

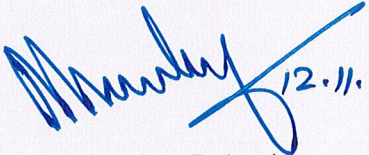
AV-29013/2/2020-SDnIT-MOCA  
Government of India  
Ministry of Civil Aviation

Rajiv Gandhi Bhavan, New Delhi  
12 Nov 2020

**ORDER**

**SUBJECT: Conditional exemption from Rule 15A of the Aircraft Rules, 1937 to International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) for agricultural research activities within ICRISAT research fields using drones**

1. Whereas, ICRISAT (the 'Applicant'), vide email dated 27 July 2020 sought an exemption from Rule 15A and CAR Section 3, Series X, Part I for the afore-mentioned purpose and subsequently received a No Objection Certificate from Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare on 12 Nov 2020.
2. Whereas based on the request of and undertaking provided by the Applicant, DGCA, vide letter no. DGCA-27046(3)/6/2020-AED dated 06 Oct 2020, accorded exemption to the Applicant from the CAR Section 3, Series X, Part I for the afore-mentioned purpose.
3. Now, therefore, the Central Government, in exercise of the powers conferred by Rule 160 of the Aircraft Rules, 1937, grants conditional exemption to the Applicant for a period as stated in the above-mentioned letter from DGCA or until further orders, whichever is earlier; from the provisions of Rule 15A of the Aircraft Rules, 1937 for the afore-mentioned purpose. This shall be subject to complete adherence to the conditions as mentioned in the DGCA letter (copy enclosed).

  
(Amber Dubey)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India

To:

1. All Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India
2. Chief Secretaries/ Administrators of all States/ Union Territories
3. DGPs/ Heads of Police of all States/ Union Territories
4. Joint Secretary (Internal Security), Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), New Delhi
5. Joint Director, Intelligence Bureau (Shri Janardan Singh), New Delhi
6. Director, G-Wing, Ministry of Defence, New Delhi
7. Gp Cpt K.B. Mathews, Air Headquarters, IAF, New Delhi
8. DG, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), New Delhi
9. DG, Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), New Delhi
10. Chairman, Airports Authority of India (AAI), New Delhi
11. PS to HMoSCA (IC), Ministry of Civil Aviation, New Delhi
12. Sr. PPS to Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation, New Delhi
13. National Informatics Centre (NIC) team, Rajiv Gandhi Bhavan, New Delhi
14. Digital Sky Platform

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
OFFICE OF THE  
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION  
OPP. SAFDARJUNG AIRPORT,  
NEW DELHI – 110 003



भारत सरकार  
महानिदेशक नागर विमानन  
का कार्यालय  
सफदरजंग एरपोर्ट के सामने  
नई दिल्ली – ११० ००३

Aircraft Engineering Directorate

विमान अभियांत्रिकी निदेशालय

Telephone/ दूरभाष: 011-24611504  
E-mail/ ई-मेल: rajasekar.dgca@nic.in

Reference No./ संख्या: DGCA-27046(3)/6/2020-AED

Dated/ दिनांक: 06 October, 2020

International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid-Tropics (ICRISAT)  
Patancheru 502 324  
Hyderabad  
Telangana

[Kind attention: Dr. Kiran Kumar Sharma, DDG - Research]

**Subject: Exemption from CAR Section 3, Series X, Part-I to use Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) for agricultural research activities within ICRISAT research field - Reg.**

Sir,

This has reference to ICRISAT letter dated 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2020 received through Ministry of Civil Aviation and e-mail correspondences pertaining to request for exemption from CAR Section 3, Series X, Part-I to use Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) for agricultural research activities within ICRISAT research field.

Based on the information provided and undertakings, this office hereby accords exemption from CAR Section 3, Series X, Part-I to ICRISAT to use Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) for agricultural research activities within ICRISAT research field. The above stated exemption shall be valid for 6 (six) months from the date of issue of this letter or until the operationalization of Digital Sky Platform (Phase-I), whichever is earlier.

However, this exemption shall be valid only if all conditions and limitations as stated in Annexure-I to this letter are strictly adhered to. In case of violation of any condition, this exemption shall become null and void.

Encl.: As stated

(G. Rajasekar)

Joint Director General of Civil Aviation  
for Director General of Civil Aviation


Copy for information to:

1. Joint Secretary (Sh. Amber Dubey), Ministry of Civil Aviation, New Delhi 110003
2. Director, G-Wing, Ministry of Defence, South Block, New Delhi 110001
3. The Executive Director (ASM), Airport Authority of India, Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi 110003 - carry out the verification and oversight of exact co-ordinates of RPAS flying and other essential permission.
4. DDG (IR), DGCA HQ- regarding permission for Aerial Photography.
5. Director (FSD), DGCA regrading Serial No. 4 of Annexure-I
6. DDG (Air Safety) - DGCA HQ.



**Conditions and limitations to ICRISAT for Data Acquisition for agricultural research activities within ICRISAT research field using Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems**

1. This exemption to ICRISAT from the relevant provisions of CAR Section 3, Series X, Part I (i.e. 5.2 (b), 5.3, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 7.1, 7.3, 9.2, 9.3, 11.1 (d), 11.2 (a), 12.4), is subject to exemption from Rule 15A of the Aircraft Rules, 1937 by Ministry of Civil Aviation.
2. ICRISAT shall obtain necessary clearances from (a) Local Administration (b) Ministry of Defence (c) Ministry of Home Affairs (d) Air Defence clearance from Indian Air Force and (e) Airport Authority of India (AAI) prior to operation of Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS).
3. ICRISAT shall only operate the RPAS which has been voluntarily disclosed to Government of India and issued with a valid Drone Acknowledgement Number (DAN) (i.e. D1DA00T2C for QUADICRISAT2019).
4. ICRISAT shall submit a comprehensive brief on the scope of operations and the copy of SOP to Flight Standards Directorate (FSD), DGCA. Operation of Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) shall be carried out only after the vetting/ approval of SOP.
5. ICRISAT shall take necessary permission regarding Aerial Photography from Directorate of Regulations & Information, DGCA.
6. The photographs/video-graphs, if taken through RPAS shall be used by ICRISAT only. ICRISAT shall be responsible for security of RPAS and data collected through RPAS.
7. The operation of RPAS shall be restricted to day operations (from sunrise to Sunset), within Visual Line Of Sight (VLOS).
8. ICRISAT shall indemnify DGCA from any legal cases or any other issues arising due to these operations.
9. ICRISAT shall ensure that the RPAS is in working condition and shall be responsible for any eventualities due to malfunction / disorientation of equipment.
10. In case of any injury to any person due to physical contact with the equipment, ICRISAT shall be responsible for medico-legal issues.
11. ICRISAT shall have adequate level of insurance to cover any damage to third party resulting from accident / incident occurred during the operation of RPAS.
12. ICRISAT shall ensure that hazardous material or variable payload are not carried in / using the RPA under any circumstances.
13. ICRISAT shall ensure safety, security and privacy of public, property, operator etc. Further, in case of any eventuality, DGCA shall not be held responsible.
14. ICRISAT shall not operate the RPAS in no-fly zones specified in Para 13.1 of the CAR Section 3, Series X, Part I without the approval of concerned Ministries/ authorities.
15. RPAS shall not be operated in the vicinity of airport as per the provisions of the CAR. If operated near the airport, approval from Airports Authority of India (AAI) shall be taken in advance regarding time and area of operations of RPAS.
16. ICRISAT shall ensure that only trained / experienced bona fide personnel operates the RPAS.
17. This letter shall not override other restrictions / SOP on Remotely Piloted Aircraft System framed by other Government Agencies.
18. In case of incident/accident during at any phase of the operations, reports to be submitted to Air Safety Directorate of DGCA.

  
06/10/2020