led AI projects with social impact potential. Additionally, The AI Centers of Excellence will be established across states and UTs to promote applied AI research, skill development, and tech-driven innovation

3. About AI Centre of Excellence
Artificial Intelligence Center of Excellence (AI CoE) is a physical entity planned to be established across various states and union territories of India. It operates on a collaborative model involving states, industry, and academia to foster AI-led development. AI-CoE will act as a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) for AI development within states and UTs and is proposed to eventually become a Section 8 company to ensure sustainable, effective, and agile governance. Funding is shared with 40% from MeitY, 40% from respective state/UT governments, and 20% from industry partners.

4. Key Functions of AI CoE
Research and development:
Conduct AI-related applied research and development initiatives

Capacity Building:
Organize workshops, hackathons, and training sessions for skill development

Startup Support:
Dedicated Co-working space and mentorship for innovation and startups

Accelerator Support:
Provide financial assistance and networking avenues for scaling and expansion of startups

Industry Partnership:
Collaboration with Industry partners to commercialize and deploy AI-solutions

Resource Provision:
Provide infrastructure and computing resources to researchers/innovators

Sector-specific Solutions:
Developing state and industry-specific use cases to tailor AI solutions for diverse applications

5. Roles and Responsibilities

The roles and responsibilities of Government of India (IndiaAI Mission), State / UT Government and Industry / Academic / Research Partner are as follows.

5.1 Role of Government of India (IndiaAI Mission)

Financial Contribution:
IndiaAI will make a proportionate contribution of 40% of the estimated total budget outlay through yearly grant in aid (GIA) over a period of four years.

Technical Expertise and Guidance:
IndiaAI may support in providing technical expertise and guidance for setting up AI innovation & research as per the IndiaAI Mission

Monitoring and Governance:
IndiaAI will assist States/UTs in creating the governance structure of the centre of excellence for monitoring the performance and impact of AI-CoE as per the defined objectives. IndiaAI will also nominate its representative to chair the governance of each centre of excellence.

Fund Disbursal through Periodic Review:
IndiaAI will disburse its 40% contribution based on periodic reviews of the AI-CoE's progress to ensure alignment with as per milestones.

Detailed Proposal:
IndiaAI may support States, UTs, and Departments in refining their proposals in accordance with the approved framework of the scheme

5.2 Role of State Governments / Union Territories

Financial Contribution:

States/UTs interested in establishing IndiaAI CoE needs to contribute 40% of the total budget outlay over a period of four years. States and UTs may contribute additional funds for strengthening the CoEs.

Implementing Agency:

States/UTs will facilitate the implementation of AI-CoEs through designated implementing agencies/autonomous bodies, as identified by the respective State/UT Governments.

Space Provision:

States/UTs need to provide a minimum of 10,000 sq. ft. of furnished or rental space in a city within the State/UT for per unit AI-CoE, with an existing supportive ecosystem of startups, industry, and academia. The space provided should also be provided with power, water & network connectivity. The location proposed should be well-connected by public transportation for easy accessibility by entrepreneurs, industry partner, academicians and researchers.

Detailed Proposal:

A Detailed Proposal for the establishment of the AI CoE, including a phase-wise implementation plan, needs to be prepared by the implementing agency designated by the respective States/UTs.

Infrastructure and Facilities:

States/UTs to provide suitable infrastructure and facilities for the establishment of the AI-CoE. The space needs to be properly furnished and be ready to act as co-working space. There need to be meeting rooms and required space for setting up an AI lab.

Technology Adoption & promotion:

States/UTs will facilitate the adoption of AI technologies in multiple government departments, ministries, and PSUs to provide growing opportunities to startups. The States/UTs also need to promote the AI ecosystem around the centre.

Skilled Personnel and Administrative Support:

States/UTs to the availability of skilled personnel and administrative support for the IndiaAI CoE's performance and impact.

Collaboration & Awareness:

States/UTs to facilitate collaboration with local academic institutions and industry partners. States/UTs also need to promote awareness and adoption of AI technologies within the state. Additionally, it is recommended that clear guidelines be established to detail how these collaborations with industry partners will be implemented.

5.3 Role of Industry / Academic / Research Partner

Financial Contribution:

Partner along with other industry partners will make a proportionate contribution of 20% of the total budget outlay.

Seed Support:

Seed support to AI-enabled startups in states and UTs shall be provided by the industry partners/stakeholders

Location Identification:

Partner will assist States/UTs in identifying the most optimum location for establishing AI-CoE to maximize the impact of IndiaAI Centre of Excellence.

Infrastructure Specification and Procurement:

Partner will assist State/UTs in specifying, identifying, and procuring lab and incubation infrastructure using the allocated funds.

Roadmap Preparation:

Partner will draft an annual activity roadmap for establishing IndiaAI CoE as per guidance from IndiaAI and the State/UT.

Incubator Operation:

Partner will assist States/UTs in establishing and operating the Centre, providing mentorship support & industry connects.

Funding and Partnerships:

Partner may assist States/UTs in identifying and securing alternate funding sources and industry partnerships.

AI Solution Adoption:

Partner will assist States/UTs in executing the adoption of AI solutions for government and industry.

Industry Insights and Networking

Partner will provide industry insights and trends to align the AI-CoE's activities with market needs and facilitate networking opportunities with industry leaders and AI professionals.

6. Current Status on use of Emerging Technologies in UT of Puducherry

Puducherry is moving quickly in materializing the benefits of emerging technologies in the government operations. The UT could identify some AI related projects for few departments namely health, agriculture, survey, education and tourism. Most of the web applications and software solutions are hosted on cloud environment utilizing cloud computing technologies. Workshop and hands-on training programs are being organizes to enhance the skillset of

government machinery. The use of emerging technologies in government will soon become a reality with possibility of replicating the success stories of Puducherry in other states.

7. Proposed Location and Infrastructure

The AI Centre of Excellence is proposed to be established in the premises of Puducherry Technological University (PTU) or MSME Centre with an approximate area of 12,000 sq. ft. The University and MSME Centre is around 15 kms from the central business district (CBD) of Puducherry and located on East Coast Road that connects Puducherry with Chennai. The centre would have 10-seater co-working space, three meeting rooms, one mini conference room and two working halls of 15 seating capacity each. Separate cabins will be provided to CEO, CFO and CTO. The centre will be equipped with the following infrastructure and resources

Sl. No.	Infrastructure and resources
1	GPU Servers hosted in State Data Centre
2	Dedicated network connectivity to SDC
3	High-end Desktops (40 nos.) and Laptops (10 nos.)
4	Subscription based Gen AI tools and packages
5	Subscription based Agentic AI tools
6	Software tools and packages for data handling
7	Advanced AI algorithms and AI based applications

8. Strategic Vision

The setting up of AI CoE in Puducherry would work to strengthen the key pillars of AI eco-system, specifically in the context of Puducherry and its regions of Karaikal, Mahe and Yanam. The AI CoE will serve as a focal point to undertake the following activities.

- build AI computing infrastructure
- explore innovative products in AI
- consolidate data sets required for AI products
- develop strong principles for ethical AI practices
- ensure upskilling, reskilling and advanced skilling at all levels
- design and develop tailored AI based applications
- promote entrepreneurship on areas related to AI and other emerging technologies

The UT of Puducherry has identified use cases in the areas of Health, Agriculture, Tourism, Fisheries, Education, Urban Development, Excise and Smart Governance.

9. Key Challenges & Risk Management

The following are the key challenges envisaged when setting up of AI CoE and maintaining its sustained operations.

- Availability of skilled personnel

- Allocation of budget
- Stiff competition from Chennai and Bengaluru
- Local demand for AI based solutions
- Lack of world-class infrastructure to host national and international events

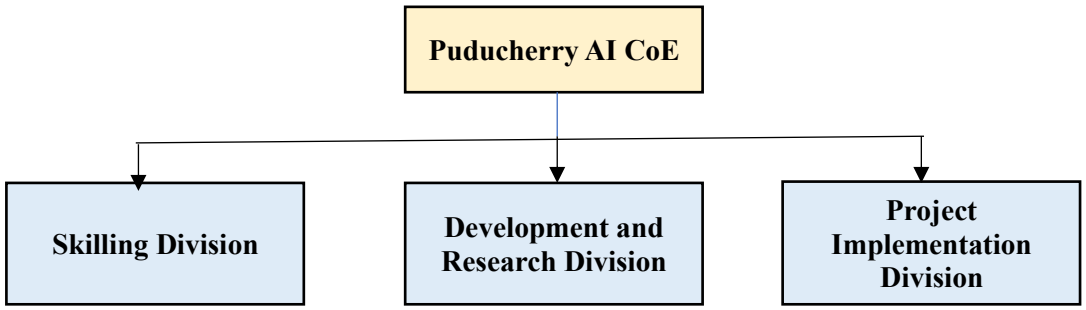
The following strategies are being proposed to mitigate the risks

(i) Involve schools, colleges and universities to join AI movement in Puducherry
(ii) Develop AI solutions more for global problems and less on local requirements
(iii) Build world-class expertise on comprehensive AI instead of focussed AI
(iv) Ensure AI literacy in government departments and agencies
(v) Achieve high levels of AI-based governance in government

10. Project Activities of AI CoE (Proposed)

The proposed AI CeE will house the following divisions for better distribution of tasks and activities.

- Skilling Division
- Development & Research Division
- Project Implementation Division



10.1 Skilling Division

The skilling division will handle the areas of skilling, upskilling and future skilling requirements in Puducherry. The CoE will conduct periodic surveys within government and outside government (schools, colleges, universities and institutions) to identify AI skilling requirements at various levels. The skilling division will be involved in the following activities.

- Design training programmes in AI in various sectors and for different categories of users. The sectors comprise of multiple subject domains while the category of users include government staff and officials, students, researchers and professionals. The specific needs of Puducherry may be addressed.

- Collaborate with industry and academia to design new curricula for AI in schools, colleges and educational institutions. The culture of Puducherry may be incorporated while designing courses and programs.

- Identify new technical, operational and administrative skills in AI domain that can drive future AI implementations in government and industry and generate employment in AI related subjects for the local graduates of Puducherry.

- Maintain a collaborative network of trainers and experts who can provide sensitization, training and skilling sessions to government staff, professional and schools / colleges in the form of certificate courses leading to certifications.

10.2 Development and Research Division

The development and research division will handle design, development and deployment of AI solutions with inputs from research team. The division will have required manpower to undertake requirement studies, documentation, design and development of AI solutions, deployment of AI solutions. The division will also maintain a team of researchers to study the implementations and generate innovative solutions. This division will be involved in the following activities.

- Conceptualize the application of AI in various types of organizations and different forms of working procedures using the inputs from research team. This includes convergence of three official languages of Puducherry and consolidation of data of various departments and organizations.

- Design innovative AI solutions to solve issues and pain-points prevailing in the UT of Puducherry for both citizens and businesses. The pain-points of Puducherry include boundary demarcation, over-crowding of tourist spots, road congestion, public transport etc.

- Involve in requirement studies, documentation and design and development of AI-based solutions in terms of specific solutions and generic solutions to departments and organizations.

- Undertake cross-regional AI-based solutions which involve in smooth data exchange across states and UTs of India with an aim to develop national level AI solutions.

- Contribute to theoretical and practical sphere of AI conceptualization and implementation through publishing of articles, opinion columns and papers in conferences and journals

10.3 Project Implementation Division

The project implementation division will handle activities related to implementation of AI solutions in government departments and organizations. These include system handholding, helpdesk, coordination, monitoring and issue handling. Further, the division will have the

necessary infrastructure to incubate startup firms and provide techno-friendly environment for generation of innovative thoughts and ideas on AI domain. The project implementation division will be involved in the following activities.

- Undertake coordination activities with departments and organizations which include meetings, discussions and clarifying sessions for ensuring successful implementation of AI solutions.

- Maintain escalation matrix for resolution of issues being reported by departments and organizations and ensure timely solving of field problems.

- Ensure active involvement of startup firms that involve in design and development of AI based solutions and seek necessary support during implementation of AI solutions.

- Involve in organizing AI talk shows, hackathons and AI challenge contests in government offices, schools, colleges and universities to spread the use of AI build a robust AI eco-system

11. Implementation Plan (Phase-wise)

The phase-wise implementation plan being proposed for AI CoE in Puducherry is given below.

Phase	Activities	Details
Phase-1 (6 months)	Setting up of office environment	- Internal furnishing of space - Partition of space into meeting rooms, conference hall, cabins and cubicles - Electrical, plumbing and cement work
	Constitution of Section-8 company	- Approvals for creation of Section-8 company - Submission of application for creation of company
	Procurement and Installation of hardware	- Finalization of hardware specifications - Procurement of hardware - Installation of hardware

Phase	Activities	Details
Phase-2 (12 months)	Recruitment of manpower	- Engage manpower either through manpower agency or direct recruitment - Organize orientation programmes for work sensitization - Ensure appropriate retention policies
	Setting up of Work Environment	- Procurement and installation of AI tools and packages, software packages and license - Frame policies and guidelines and SoP for efficient working - Setting of documentation standards for transparent work environment
	Undertaking AI tasks & events	- Commencement of requirement gathering and design activities - Undertaking development of AI solutions - Organizing AI related events in schools and colleges
Phase-3 (12 months)	Undertake Project Management	- Deployment of teams to manage the AI based solutions - Ensure timely performing of maintenance tasks for smooth operation of systems
	Explore new areas	- Initiate activities that can promote innovation - Undertake research and development in unexplored areas of implementation - Design new algorithms that can solve problems more effectively
	Technology convergence	- Ensure interactive working of multiple technologies to achieve technology integration - Evolve means to combine several technologies into a single platform

Phase	Activities	Details
Phase-4 (18 months)	National Excellence	- Implement innovative solutions which are unique to the country - Ensure the AI solutions are implemented with high level of excellence. - Achieve repute at national level
	Global Presence	- Promote Puducherry as global AI solution provider - Implement AI solutions in other developing and developed countries
	Establish Brand Leadership	- Achieve Branch Leadership status by developing path-breaking AI solutions that benefit at individual and societal level. - Ensure Puducherry to be the leader AK and convergence of technologies into AI.

12. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

The KPIs for AI CoE proposed to be set up in Puducherry are as follows.

Sl. No.	Key Performance Indicator (KPI)	Target per year (nos.)
1	No. of startups incubated	24
2	No. of Prototypes/ Products Developed	30
3	No. of States /Industry Specific use cases created	10
4	IP's (Patents/ Copyright/ Trademark) Filed	10
5	No. of employment generated	300
6	No. of grand challenges/hackathons conducted	8
7	No. of events/connect with customer/ industry/ partners	8
8	Number of Research Publications	20
9	Number of students and professionals trained through skilling programs, training sessions, and workshop through physical and (Virtual) mode	400 (1500)
10	Number of Partnership with Industry/ Academia	10

13. Financial Breakdown

Component	Details	Cost (in Lakhs)
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (CAPEX)		
Physical Infrastructure	Internal furnishing, electrical work, networking and civil works	100.00
Office Equipment	Chairs, Tables, LCD Screens, Projectors, Multi-function devices, Desktops, Laptops	100.00
Lab Equipment	Servers, Tools, Software Packages, Software Licenses, Storage	500.00
	Sub Total	**700.00**
OPERATIONAL EXPENDITURE (OPEX) – Annual Charges		
Space Rental	Annual Rent	75.00
Manpower	Skilling – 2 persons Development – 4 persons Project Management – 2 persons Top Management – 1 person	100.00
Training, Workshop, Seminar	Training: 6 Workshop: 3 Conference: 1	40.00
Hackathons / Challenges	Hackathon: 2 AI Challenges: 2	40.00
Software Maintenance and Renewal of Licenses	AMC, Renewal of licenses for database, packages, storage, network equipment, broadband	20.00
Seed Support	Funding for startups	20.00
Travel	Local and Outstation travel	10.00
Contingency	Incidental expenses	20.00
	Sub Total (1 year)	**325.00**
	Sub Total for 4 years	**1300.00**
	CAPEX + OPEX (4 years)	**2000.00 (Rs. 20 crores)**

14. Investment Sharing Pattern

The investment on the AI CoE that is estimated to the tune of Rs. 20 crores will be shared by Government of India, UT of Puducherry and corporate sector in the ratio of 40:40:20 respectively. The AI CoE will be set up as Section 8 company under Companies Act 2013. The expected share of each entity is elaborated below.

Entity	Percentage Share	Amount (Rs. in Crores)
Government of India	40%	8.00
UT of Puducherry	40%	8.00
Corporate / Academic Sector	20%	4.00
	Total	**20.00**

Investments from each entity are made year-on-year and spread over a period of four years. This indicates that Government of India will provide Rs. 2.0 crores support for each year while the UT of Puducherry will provision Rs. 2.0 crores each year as a budget provision. The corporate/ academic sector will contribute Rs. 1.0 crore every year.

15. Governance Mechanism

The structure of governance within the AI CoE will be two-tiered- one at strategic level (Executive Committee) and the other at operational level (Project Management Committee). The roles and responsibilities are as follows.

15.1 Executive Committee:

- To provide strategic direction to the organization
- To ensure timely availability of funds
- To establish an environment for promoting healthy work culture
- To promote innovative and smart ideas
- To maintain good professional relations with stakeholder and partner organizations
- To ensure guidance and support to internal and external team

15.2 Project Management Committee:

- To ensure productivity of each division
- To monitor performance of each division
- To build a mechanism for prompt resolution of issues / hurdles
- To provide necessary skills and expertise at ground level

16. Sustainability and Long-Term Impact

The means to ensure sustainability of AI CoE in the long-term will involve in undertaking activities that earn revenue to the organization. The suggested activities are as follows.

(i) Developing AI based solutions for government departments at a nominal cost, covering the expenses of design, development and deployment.

(ii) Collection of Annual Maintenance Cost (AMC) for deployed AI solutions

(iii) Development of AI products that are compatible for plug and play

(iv) Undertaking specialized and hands-on AI skilling programs at government level and school / college level

(v) Organizing AI Expositions at national and international level to spread Brand Puducherry

17. Use Cases

The indicative list of Use Cases that would be handled by proposed AI CoE along with their details have bene elaborated below.

17.1 Health Department

Diagnosis:

Design and develop system that can diagnose health ailments based on data, video, audio and images. Initially, the solution would address common and simple ailments and thereafter the specific and complex cases

Health Monitoring:

Use of appropriate tools to analyse health data pertaining to region, locality and individuals in order to arrive at health patterns and possible prediction of health-related issues

Epidemic Prevention:

Use of AI for performing predictive analytics for identifying the possibility of an epidemic and ensuring readiness of people and society for its prevention. The system would be able to collect data pertaining to pre-occurrence situations of an epidemic and arrive at possible scenarios of conditions that lead to an epidemic.

Hospital Resource Allocation:

AI system would be able to predict the use of hospital resources and generate predictive analysis of resource utilization and how best to optimize their allocation. The AI tool would also recommend on the time of utilization in the perspective of maintaining a healthy environment.

17.2 Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare Department

Crop Pattern:

AI System would generate cropping pattern adopted in the four regions of Puducherry and comparing the quality / quantity of yield with the revenue, The mapping of the land with cropping pattern would be achieved along with expected quantity and quality of crop

Crop Survey:

AI system would assess the expected insurance for damaged / unyielding crops attributable due to natural and non-natural reasons. The system would superimpose satellite imagery, farmer data and physical survey data of Puducherry to arrive at pre-calamity and post calamity comparison for assessing the damage

Farmer Sentiment:
AI system would be able to track the sentiment of each farmer based on the past cropping patterns, crop yields, benefits availed and expected income. The system would be intelligent to predict the expected output of crops sown by farmer given the expected timing of sowing and local weather.

Precision Farming:
AI system would be able to work as an intelligent assistant to farmers at the time of tilling the land, sowing of seeds, watering the field, spraying of pesticides and harvesting of crops based on the images and data captured by it. The farmer would be benefited with readily available best practices given the land, water and climatic conditions.

Pest / Disease Detection:
Advanced tools with pre-loaded packages would be deployed for auto-detection of pest / disease infected crops based on images made available to the system. Early detection of such events will help farmers to undertake corrective measures and avoid possible loss.

Soil Monitoring:
AI system would be able to assess the quality of soil and suggest ways to improve the nutritious content of the soil based on soil images and data. Advanced AI tools may be deployed to suggest likely cropping pattern based on type, nature and strength of soil.

Satellite / Drone Imagery:
AI tools would be deployed to capture comprehensive information based on satellite imagery obtained from space organizations and aerial imagery obtained from drones. AI system would be able to triangulate several sources of information for useful predictive analytics.

17.3 Tourism Department

Travel Guide:
Tourists visiting Puducherry to be advised on the likely places of visits based on their history of previous tours, stays and time spent on tourist activities. The AI system would provide advance alerts on some do's and don'ts based on current situations prevailing in the tourist spots being visited on the day. AI chatbots would be part of the travel guide for providing instant messaging service.

On-Ground Facility:
AI system will capture shops, stalls and other facilities in and around tourist spots of Puducherry in order to present a virtual environment on tourist destinations. Personalized services in terms of booking of tickets, reservation of rooms and availing of facilities based on the basic details of persons will be an added feature.

Sentiment Analysis:
AI system would be able to capture the sentiment of tourist based on images captured at various tourist locations and at different points of time. The sentiment analysis may be segregated depending on age, gender and other cultural factors.

Demand Forecasting:
The tourist data captured at various points of time for different tourist destination would be consolidated to generate demand forecasting for tourism and its related activities. The AI system would be able to predict the need for strengthening some facilities based on demand forecasting.

Crowd Management:
AI system would be able to assess the volume of crowd in each tourist destination as against the carrying capacity for generation of alerts. The system would be able to predict the likely effects due to over-crowding based on data available for each tourist spot.

17.4 Fisheries Department

Fish Catch:
AI solution would predict the quantity of fish catch based on fishing area, type of boat, type of nets, weather conditions, sea condition, timing of fish harvest, duration of fish harvest, movement of boat etc.

AI based Alerts:
AI system would be able to generate alert on non-fishing days based on various conditions including policy considerations. Further, fishermen would be receiving alerts while at sea based on sea conditions and crossing of national borders.

Boat Monitoring:
AI system would be able to predict the movement of fishing boats and the likely areas of fish catch based on data captured for each boat. The system would predict the locations based on satellite and drone imagery.

17.5 Education Department

Personalized Skilling:
AI system would be able to identify skilling requirements of students and government personnel and suggest short-term and long-terms courses for upskilling and reskilling. The data captured on various training programs, seminars, workshops and conferences would be consolidated to predict the skilling requirements at personal level and organization level.

Talent Identification:
Workshops, seminars, competitions and other events would disseminate the use and benefits of AI. The events would be held at school, college and university levels with recognition of students having high skills in AI.

AI-Labs:
A network of AI labs would be established in collaboration with industry and academia to achieve converged work environment. The strengths of each AI lab would be utilized to pursue advanced research and development activities

AI-Skilling:
The various AI-Skilling programs would be evaluated in terms of applicability and usefulness in the perspective of Puducherry and selected programs would be made available for improving AI skills. The trainers would either be in-house (partner firms and colleges) or out-sourced (other organizations).

17.6 Urban Development Department

Traffic Optimization:
AI systems would be able to assess the flow of traffic and suggest ways to handle traffic movement. The traffic signals would be AI enabled to automatically adjust signal timing based on the traffic congestion and availability of emergency vehicles.

Smart Bus Stops:
AI system would be part of Bus Stops enabling people to view the location of each bus and calculate the likely time to reach the Bus Stop. AI tools would take geospatial data of each bus to track it on map and also use algorithms to calculate the estimated time to reach based on bus condition, road conditions, traffic conditions and weather conditions.

Surveillance:
The CCTV cameras installed at various points would feed into an AI system for assessing he safety and security of citizens. The movement of people and vehicles would be analysed with AI algorithms for identifying safe areas and pain areas. Such analysis is taken input for ensuring safety and security of tourists visiting Puducherry.

17.7 Smart Governance

Grievance System:
AI system would be able to analyse grievances submitted in various departments and action taken for resolving grievances for identifying the pattern of grievances. The AI system would be able to generate causal models for arriving at relationship of factors that cause grievance.

Fraud Detection:
AI system would be able to detect likely fraudulent activities that may prevail in government, industry and academia based on availability of data. The system would run some algorithms to ascertain the occurrence of fraudulent activities. These activities may be related to submission of document, release of benefits, approval of permissions etc.

Energy Management:
AI system would be able to capture energy usage related to generation, distribution and consumption and arrive at predictive analysis on how best to use and save energy for better living environment. The system would use various algorithms to identity locations that use available energy in an optimized manner.

17.8 Excise Department

Liquor Consumption Pattern:
Generate patterns of liquor consumption based on personal attributes, commodity characteristics, environment conditions, government policies, seasonal changes etc.

Profiling of Legal Metrology:
AI system would be able to profile different types of users of weights and measures including firms, packers and individuals. The system would be able to generate pattern of ensuring compliance to various norms defined by legal metrology department.

18. Submission Requirements from Industry / Academic / Research Partners

The Government of Puducherry would like to invite industry / academic / researcg organizations for partnering in setting up of AI CoE in Puducherry. The technical capability in AI and AI related technologies is an essential requirement for selection of partnering organization. The interested organization need to submit the following documents.

- Letter of Intent signed by authorized signatory
- Details about organization
- Authorized Signatory details
- Details of AI related projects
- Proposed Area of Contribution
- Financial commitment

The completed forms should be submitted to the e-mail address (directorit@py.gov.in) with subject line as “EoI for Partnering AI CoE in Puducherry” on or before 06th July 2026 along with physical copy sent to the following address.

Director (IT)
Directorate of Information Technology
505, 2nd Floor, PRD Complex
Saram, Kamaraja Salai
Puducherry – 605013
Phone: 0413-2246090

Contact Person: Ajay Kumar Reddy (9972115156, ajay.reddy@semt.gov.in)

19. Criteria for Selection Industry / Academic / Research Partners

The selection of industry / academic / research partners will be based on the following criteria in the mentioned sequence.

(i) Amount of Investment
Preference of partner with highest investment

(ii) AI Projects
Preference of partner with high number of AI projects

(iii) Organization Location
Preference of partner with global presence

(iv) Proposed Areas of Contribution
Preference of partner with high number of proposed areas

Annexure-1: Letter of Intent

(to be submitted in the letter head of the organization)

To
The Director
Directorate of Information Technology
505, 2nd Floor, PRD Complex
Saram, Kamaraj Salai
Puducherry – 605013

Dear Sir,

Subject: Submission of Interest for Partnering in AI CoE in Puducherry– reg.

We, the undersigned, offer our interest for partnering in the establishment of AI Centre of Excellence in Puducherry in accordance with your Expression of Interest No. 13031/DIT/2026/01 dated 22-06-2026. We are hereby submitting our interest as per the requirements mentioned in the Expression of Interest.

Thanking you.

Place:

Signature of Authorized Signatory:
Name of Signatory:
Designation:
Name of Organization:
Address:
Contact Number:
E-Mail:

Annexure-2: Details about the Organization

Sl. No.	Description	Details
1	Name of Organization	
2	Regional Office Address (Puducherry, if any)	
3	Phone No.	
4	Registered Head Quarters:	
5	Contact Number:	
6	Website Address:	
7	Registration No.	
8	Registered Date	
9	Registration Authority	
10	GST No.	
11	Permanent Account Number (PAN)	
12	Company Identification Number (CIN)	
13	Udyam Number, if applicable	
14	Other Information	

Annexure-3: Authorized Signatory Details

(to be submitted in the letter head of the organization)

To
The Director
Directorate of Information Technology
505, 2nd Floor, PRD Complex
Saram, Kamaraj Salai
Puducherry – 605013

Dear Sir,

Sub: Details of Authorized Signatory for EoI No. 13031/DIT/2026/01 dated 22-06-2026

The authorized signatory (primary contact) and the secondary contact for the purpose of submission of interest for Expression of Interest No. 13031/DIT/2026/01 dated 22-06-2026 of Directorate of Information Technology are given below.

Details	Authorized Signatory	Secondary Contact
Name		
Designation		
Organization Address		
Landline Number		
Mobile Number		
E-Mail		

Place & Date

Signature of Signatory
Name of Signatory:
Designation:
Name of Organization:
Address:
Contact Number:
E-Mail:
Seal of Organization

Annexure-4: Details of AI related Projects

(add more sheets for multiple projects)

Sl. No.	Description	Details
1	Name of the Project	
2	Name of Client Organisation	
3	Description of the Project	
4	Technologies used	
5	Start Date	
6	End Date	
7	Number of Users	
8	Manpower deployed for the project	
9	Impact of Project	
10	Other Information	

Annexure-5: Proposed Areas of Contribution

(to be submitted in the letter head of the organization)

To
The Director
Directorate of Information Technology
505, 2nd Floor, PRD Complex
Saram, Kamaraj Salai
Puducherry – 605013

Dear Sir,

Sub: Proposed Areas of Contribution for EoI No. 13031/DIT/2026/01 dated 22-06-2026

The proposed areas of contribution for the purpose of submission of bid for Expression of Interest No. 13031/DIT/2026/01 dated 22-06-2026 of Directorate of Information Technology are given below.

Proposed Area of Contribution	Details

Place & Date

Signature of Signatory
Name of Signatory:
Designation:
Name of Organization:
Address:
Contact Number:
E-Mail:
Seal of Organization

Annexure-6: Financial Commitment

(to be submitted in the letter head of the organization)

Year	Rs. in Lakhs	Investment Mode
2026-27		
2027-28		
2028-29		
2029-30		