Zoning of airspace under digital sky platform

2696. PROF M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to stated:

(a)   whether the process of zoning of airspace for flying of drones into red, amber and green zones has been completed;

(b)   if so, the details thereof; and

(c)   the map and green zones that are marked for automatic approval for flying of drones under the digital sky platform, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) Civil Aviation Requirements (CAR) Section 3 - Air Transport Series X Part I Issue I, dated 27th August, 2018 issued by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation on requirements for operation of civil Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) defines the operating restrictions for drones. The process of zoning of airspace for drones is incomplete.

(b)   The details of State/UTs/Organisations for which mapping data is incomplete is as below:—

(i)   Bihar

(ii)   Ministry of Defence (Indian Army and Indian Navy); and

(iii)   Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

(c)   The airspace not marked as No Drone Fly Zone is designated as Green Zone and is mapped for automatic approval for flying of drones in digital sky application.

Night landing facility at Kullu and Shimla airports

2697. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a)   whether there is no night landing facility in many airports in the country including Kullu and Shimla airports in Himachal Pradesh;

(b)   if so, the details thereof, along with the reasons therefor;

(c)   whether Government is considering to upgrade technology to provide night landing to all airports in the country including Kullu and Shimla airports in Himachal Pradesh; and

(d)   if so, time by when it is to be upgraded and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The night landing facility is not available at many of the airports of Airports Authority of India (AAI) including Kullu and Shimla airports in Himachal Pradesh. The airports of AAI which are not equipped with night landing facility are Kadapa in Andhra Pradesh, Tezu and Pasighat in Arunachal Pradesh, Diu in Daman and Diu, Safdarjung in Delhi, Keshod and Kandla in Gujarat, Kangra, Kullu and Shimla in Himachal Pradesh, Lengpui in Mizoram, Agatti in Lakshadweep, Akola, Kolhapur, Gondia, Jalagaon, Juhu and Solapur in Maharashtra, Shillong in Meghalaya, Ludhiana in Punjab, Puducherry, in Puducherry, Kota and Kishangarh in Rajasthan, Pakyong in Sikkim, Salem and Tuticorin in Tamil Nadu, Begumpet in Telangana, Behala and Cooch Behar in West Bengal, Kanpur in Uttar Pradesh and Pantnagar in Uttarakhand. The provision of night landing facility at an airport depends upon operational requirements, traffic demand, commercial feasibility etc. and varies from airport to airport in the country.

(c) and (d) Upgradation of facilities at airports including night landing facility is a continuous process and is undertaken by the AAI depending upon commercial viability, traffic demand, operational requirements, demand from airlines, technical feasibility, availability of land etc. At Kullu and Shimla airports, the Runway Strip Width and Runway End Safety Area as mandated by Directorate General of Civil Aviation's civil aviation requirements for night landing cannot be made available due to land constraints.

Setting up new airport at Hollongi, Arunachal Pradesh

2698. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a)   whether Government has any proposal to set up a new airport at Hollongi, near Rajgarh, Arunachal Pradesh at the border of Assam-Arunachal Pradesh;

(b)   if so, what is the present status of the project therefor; and

(c)   what is the projected time for completed and operation of this airport thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Civil Aviation has