

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 1925
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 7th August 2023)

DRONE THREATS TO AIRPORTS

1925. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Government has brought out any specific policies or guidelines to prevent drone threats to airports and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has mandated a standardized operating protocol across airports in the country to ensure that drone attacks do not happen; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))

(a) to (c) Yes Sir.

The Ministry of Civil Aviation has notified the Drone Rules, 2021 for regulating drone operations in the country. In the Drone Rules, 2021. The area up to 5 km from perimeter of airport has been declared as red zone. In addition, the airspace around the airport between 5 km and 8 km from the boundary has been declared as (inner) yellow zone. Further, an (outer) yellow zone has also been declared in the map which is the airspace above 200 feet or 60 meter in the area located between the lateral distance of 8 kilometer and 12 kilometer from the perimeter of an operational airport.

In red zone, drone operation is restricted and shall require prior permission from the Central Government and in yellow zone, drone operation requires prior permission from the concerned air traffic control authority.

As per Rule 49(2) of Drone Rules, 2021, operation of drone in red zone without prior permission a cognizable and non compoundable offence.
