Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is planning to use drone technology for mapping, monitoring, disaster management and to increase productivity in agriculture sector, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
(b) the details of illegal drone users worked under the existing Acts, especially in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala?

**ANSWER**

Minister of State (IC) in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Shri Hardeep Singh Puri)

(a) Yes, Sir. Drones have multiple uses like mapping, monitoring, surveying, disaster management, delivery of payload, etc.

Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued Civil Aviation Requirements (CAR) Section 3, Series X, Part 1 regarding the operation of civil Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS), also known as drones. The CAR has been effective from 01.12.2018.

As per the CAR, all RPAS are required to be issued with a Unique Identification Number (UIN) and all operators are required to acquire Unmanned Aircraft Operator Permit (UAOP) from DGCA. Subsequent to these approvals, the RPAS may be used for various cases as permitted vide the CAR.

(b) DGCA has launched the preliminary version of the Digital Sky Platform. This platform includes, inter-alia, features like registration of RPAS, issuance of RPAS Operator Permit, flight path approvals, tracking of RPAS flights and post flight data analysis. DGCA, thus, keeps track of the registered civil RPAS. Regarding unauthorized drones, Government of India has taken up the matter with respective State Governments/ UT Administrations.