

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 2606
(To be answered on the 22nd December 2022)**

DRONE AND PRIVACY CONCERNS

2606. DR. SANJEEV KUMAR SINGARI

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government proposes to deal with the question of privacy when it comes to the use of UAVs and drones for the purpose of research, development and testing purposes and traffic management and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Drone Amendment Rules, 2022 are insufficient to tackle the issue of privacy and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government has organized any awareness drive to create awareness about the mechanism of obtaining certification, registration, remote pilot licenses and insurance for an unmanned aircraft system and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

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

(a) and (b) As per Drone Rules 2021 and Drone Amendment Rules 2022, drones being operated for research, development and testing purposes are free to operate in green zone such that the area where such drones are being operated is under the control of the testing entity. For operating in yellow and red zone, the permission is required from the Air Traffic Control and Central Government after checking multiple parameters like registration of drone and pilot, drone model, flight plan, purpose of the operation, etc.

As regards the dealing with the privacy issues, Rule 49(4) of the Drone Rules provides explicitly that the provisions of these rules shall be in addition, to and not in derogation, of the provisions of any other law, for the time being in force. This provision adequately covers all offences including breach of privacy covered under the relevant laws including the Information Technology Act, 2000 that has provisions for punishment for violation of privacy.

(c) To create awareness about the mechanism of obtaining certification, registration, remote pilot licenses and insurance for an unmanned aircraft system, the Central Government has organised Drone melas in States across the country to highlight the uses cases and the policy reforms.

A Bharat Drone Mahotsav 2022 was organised at Pragati Maidan during 27th-29th May 2022 in the august presence of the Hon'ble Prime Minister as the Chief Guest. The event attracted over 70 drone exhibitors and 10,000 visitors.
