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UNIVERSITY OF KERALA
Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India – 695034
(Established as University of Travancore by the Travancore University Act in1937 and reconstituted as University of Kerala by the Kerala University Act of 1957 and presently governed by the Kerala University Act of 1974 passed by the Kerala State Legislative Assembly)
(Re-accredited by NAAC with A++ Grade)

55563/PLANNING D/2026/UOK
13.11.2026

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Call for Expression of Interest (EoI)

Sub:- Inviting Expression of Interest (EoI) for Soft Component - Item No. 24: Workshop at University - funded by PM-USHA - reg:-

1. Background & Context

Under the PM-USHA initiative, the University of Kerala proposes to organize a University-level Workshop on Democratization of Knowledge. The workshop is envisaged as a multidisciplinary platform for deliberation, dialogue, and co-creation, bringing together academicians, students, researchers, practitioners, policymakers, community representatives, and other stakeholders to examine barriers to equitable access, production, dissemination, and utilization of knowledge.

The workshop aims to develop innovative frameworks, strategies, and intervention models that promote the democratization of knowledge across educational, scientific, technological, cultural, and societal domains. Special emphasis shall be placed on participatory approaches, inclusive knowledge systems, community engagement, open-access practices, indigenous knowledge integration, and knowledge equity.

Expressions of Interest (EOIs) are invited from interested faculty members, individually or as multidisciplinary teams, to conceptualize, coordinate, and conduct the workshop.

2. Core Objectives

The proposed workshop shall aims to:

- Examine contemporary challenges and opportunities in the democratization of knowledge.
- Facilitate dialogue among diverse stakeholders on inclusive and equitable knowledge ecosystems.
- Identify barriers affecting access to knowledge, education, research outputs, and technological resources.
- Explore mechanisms for integrating academic, indigenous, local, and experiential knowledge systems.
- Develop innovative intervention models, policy recommendations, and

implementation frameworks that promote knowledge accessibility and participation.
- Create opportunities for student engagement and interdisciplinary collaboration.
- Generate actionable knowledge products that may guide future PM-USHA initiatives, community engagement programmes, and institutional policies.

3. Focus Areas

Proposals may focus on one or more of the following themes:

- Democratization of Knowledge in Higher Education.
- Open Science, Open Access, and Public Scholarship.
- Indigenous, Local, and Community Knowledge Systems.
- Digital Inclusion and Knowledge Accessibility.
- Artificial Intelligence and Equitable Access to Knowledge.
- Citizen Science and Participatory Research.
- Knowledge Co-Creation and Community Engagement.
- Inclusive Pedagogies and Learning Ecosystems.
- Science Communication and Public Understanding of Science.
- Knowledge Equity, Social Justice, and Sustainable Development.
- Policy Frameworks for Knowledge Democratization.
- Best Practices and Models for Public Engagement in Knowledge Creation.

4. Scope for Multidisciplinary Participation

Faculty members from all Departments and Centres of the University are encouraged to participate. Interdisciplinary proposals drawing expertise from multiple domains shall be given preference.

Illustrative areas of contribution include:

- **Science and Technology Disciplines:** Open science, citizen science, scientific literacy, technology-enabled knowledge dissemination.
- **Social Sciences:** Knowledge equity, participatory governance, community engagement, policy studies.
- **Humanities:** Knowledge traditions, cultural inclusion, language accessibility, heritage knowledge systems.
- **Education:** Inclusive pedagogies, curriculum innovation, experiential learning models.
- **Computer Science and Information Technology:** Digital platforms, open educational resources, AI-enabled knowledge access.
- **Law and Public Policy:** Intellectual property, knowledge rights, open-access policies, legal frameworks.
- **Media and Communication Studies:** Science communication, public engagement, knowledge dissemination strategies.

5. Programme Structure

The selected team shall be expected to organize:

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- **One University-level workshop/event.**
- **Budget ceiling: ₹1,00,000/- (Rupees One Lakh only).**
- **Minimum target participation: 300 participants.**
- Participation may include faculty members, students, researchers, policymakers, NGOs, industry representatives, civil society organizations, and community stakeholders.

6. Expected Deliverables

The selected team shall be expected to:

1. Conduct the approved University-level workshop.
2. Ensure participation of at least 300 stakeholders representing diverse sectors.
3. Prepare a comprehensive workshop report documenting deliberations, recommendations, and outcomes.
4. Develop a **Framework Document on Democratization of Knowledge** outlining proposed intervention strategies and implementation pathways.
5. Generate policy recommendations, white papers, concept notes, or knowledge resources emerging from the deliberations.
6. Submit participant details, photographs, media reports, feedback analysis, and workshop proceedings.
7. Furnish utilization details and supporting documents in accordance with PM-USHA and University norms.

7. Eligibility Criteria

- Applicants must be permanent teaching faculty members of the Departments / Centres of the University of Kerala.
- Proposals involving collaborative / inter-departmental teams with a designated **Convenor** and **Co-Convener(s)** from different streams will be given preference.

8. Proposal Submission Guidelines

Interested faculty members are requested to submit their proposal in the prescribed format (Annexure A).

9. General Conditions

The proposals will be subject to scrutiny and process in accordance with the approved DPR, recommendations of the PMU, applicable PM-USHA guidelines and the norms of the University. Hence the contents of the proposals and selection criteria shall be appropriate to the objectives of the programme, and the proposals if any for selection process shall be in a fair and transparent manner. On approval of workshop it shall be implemented within the sanctioned budget ceiling of ₹1,00,000/-. Any financial or administrative commitment beyond the scope of the approved proposal shall be subject to separate approval of the competent authority. The implementation of the programme and its outcomes will be placed before the Board of Governors (BoG), PM-USHA, as applicable.

10. Timeline & Submission Details

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- **Last Date for Submission:** [14 working days from issuance]
- **Submission Mode:** Soft copy via email to planningd@keralauniversity.ac.in
- **One signed hard copy forwarded to:** Registrar, University of Kerala

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Registrar(i/c)

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The document is digitally approved. Hence signature is not needed.

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ANNEXURE A:

APPLICATION FORMAT FOR EoI

1. **Title of the Proposed Workshop**
2. **Name of the Convenor, Department, Email, Ph:**
3. **Name(s) of the Co-Convenor(s), Department, Email, Ph:**
4. **Theme and Rationale**: Relevance to the democratization of knowledge and PM-USHA objectives.
5. **Objectives of the Workshop**: Clearly indicating the expected contribution towards enhancing equitable access, creation, dissemination, and utilization of knowledge.
6. **Conceptual Framework**: Description of the proposed approach for knowledge democratization, including stakeholder engagement, inclusivity, and participatory methodologies.
7. **Workshop Design and Methodology**: Proposed technical sessions, panel discussions, interactive workshops, round-table deliberations, exhibitions, demonstrations, or other engagement mechanisms.
8. **Stakeholder Participation Plan**: Details of the proposed participants, resource persons, experts, policymakers, students, civil society organizations, community representatives, and other stakeholders.
9. **Expected Outputs and Outcomes**: Intervention models, policy recommendations, framework documents, white papers, action plans, educational resources, or other knowledge products.
10. **Student Engagement Plan**: Proposed involvement of FYUGP, postgraduate, and research students.
11. **Dissemination Strategy**: Mechanisms for sharing workshop outcomes with the wider academic community and society.
12. **Expected Participation**: Demonstration of the team's ability to mobilize and engage a minimum of 300 participants.
13. **Budget Estimate and Detailed Break-up**: Subject to a maximum allocation of ₹1,00,000/-.
14. **Implementation Timeline**: Schedule for planning, conduct, reporting, and submission of outputs.