

F. No. j-01013/25/2024-Fy (E- 24176)
Government of India
Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
Department of Fisheries

1st Floor, Chanderlok Building,
36, Janpath, New Delhi-110001
Dated the 30th December , 2024

Order

Subject: Constitution of Technical Committee for drafting Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on application of Drone Technology in Fisheries and Aquaculture sector - regarding

Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying (MoF, AH&D) Government of India has launched a Nationwide Drone Demonstration Technology in Fisheries and Aquaculture sector across all States/Union Territories. The program aims to enhance technological understanding, stimulate industry growth, and address both regional and national needs through the strategic use of drones. The demonstration will focus on the key applications such as Transportation of fish from production centre to Market, Inputs dispensing in aquaculture field, emergency aid during fishing, water quality analysis in open water bodies etc.

2. It has been decided with the approval of the competent authority to constitute a Technical Committee to formulate Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on application of Drone Technology in Fisheries and Aquaculture sector.

3. The composition of the Committee will be as under:

1	Chief Executive, NFDB	Chairman
2	Director, ICAR-CIFRI, Barrackpore	Member
3	Director, ICAR – CMFRI, Kochi	Member
4	Director, ICAR – CIBA, Chennai	Member
5	Director, ICAR – CIFA, Bhubaneswar	Member
6	Director, Fy. & IT, DoF GoI	Member
7	Representative from Ministry of Civil Aviation/DGCA	Member
8	Representative from DGCA	Member
9	Representative from IIT Hyderabad	Member
10	Representative from Ministry of Civil Aviation/DGCA	Member
11	SED, NFDB	Member Secretary

3. Terms of Reference (ToR):

The primary objective of the committee is to prepare comprehensive Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for the application of drone technology in the fisheries and aquaculture sector. The SOP will act as a guiding document to streamline the adoption of drone technology in fisheries and aquaculture, ensuring efficiency, safety, and sustainability.

- a) The committee will prepare SOPs addressing the following applications of drone technology:
 - i. Fish transportation: Utilizing drones for safe and efficient transportation of fish and fish products in remote and inaccessible regions.
 - ii. Feed distribution: Automating and optimizing feed distribution to aquaculture farms, ensuring uniformity and minimizing wastage.
 - iii. Disease control and management: Using drones for early detection, prevention, and management of diseases in aquaculture systems.
 - iv. Underwater monitoring: employing drones with advanced sensors for monitoring water quality, fish health, and habitat conditions.

- v. Surveillance and other relevant areas: nsuring farm security, monitoring illegal activities, and addressing environmental concerns through aerial surveillance.
- vi. Any other innovative use cases that enhance operational efficiency in fisheries and aquaculture.

(b) Technical, Safety and legal Considerations: Drone specifications and performance standards. Safety protocols for drone operation. Risk assessment and mitigation measures. Integration of drones with existing aquaculture systems and infrastructure. The committee will examine and incorporate all technical, safety, and legal requirements necessary for the practical implementation of drone technology in various regions across the country. Recommend modifications or additional provisions specific to fisheries and aquaculture. Address concerns related to privacy, environmental impact, and compliance with government policies

(c) Training and Capacity Building: The committee will Identify training requirements for operators, technicians, and stakeholders. Recommend capacity-building programs, including skill development workshops, certifications, and knowledge-sharing platforms.

(d) The committee will address any other relevant aspects not explicitly mentioned in the ToR that are necessary for effectively integrating drone technology into fisheries applications.

(e) Consultation with Experts: The Committee may co-opt experts if required

(f) The committee will report progress periodically to Joint Secretary(MF) for review and finalization.

4. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.

(Subhash Chandra)
Director (Fisheries)

To:

To all the members of the Committee

Copy to:

1. PPS to Secretary, DoF, GoI, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. PSO to Joint Secretary, (Marine Fisheries), DoF, GoI, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
3. PS to Joint Secretary (Inland Fisheries) DoF, GoI, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.