

Eye in the sky to monitor farmlands

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The Agriculture Department is preparing to deploy unmanned aerial vehicles to assess crop damage caused by pests, diseases and natural disasters and to carry out soil and field analysis. The department has developed the drone technology in collaboration with IIT, Chennai, and the Indian Institute of Space Technology.

Agriculture Minister V.S. Sunil Kumar said the technology which relies on a helicam to capture overhead images of farmlands had been tried out in Kuttanad and Methran Kayal.

He added that drones would be pressed into service soon in Thrissur, Pon-nani, Vattavada, Kanthal-lur and Attappady. Across