

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
Lok Sabha
STARRED QUESTION NO. : 290
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 20th March 2025)
OPERATION OF UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM

290. SHRI SACHITHANANTHAM R

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

be pleased to state:-

- (a) the different kinds of aircraft systems that are currently allowed legally in the country along with the purposes for which their operations are permitted;**
- (b) whether the Government has framed any rules for the operation of Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS); and**
- (c) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

Minister of CIVIL AVIATION (Shri Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu)

- (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.**

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (C) IN RESPECT OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 290 FOR REPLY ON 20.03.2025 REGARDING OPERATION OF UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM ASKED BY SHRI SACHITHANANTHAM R; ; (a) to (c) Aircraft systems are classified as lighter than air aircraft like airships and hot air balloons and heavier than air aircraft such as aeroplane, rotorcraft, glider etc. These aircraft system are piloted by flight crew onboard the aircraft. An aircraft which is intended to be operated with no pilot on board shall be further classified as unmanned. Aircraft system that are piloted by flight crew onboard the aircraft and unmanned aircraft with all up weight above 500kg are regulated as per Aircraft Rules, 1937. Unmanned Aircraft weighing below 500 kg are regulated as per the Drone Rules, 2021. Presently, the operation of the Unmanned Aircraft System has been restricted to Visual Light of Sight (VLOS) Conditions only and the responsibility of safe operation is entrusted to the trained and certified Remote Pilots by Remote Pilot Training Organisations (RPTOs). As per the Drone Rules, 2021, each drone type has to be type certified as per the certification scheme for UAS issued on 26th January, 2022 unless exempted (Nano UAS weighing less than 250g and model remotely aircraft and R&D purpose). Further, the type certificate is issued to the drones for specific applications/use cases. As of now, drones are type certified for various applications like precision agriculture, survey, mapping, surveillance, photography, logistics etc.
