GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 2721 (TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 18th August 2025)

INDIA'S DRONE ECOSYSTEM

2721. SHRI NARHARI AMIN
SHRI MAYANKKUMAR NAYAK
DR. ANIL SUKHDEORAO BONDE
SHRI NARAYANA KORAGAPPA

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

- (a) the number of Remote Pilot Training Organisation (RPTO) authorisations, Type Certificates, Unique Identification Numbers (UINs), and Remote Pilot Certificates (RPCs) issued, over the last three years;
- (b) the key regulatory steps taken during this period to streamline drone operations, including any revisions to training guidelines; and
- (c) the measures adopted to promote indigenous drone manufacturing and ensure compliance with Drone Rules, 2021?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) The number of Remote Pilot Training Organisations (RPTOs), Type Certificates (TCs), Unique Identification Numbers (UINs), and Remote Pilot Certificates (RPCs) issued during the period from 01.08.2022 to 31.07.2025 are as follows:

RPTOs 178 TC 120 UIN 31,812 RPCs 29,827

- (b) In order to streamline drone operations, Ministry of Civil Aviation has taken several steps, as under:
- i. Promulgated liberalized Drone Rules, 2021 on 25th August 2021.
- ii. Further, amended Drone Rules 2021 eliminating the mandatory requirement of passport for the RPC as well as registration and de-registration/transfer of drone.

Now, a government issued proof of identity and a government issued proof of address i.e. Voter ID, Ration Card or Driving License can be accepted for RPC, registration and de-registration or transfer of drones.

iii. No permission is required in green zones. Permission of concerned Air Traffic Control (ATC) is required for operating drones in yellow zone. Permission of Ministry of Civil Aviation and the concerned red zone owners would be required for operating drones in red zone

iv. Published the Certification Scheme for Unmanned Aircraft, 2022 to establish a global certification and accreditation framework for drones that would scale, with appropriate safeguards, the commercial application of various drone technologies. v. The Indian Airspace was opened for drone operations by making almost 90% of the Airspace as green zones where operations could be undertaken without any permission.

vi. Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued Drone Training Circular (DTC)-01 of 2023 on 15.02.2023 and its revision on 21.08.2023, 19.08.2024 as a requirements for approval to Train the Trainer, Instructor Rating, Master Instructor, Authorisation and change management.

(c) To promote indigenous drone manufacturing, Ministry of Civil Aviation notified Production Linked Incentive for drones and drone components on 30th September, 2021 with a total incentive of Rs 120 crores spread over three Financial Years (FYs) i.e., FY 2021-22 to FY 2023-24.
