

## Expression of Interest (Eoi)

Invitation for Joint Healthcare Research and Collaborative R&D Proposals

### **NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (NIELIT), CALICUT CENTRE**

This is a general, non-project-specific Eoi for identifying and engaging potential collaborators in healthcare research, innovation and joint R&D proposal development.

<b>Eoi No.</b>	NIELITC/2026/Eoi-HC
<b>Who may apply</b>	Researchers, scientists, academic/R&D institutions, industry, startups, MSMEs and consortiums of entities
<b>Nature of engagement</b>	Joint healthcare research, co-development, pilots, validation studies and exploration of collaborative R&D proposals
<b>Dates</b>	Issue date – 21 <sup>st</sup> April 2026 Submission deadline – Open Committee presentation dates – At appropriate times as decided by the competent authority

Purpose: to invite broad-based collaboration with NIELIT Calicut Centre for healthcare research, translational innovation and development of future project-specific joint proposals.

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## 1. Notice Inviting Eol

NIELIT Calicut Centre invites Expressions of Interest from researchers, scientists, academic institutions, research organisations, industry, startups, MSMEs and consortiums of entities for collaboration in joint healthcare research and for exploring joint research and development proposals.

This Eol is generic in nature and is not tied to any single project, product, disease area, funding scheme or procurement requirement. The intent is to create a broad collaboration pipeline and identify capable partners for co-creation, translational research, proof-of-concept development, validation studies, pilot initiatives, proposal writing and other innovation-led healthcare activities.

Responses received against this Eol may be used by NIELIT Calicut Centre to shortlist, empanel, interact with, or invite one or more applicants for further discussions, committee presentations, thematic workshops, joint concept development, execution of MoUs/NDAs or development of project-specific proposals, subject to internal approvals and applicable rules.

## 2. Disclaimer

1. This Eol is only an invitation to express interest and does not constitute a tender, request for proposal, offer, award, assurance of selection, or commitment of funding by NIELIT Calicut Centre.
2. The information contained in this document is indicative and non-exhaustive. Applicants are expected to make their own assessment before submission.
3. NIELIT Calicut Centre reserves the right to modify, suspend, cancel or re-issue this Eol, in whole or in part, without assigning any reason.
4. NIELIT Calicut Centre may accept or reject any submission, call for additional information, interact with one or more applicants, or decide not to proceed with any collaboration arising out of this Eol.
5. No reimbursement shall be made towards any cost incurred by applicants in preparation or submission of their Eol, participation in meetings, presentations or due-diligence interactions.
6. Any future collaboration, funding support, data access, pilot implementation or project execution shall be subject to separate approvals and execution of appropriate agreements on mutually agreed terms.
7. All decisions of NIELIT Calicut Centre with respect to this Eol process shall be final and binding.

## 3. Background and Purpose

NIELIT Calicut Centre intends to encourage interdisciplinary collaboration at the intersection of electronics, information technology and healthcare. Through this Eol, the Centre seeks to identify competent partners who can work jointly in research, innovation, translation and proposal development in areas relevant to healthcare and public-interest technology.

The Eol is intended to provide a flexible framework for engaging with individuals as well as institutions that can contribute scientific knowledge, engineering capability, clinical understanding, product development experience, data science expertise, field implementation capability or other relevant strengths. The broad objective is to build a pool of collaborators for healthcare-focused R&D initiatives of mutual relevance.

## 4. Objectives of Collaboration

- To identify qualified researchers, scientists, institutions, companies, startups, MSMEs and consortiums for collaboration with NIELIT Calicut Centre in healthcare research and innovation.

- To jointly conceptualise and develop research themes, proof-of-concepts, prototypes, demonstrators, digital platforms, algorithms, tools or systems relevant to healthcare.
- To explore preparation and submission of joint R&D proposals to government agencies, industry sponsors, multilateral programmes, academic funding bodies or other suitable mechanisms.
- To enable technical validation, pilot studies, field trials, translational research, implementation research or deployment-oriented studies wherever relevant.
- To encourage interdisciplinary work spanning engineering, information technology, healthcare delivery, medical devices, digital health, data systems, AI and assistive technologies.
- To support capacity building, knowledge exchange, training, publications, intellectual property generation and technology transfer, as may be appropriate under subsequent agreements.

## 5. Indicative Areas for Joint Healthcare Research and Development

The following areas are illustrative and not exhaustive. Applicants may propose other relevant healthcare R&D themes aligned with the capabilities and interests of NIELIT Calicut Centre:

- Medical electronics, sensors, wearables, biomedical instrumentation and low-cost diagnostic or screening technologies.
- Digital health platforms, telemedicine tools, remote monitoring systems, healthcare workflow systems and interoperable software solutions.
- Artificial intelligence, machine learning, computer vision, clinical decision support, health analytics and responsible use of healthcare data.
- Health informatics, data platforms, cybersecurity, privacy-preserving systems, interoperability and standards-based digital health solutions.
- Assistive technologies, rehabilitation technologies, accessibility-focused innovations and inclusive design for healthcare.
- Prototype development, proof-of-concept validation, design optimisation, usability studies, implementation research and field pilots.
- Training systems, simulation tools, skill-development modules and digital resources for healthcare education or service delivery.
- Collaborative translational research involving academic, clinical, industry and innovation ecosystem partners.

## 6. Who May Apply and Eligibility

### 6.1 Eligible Applicants

- Individual researchers and scientists with relevant qualifications, experience and demonstrable work in healthcare or allied technology domains.
- Academic institutions, research organisations, laboratories, centres of excellence and hospitals/medical institutions.
- Companies, industry bodies, startups, MSMEs and innovation-led enterprises working in healthcare, medical technology, electronics, software, data science or related fields.

- Consortiums of two or more entities, with one lead applicant clearly identified for correspondence and coordination.
- Applicants proposing multidisciplinary teams combining research, technical, clinical, implementation or commercialization expertise.

## 6.2 Basic Eligibility Conditions

- The applicant should have demonstrable capability, prior work or a credible plan relevant to the proposed healthcare research or R&D collaboration.
- For institutional, industry, startup, MSME or consortium applicants, valid registration/incorporation details should be furnished wherever applicable.
- For individual applicants, curriculum vitae, affiliation details (if any) and evidence of relevant experience, publications, patents, products, projects or other contributions should be provided.
- The applicant should not be blacklisted, debarred or under any material restriction by any Government department, public authority or funding agency.
- The applicant should be willing to comply with applicable requirements relating to ethics approvals, patient/data privacy, regulatory compliance, confidentiality and intellectual property, wherever relevant.
- In the case of a consortium, roles and responsibilities of each member should be clearly stated and a lead applicant shall be nominated.
- Startups, MSMEs and early-stage innovators are encouraged to apply. Lack of large turnover alone shall not be a ground for rejection under this general EoI, provided technical merit is demonstrated.

## 7. Modes of Collaboration

Depending on the subject matter, maturity of the idea and administrative approvals, the engagement arising out of this EoI may take one or more of the following forms:

- Joint ideation and problem-definition discussions.
- Preparation of concept notes and project-specific joint R&D proposals.
- Execution of collaborative research projects, proof-of-concept studies or pilot initiatives.
- Technical validation, field studies, demonstration activities or deployment-oriented evaluation.
- Knowledge exchange, training, mentoring, workshops and capacity-building initiatives.
- Potential execution of NDAs, MoUs, project agreements, data-sharing arrangements, IP frameworks or technology transfer arrangements, as may be required for specific collaborations.

Issuance of this EoI by itself shall not create any exclusive relationship, partnership, funding commitment or guaranteed work allocation. Any formal collaboration will be governed by separate approved documentation.

## 8. Submission Requirements and Application Process

### 8.1 Documents to be submitted

- Covering letter / expression of interest on applicant letterhead (where applicable).

- Applicant profile, including contact details and legal/entity status or affiliation details, as applicable.
- Brief note on relevant experience, key projects, publications, patents, products, pilots, deployments or other significant contributions.
- Details of proposed team members and available facilities/infrastructure relevant to the proposed collaboration.
- A short concept note describing the broad healthcare problem area, proposed collaboration approach, expected outcomes and the envisaged role of NIELIT Calicut Centre.
- Declaration regarding correctness of information and non-blacklisting.
- For consortiums, a consortium letter / undertaking / MoU clearly identifying the lead applicant and broad role of each member.

## 8.2 Mode of Submission

The EoI may be submitted in soft copy and/or hard copy in the manner notified by NIELIT Calicut Centre. The issuing authority may specify the submission email address, postal address, file format, page limit for concept note, and deadline at the time of release of the EoI notice.

NIELIT Calicut Centre may seek clarifications, additional documents or revised concept notes from any applicant during evaluation. Mere submission of an EoI shall not entitle any applicant to further interaction as a matter of right.

## 9. Evaluation and Selection Methodology

### 9.1 Evaluation Process

- Stage 1: Preliminary screening of submissions for completeness and basic eligibility.
- Stage 2: Written technical evaluation of eligible submissions on 80 marks.
- Stage 3: Presentation before an Evaluation Committee on 20 marks for shortlisted applicants as the final selection step.

Only applicants found eligible at Stage 1 shall be considered for written technical evaluation. Applicants securing a minimum of 50 marks out of 80 in the written technical evaluation may be shortlisted for presentation before the Committee. Final recommendation/shortlisting/empanelment shall be based on the combined score out of 100, subject to the discretion of NIELIT Calicut Centre.

### 9.2 Overall Evaluation Score Distribution

Head	Evaluation Head	Marks	Weightage
A	Applicant profile and domain credentials	20	20%
B	Relevant healthcare / health-tech research and innovation experience	20	20%
C	Team strength, facilities and collaboration readiness	20	20%

D	Quality and feasibility of the proposed collaboration concept	20	20%
E	Presentation before the Evaluation Committee	20	20%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 9.3 Basic Technical Evaluation Criteria

**Head A – Applicant Profile and Domain Credentials (20 marks):** Assessment of the applicant’s background, relevance of qualifications, institutional profile or organisational credentials, and demonstrated alignment with healthcare or allied technology domains. Illustrative evidence may include CVs, institutional profile, registration/incorporation documents, publication list, patents, recognitions or portfolio summary.

**Head B – Relevant Healthcare / Health-Tech Research and Innovation Experience (20 marks):** Assessment of prior or ongoing work relevant to healthcare research, medical technology, digital health, biomedical engineering, AI in healthcare, clinical/field pilots, product development, implementation studies or comparable innovation activities. Illustrative evidence may include project summaries, published work, patents, prototype notes, pilot reports, deployment briefs or client/user validation.

**Head C – Team Strength, Facilities and Collaboration Readiness (20 marks):** Assessment of the proposed multidisciplinary team, availability of key experts, access to laboratories, computing resources, testing facilities, hospital/clinical linkages, field implementation capability, or other relevant infrastructure. The clarity of roles in the case of consortiums will also be considered.

**Head D – Quality and Feasibility of the Proposed Collaboration Concept (20 marks):** Assessment of the submitted concept note with reference to clarity of problem statement, relevance to healthcare, novelty, technical soundness, feasibility, expected outcomes, societal or translational relevance, and clarity regarding the expected contribution of NIELIT Calicut Centre.

**Head E – Presentation before the Evaluation Committee (20 marks):** Shortlisted applicants will make a presentation before the Committee. The presentation will be evaluated on clarity of articulation, technical depth, practical feasibility, readiness for collaboration, ability to respond to committee queries, and the overall suitability of the applicant/proposal for engagement with NIELIT Calicut Centre.

Selection note: NIELIT Calicut Centre may shortlist or empanel one or more applicants based on merit and may also decide to carry forward only specific themes for further discussion. The 20-mark presentation shall form the final stage of evaluation for shortlisted applicants.

## 10. Indicative Schedule

Activity	Timeline
Issue of EoI	21 <sup>st</sup> April 2026
Last date for submission of queries, if any	Queries will be attended on Fridays
Last date for submission of EoI	Open

Preliminary scrutiny and written evaluation	At appropriate times as decided by the competent authority
Presentation before Committee for shortlisted applicants	Within two weeks after preliminary scrutiny and written evaluation
Communication of outcome / further interaction	Within one week after presentation

## 11. General Terms and Conditions

- This EoI is a collaborative outreach mechanism and shall not be construed as a procurement or award document.
- Any collaboration arising from this EoI shall be subject to separate discussions, approvals and execution of appropriate legal/administrative agreements.
- Confidentiality, data sharing, ethics approvals, patient privacy, security obligations and regulatory responsibilities shall be governed by the relevant project-specific arrangement.
- Any intellectual property, foreground IP, background IP, publication rights, licensing, commercialisation or technology transfer matters shall be addressed separately for each engagement.
- Applicants shall ensure that all information submitted is true, complete and not misleading. Suppression or misrepresentation of material facts may lead to rejection at any stage.
- NIELIT Calicut Centre may seek presentations, meetings, site visits, demonstrations or additional documentation from any applicant, without thereby creating any obligation to proceed.
- NIELIT Calicut Centre reserves the right to engage with individual applicants, institutions or consortiums in a manner considered appropriate and compliant with applicable rules.
- The applicant shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of the EoI and participation in the evaluation process.
- Where required, collaborations in healthcare shall comply with applicable ethical, institutional, clinical, regulatory, data-protection and legal requirements.
- NIELIT Calicut Centre may amend this EoI, extend deadlines, or issue clarifications/addenda prior to the submission deadline.

## 12. Annexure I: Application Formats

### 12.1 Format 1 – Covering Letter / Expression of Interest

To:

The Executive Director

NIELIT Calicut Centre

[Address / email to be inserted]

Subject: Submission of Expression of Interest for Joint Healthcare Research and Collaborative R&D Proposals

Dear Sir / Madam,

In response to the EoI issued by NIELIT Calicut Centre, I / we hereby submit our Expression of Interest for collaboration in the area of healthcare research and/or joint R&D proposal development. The required details and supporting information are enclosed for consideration.

Name of applicant / lead applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of applicant: Individual / Institution / Industry / Startup / MSME / Consortium / Other

Proposed theme / area of collaboration: \_\_\_\_\_

Sincerely,

Authorised signatory / applicant name: \_\_\_\_\_

Designation / affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Place: \_\_\_\_\_

### 12.2 Format 2 – Applicant Details

Field	Details
Name of applicant / organization	_____ _____
Type of applicant	_____ _____
Affiliation / registration details (if applicable)	_____ _____
Year of establishment / years of experience	_____ _____
Registered office / correspondence address	_____ _____
Website (if any)	_____ _____
Key contact person	_____ _____
Phone / mobile / email	_____ _____
Consortium lead / member role (if applicable)	_____ _____
Brief areas of work / expertise	_____ _____

<b>Blacklisting / debarment status</b>	_____
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### 12.3 Format 3 – Relevant Experience and Key Contributions

Provide a brief summary of relevant work in healthcare / health-tech / biomedical / digital health / public health technology / allied areas. The summary may include projects, publications, patents, prototypes, pilots, products, field studies or notable outcomes.

Sl. No.	Title / Project / Contribution	Brief relevance / outcome	Year

### 12.4 Format 4 – Team and Available Facilities / Infrastructure

A. Proposed key team members (attach CVs / profiles as annexure if needed):

Sl. No.	Name	Role / Expertise	Affiliation Organisation /

B. Available facilities / infrastructure / linkages relevant to the proposed collaboration:

- Laboratory / workshop / prototyping facilities: \_\_\_\_\_
- Software / computing / data / cloud resources: \_\_\_\_\_
- Clinical / field / institutional linkages: \_\_\_\_\_
- Any other relevant capability: \_\_\_\_\_

### 12.5 Format 5 – Concept Note Template

- Title of proposed collaboration / theme
- Problem statement / healthcare need being addressed
- Brief description of proposed approach and technical concept
- Why collaboration with NIELIT Calicut Centre is being proposed
- Expected outputs / outcomes / likely impact
- Indicative work plan and timeline
- Role of applicant and role expected from NIELIT Calicut Centre

- Any identified partners, users, hospitals, field sites or funding opportunities (if available)

### 12.6 Format 6 – Declaration

I / We hereby declare that the information submitted in this EoI is true and correct to the best of my / our knowledge and belief. I / We understand that submission of this EoI does not create any right to selection, funding or award. I / We also confirm that I / we are not blacklisted or debarred by any Government department or public authority.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Designation / affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Place: \_\_\_\_\_

### 13. Annexure II: Consortium Undertaking (Optional)

This format may be used where the EoI is being submitted by a consortium of two or more entities.

- Name of lead applicant / nodal entity: \_\_\_\_\_
- Names of consortium members: \_\_\_\_\_
- Broad role of each member: \_\_\_\_\_
- Single point of contact for correspondence: \_\_\_\_\_
- We confirm that the consortium members have discussed the proposed collaboration and agree in principle to work together for the purpose of this EoI and any subsequent detailed discussions, subject to mutually agreed terms and approvals.

Signature of lead applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature(s) of consortium member(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Place: \_\_\_\_\_

*End of document*