

File No. AV-22011/3/2020-SDIT-MOCA
Government of India
Ministry of Civil Aviation

Rajiv Gandhi Bhavan, New Delhi
Dated 06 July 2020

ORDER

SUBJECT: Conditional exemption under Rule 160 of the Aircraft Rules, 1937 from the provisions of Rule 15A of the Aircraft Rules, 1937 to Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) for aerial surveillance by RPAS

1. Whereas an email dated 04.06.2020 was received from Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) seeking exemption for use of Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) for aerial surveillance of their pipelines.
2. Whereas based on the request and undertaking of IOCL, DGCA, vide letter no. DGCA-27046(6)/6/2020-AED dated 06.07.2020, accorded exemption from the CAR Section 3, Series X, Part I to IOCL for operating RPAS for aerial surveillance of their pipelines.
3. Whereas the proposal for granting of exemption under Rule 160 of the Aircraft Rules, 1937 in favour of IOCL for the purpose mentioned above has been examined in this Ministry.
4. Now, therefore, the Central Government, in exercise of the powers conferred by Rule 160 of the Aircraft Rules, 1937, grants conditional exemption to IOCL for a period of four months with effect from 06.07.2020 or till further orders, whichever is earlier, from the provisions of Rule 15A of the Aircraft Rules, 1937 for operating RPAS for aerial surveillance of IOCL pipelines, subject to the conditions listed in the above-mentioned 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 of the State Governments and Administrators of UTs.
3. DGPs / Heads of Police of the States / Union Territories
4. Joint Secretary (Internal Security), Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), New Delhi
5. Joint Director, Intelligence Bureau (Shri. Jag Mohan), New Delhi
6. Director, G-Wing, Ministry of Defence, New Delhi
7. DG, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), New Delhi
8. DG, Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), New Delhi
9. Chairman, Airports Authority of India (AAI), New Delhi
10. Gp.Capt. KB Mathews, Ops AD (GE), IAF, Air Head Qrs, New Delhi
11. Shri S S Gupta, Chief General Manager (Maintenance & Inspection), IOCL [email: ssgupta@indianoil.in]
12. PS to HMoSCA (I/C), Ministry of Civil Aviation, New Delhi
13. Senior PPS to Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation, New Delhi
14. National Informatics Centre (NIC) team, Rajiv Gandhi Bhavan, New Delhi
15. Digital Sky Platform

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
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Reference No./ संख्या: DGCA-27046(6)/6/2020-AED
Dated/ दिनांक: 6th July, 2020

Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL),
Pipelines Division,
A-1, Udyog Marg, Sector-1,
NOIDA-201 301 (U.P)

[Kind attention: Shri S S Gupta, Chief General Manager, Maintenance & Inspection]

Subject: Permission for conducting Pipeline ROW surveillance using Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems

Sir,

This has reference to IOCL, Pipelines Division, NOIDA e-mail dated 26th June, 2020 and subsequent correspondence regarding permission for conducting Pipeline ROW surveillance using Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems.

Based on the information provided and undertaking, this office hereby accords exemption from CAR Section 3, Series X, Part I to Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL), Pipelines Division, NOIDA for conducting Pipeline ROW surveillance between Delhi to Panipat section of Mathura-Jalandhar Pipeline using Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems. The above stated exemption shall be valid for a period of 4 months from the date of issue of this letter or until the operationalization of Digital Sky Platform, whichever is earlier. The operation of RPAS during this period shall be restricted to day operations (from Sunrise to Sunset), within Visual Line Of Sight (VLOS).

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)

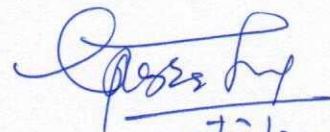
Joint Director General of Civil Aviation
for Director General of Civil Aviation

Copy for information to:

1. Joint Secretary (Internal Security), Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi 110003
2. Joint Secretary (Sh. Amber Dubey), Ministry of Civil Aviation, New Delhi 110003
3. Director, G-Wing, Ministry of Defence, South Block, New Delhi 110001
4. The Executive Director (ASM), Airport Authority of India, Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi 110003
5. DDG (IR), DGCA regarding permission for Aerial Photography
6. Director (FSD), DGCA regarding Sl. No. 4 of Annexure-I

**Conditions and limitations to Indian Oil Corporation Ltd, Pipelines Division,
NOIDA for conducting Pipeline ROW surveillance between Delhi to Panipat
using Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems**

1. This exemption to IOCL, Pipelines Division, NOIDA from the relevant provisions of CAR Section 3, Series X, Part I, is subject to exemption from Rule 15A of the Aircraft Rules, 1937 by Ministry of Civil Aviation.
2. IOCL, Pipelines Division, NOIDA shall obtain necessary clearances from (a) Local Administration (b) Ministry of Defence (c) Ministry of Home Affairs (d) Air Defence clearance from India Air Force and (e) Airport Authority of India prior to operation of Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS).
3. IOCL, Pipelines Division, NOIDA 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. D1DA00TSY for DJI Mavic 2 Pro model).
4. IOCL, Pipelines Division, NOIDA shall submit a comprehensive brief on the scope of operations and the copy of SOP to be followed to Flight Standards Directorate, DGCA. Operation of Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) shall be carried out only after the vetting/ approval of the SOP.
5. IOCL, Pipelines Division, NOIDA shall take necessary permission regarding Aerial Photography from Directorate of Regulations & Information, DGCA
6. The photographs/video-graphs taken through RPAS shall be used by IOCL, Pipelines Division, NOIDA only. IOCL, Pipelines Division, NOIDA shall be responsible for security of RPAS and data collected through RPAS.
7. IOCL, Pipelines Division, NOIDA shall indemnify DGCA from any legal cases or any other issues arising due to these operations.
8. IOCL, Pipelines Division, NOIDA shall ensure that the RPAS is in working condition and shall be responsible for any eventualities due to malfunction / disorientation of equipment.
9. In case of any injury to any person due to physical contact with the equipment, IOCL, Pipelines Division, NOIDA shall be responsible for medico-legal issues.
10. IOCL, Pipelines Division, NOIDA shall have adequate level of insurance to cover any damage to third party resulting from accident / incident occurred during the operation of RPAS.
11. IOCL, Pipelines Division, NOIDA shall ensure that hazardous material or variable payload are not carried in / using the RPA under any circumstances.
12. IOCL, Pipelines Division, NOIDA shall ensure safety, security and privacy of public, property, operator etc. Further, in case of any eventuality, DGCA shall not be held responsible.
13. IOCL, Pipelines Division, NOIDA 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.
14. RPAS shall not be operated in the vicinity of airport as per the provisions of the CAR. If operated near the airport, Airports Authority of India (AAI) shall be intimated in advance about time and area of operations of RPAS.
15. IOCL, Pipelines Division, NOIDA shall ensure that only trained / experienced bona fide personnel operates the RPAS.
16. This letter shall not override other restrictions / SOP on Remotely Piloted Aircraft System framed by other Government Agencies.


06/7/20.