

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 813
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 6th December 2021)

TECHNOLOGY ADVANCEMENT IN ATC

813. DR. AMEE YAJNIK

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

- (a) the details of technological advancement done in the current Air Traffic Management regarding "The Unmanned Aircraft System";
- (b) whether Government has formulated any integration strategy between the Unmanned Aircraft Traffic Management and pre-existing Air Traffic Management as per safety and security concerns; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

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

(a) to (c) The drone airspace map of the country was published on the digital sky platform on 24 Sep 2021. The map clearly 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 National Unmanned Aircraft System Traffic Management (UTM) Policy Framework has been issued by the Ministry of Civil Aviation on 24 October 2021 for, inter-alia, facilitating safe and seamless transfer of goods by unmanned aircraft systems within and across zones. The UTM policy framework is a dynamic document subject to changes based on technological advancements, actual experiences and other developments in airspace management systems.

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.
