

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 3134  
(To be answered on the 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021)**

**TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR DRONES**

**3134. SHRI MANICKAM TAGORE B.**

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्री**

**be pleased to state:-**

- (a) whether the Government has notified a Traffic Management Policy framework for drones;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that this policy requires integration of UAS Traffic Management (UTM) and Air Traffic Management (ATM) to separate manned and unmanned aircraft from each other and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the total number of requests received by the Government so far for operation of drone services?

**ANSWER**

**Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री**

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

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(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Civil Aviation has issued National Unmanned Aircraft System Traffic Management (UTM) Policy Framework on 24 October 2021 for, inter-alia, facilitating safe and seamless transfer of goods by unmanned aircraft systems within and across zones.

On 24 September 2021, the drone airspace map of the country has been published on the digital sky platform. The map demarcates India's entire airspace into red, yellow and green zones. Operation of drones in red and yellow zones is subject to permission from the Central Government and concerned Air Traffic Control authority respectively. No approval is required for operation of drones in green zones which means the airspace upto a vertical distance of 400 feet.

The UTM policy framework is a dynamic document subject to changes based on technological advancements, actual experiences and other developments in airspace management systems.

(c) The UTM Policy Framework seeks to achieve the phased objective of segregation to accommodate and integrate unmanned aircraft systems into the

**Indian airspace for which UTM and Air Traffic Management (ATM) systems are required to communicate with each other at the systems level.**

**(d) As per Drone Rules, 2021, no permission is required to operate drones in green zones on the airspace map published in the Digital Sky platform. Ministry of Civil Aviation is giving permission for drone usage in red zones on case to case basis. Till 09 Dec 2021, eight organisations have been given permission under Drone Rules, 2021 to conduct various drone activities in red zones.**

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