

KANNUR, March 22, 2013

Kannur airport project gains momentum

Request-for-proposal bidding to be issued on March 30

The announcement of a request-for-proposal (RFP) bidding schedule for the construction of the Kannur International Airport is expected to give a new momentum to the airport project coming up at Mattannur here.

Seven companies have been shortlisted from bidders participated in a request-for-qualification tender floated for determining eligible companies for engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) contract to do earthwork, runway construction, and other works .

As per the RFP bidding schedule announced by Minister of Ports K. Babu in the Assembly on Thursday in reply to a submission from A.P. Abdullakutty, MLA, the RFP bidding would be issued on March 30 and the last date for receiving queries was April 15. The pre-bid meeting would be held on April 16, while the bid due date and due date for opening technical proposal would be May 15. Financial bids would be opened on May 20. The letter of award (LOA) would be issued within 10 days of bid date and the contract agreement would be signed within 20 days of the issue of the LOA. The seven shortlisted companies are Sanjose Gammon JV, Larsen and Tourbro Ltd., TAV-Essar, EKO-Unity JV, OJSC Sibmost – Gayatri JV, GMR Infrastructure, and ITD Cementation India Ltd. The companies were shortlisted by Kannur International Airport Ltd. (KIAL) director board meeting on March 20, according to information from the office of the Minister.

The Minister also informed that the third-phase land acquisition process for the airport project was under way. An extent of 1,278 acres had already been acquired for the airport. The total land requirement was 2,000 acres. The State-level empowered committee had already approved the land price proposed by the district-level purchase committee after re-negotiating the price of land for acquiring 642 acres.

Greenfield road

A major infrastructure work envisaged as part of the airport project is the Kannur-Mattannur greenfield road. The Kerala State Road Fund Board has been entrusted to do the survey work for the project.

The Minister informed that the survey work was in progress. The Hong Kong-based AECOM Asia, which had been appointed the integrated project consultancy for construction of the airport, had prepared a new master plan of the airport. The Minister said the master plan had been approved by the director-board meeting. The master plan had been prepared in consultation with the Directorate General of Civil Aviation, Airport Authority of India, Bureau of Civil Aviation Security, and the Indian Meteorological Department.