**AI Elephant Project Plan for 2023-24**

Deliver by Onam 2024, a rigid-bodied, full-sized, mobile, AI Elephant that has senses of vision, audition, and touch. The elephant will recognize a mahout and obey his/her commands. Body parts of the elephant will move in response to external stimuli. It will also move around, using a robotic platform.

1. The AI Elephant will identify and obey only one mahout at a time. It will have the ability to individually identify about 5 different mahouts.

The elephant will first sense the presence of a nearby mahout using his/her key fob. Then mahout’s identity will be confirmed using vision and speech.

1. The AI Elephant will recognize about a dozen commonly used, isolated-word commands of the mahout. Everything else is rejected as noise.
2. The AI Elephant will have:

A) A specific set of body-part movements in response to mahout’s spoken commands. For example, raise the trunk and give *ashirvad* to the person in-front.

B) A specific set of whole-body movements on rigid surfaces. For example, move to the left.

For 3B, an independent team will design a movable platform that can carry the elephant stably and execute a rudimentary set of movements. The AI Elephant will then be placed on this platform.

1. The AI Elephant will be aware of its surroundings and it will not collide with any of the neighboring objects. For example, walls.

We plan to create a simulation environment and demonstrate feasibility of the above first and then transfer these abilities to a life-sized elephant.

Approximate budget for year-1: