

20 June 2020

PRESS CONFERENCE
OF HON'BLE MINISTER
OF STATE (IC)
FOR CIVIL AVIATION

EARLIER PRESS CONFERENCES

- 6 March On measures taken at Airport
- 2 APRIL On Lifeline Udan
- 5 MAY On launch Vande Bharat Mission
- 21 MAY On resumption of Domestic Operation

MAJOR INITIATIVES OF MOCA

- LIFELINE UDAN
- MISSION VANDE BHARAT
- CHARTER OPERATIONS
- RESTARTING DOMESTIC CIVIL AVIATION
- DRONE OPERATIONS

LIFELINE UDAN

Total Kilometres covered	5,45,685 Kms
Total flights	588
Total cargo load carried	940.29 Tons
Total medical cargo brought from foreign countries	1928 Tons
Medical supplies to friendly foreign nations (Mauritius, Seychelles, Sri Lanka)	30 Tons

- The cargo essentially covered COVID-19 related reagents, enzymes, medical equipment, testing kits, PPEs, masks, gloves, medicines & other accessories & cargo requisitioned by State/UT Governments. Lifeline Udan flights have received excellent support from State Governments and other stakeholders.
- SPECIAL FOCUS ON REMOTE AREAS/ HILLS/ ISLANDS/Union Territories
- Support from IAF, State Governments and Administrations of Union Territories.

MISSION VANDE BHARAT

VANDE BHARAT						
Phases	Carrier	Inbound flights		Outbound flights		Countries covered
		No. of flights	No. of passengers carried	No. of flights	No. of passengers carried	
Phase-1	Air India Group	64	12708	64	3562	12
Phase-2	Air India Group	325	59576	325	15721	46
Phase-3 (Till 19 June)	Air India Group	192	36919	200	14964	52
Total	Air India Group	581	109203	589	34247	

- In addition : Vistara, Indigo and Go Air have operated two flights each with around 1000 passengers in total.

Evacuation Status VBM

Sl. No.	From (Foreign destination)	Total no. of pax evacuated	
1.	UAE-Abu Dhabi	8068	23790
	UAE-Dubai	15540	
	UAE-Sharjah	182	
2.	U.S.A.	10240	
3.	Saudi Arabia	8276	
4.	Qatar	7386	
5.	Oman	7073	
6.	U.K.	6092	
7.	Singapore	4566	
8.	Kuwait	4387	

DESTINATION STATES

S.No	State	Passengers		
		VBM	CHARTERS	TOTAL
1	Delhi	39235	16880	56115
2	Kerala	29839	40370	70209
3	Tamil Nadu	9713	10555	20268
4	Maharashtra	9039	11430	20469
5	Telangana	3782	7700	11482
6	Karnataka	3348	3210	6558

Flights Planned Under VBM

- Additional Flights Planned by AIR INDIA under Phase 3 and Phase 4.
- 300 flights planned by Air India Express.
- Around 750 odd flights have been offered to Domestic Private Carriers.
- Around 40 odd flights already scheduled by Private Operators.
- Flights which may be operated by foreign carriers for Indians stranded in Latin America and Some parts of Africa in collaboration with Air India.

CHARTERED FLIGHTS BY FOREIGN AND INDIAN CARRIERS

	Carriers	No of flights	No. of passengers (Approx)	Total
Inbound	Indian carriers	120	21500	1,21,500
	Foreign carriers	450	100000	
Outbound	Indian carriers	19	1500	1,21,500
	Foreign carriers	570	120000	
Total (Inbound+ Outbound)	Indian carriers	139	23000	2,43,000
	Foreign carriers	1020	220000	

STATUS OF CHARTERED OPERATIONS BY FOREIGN CARRIERS

S. No.	Overall Flights	Outbound Flights	Inbound Flights
1	QATAR AIRWAYS(84)	KLM(50)	FLY DUBAI(54)
2	KLM (67)	QATAR AIRWAYS(44)	JAZEERA(42)
3	FLY DUBAI(57)	BRITISH AIRWAYS(39)	QATAR AIRWAYS(40)
4	JAZEERA(47)	AIR FRANCE(38)	AIR ARABIA(35)
5	KUWAIT AIRWAYS(45)	JAPAN AIRLINE(22)	KUWAIT AIRWAYS(34)

INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS

Air Transport Operations			Border Acceptance			Aircraft Movement (May 2020 v/s May2019)	
Country	Domestic	International	Foreign Visitors	Citizens	Quarantine	Domestic	International
US	YES	YES	Conditional	Allowed	Conditional	28.6%	7.1%
UK	YES	YES	Conditional	Allowed	Required	6.9%	6.8%
AUSTRALIA	YES	YES	Not Allowed	Allowed	Required	15.4%	6.0%
GERMANY	YES	YES	Conditional	Allowed	Required	4.9%	9.4%
FRANCE	YES	YES	Conditional	Allowed	Conditional	3.9%	12.8%
BRAZIL	YES	YES	Conditional	Allowed	Conditional	9.6%	3.7%

INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS

Air Transport Operations			Border Acceptance			Aircraft Movement (May 2020 v/s May 2019)	
Country	Domestic	International	Foreign Visitors	Citizens	Quarantine	Domestic	International
CHINA	YES	YES	Conditional	Allowed	Conditional	84.9%	4.9%
SOUTH AFRICA	YES	NO	Conditional	Allowed	Required		
UAE	YES	YES	Conditional	Allowed	Required	NA	18.1%
SINGAPORE	YES	YES	Conditional	Allowed	Required	NA	3.8%

- Note: China has again imposed restrictions on domestic flights due to fresh outbreak of Covid.
- Quarantine: Required- 14 day mandatory. Not Required- At all. Conditional- 14 day required in case of some passengers.
- Border Acceptance: Allowed- Passengers are allowed in the country. Not Allowed – Majority of passengers are not allowed to enter or Transit. Conditional- Passengers are allowed, provided they meet certain criterion.

Status of International Operations

S.No	Country	Status of International Operations
1	U.S. (7%)	Limited number of flights to Europe(London, Paris, Frankfurt etc.), Australia, South America.
2.	Singapore(3.8%)	Limited flights to Australia, China, Japan, UK, Germany
3	UAE(18.1%)	Limited flights to US, Europe and Australia
4	UK(6.8%)	Air Bridges with France, Spain, Greece, Portugal
5	France(12.8%)	Amsterdam, Barcelona, Athens, Frankfurt

- Concept of Bubble or Air Bridges between the Countries, thereby restricting the operations to limited numbers.
- Australia – New Zealand have a Bubble.
- UK have developed Air Bridge with France, Spain, Greece and Portugal

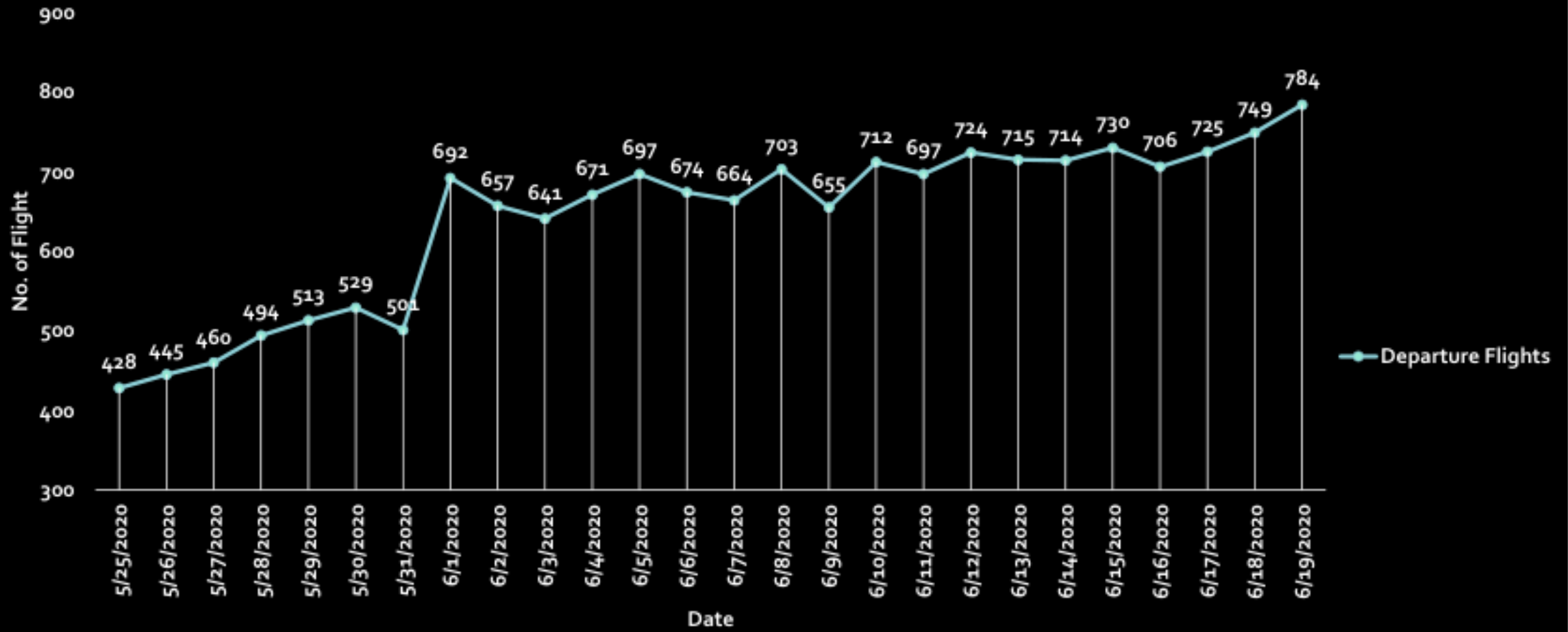
INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS

- We have opened our domestic sector and are committed to resuming international operations but we continue to closely watch the international situation. This will be done in a calibrated manner as when the rest of the world opens up to take our citizens. Before we take any decision to fully open our domestic sector or resume international operations, it is important to see that not only the civil aviation stakeholders but other important stakeholders including the destination governments, our health ministry and our state governments are on-board.

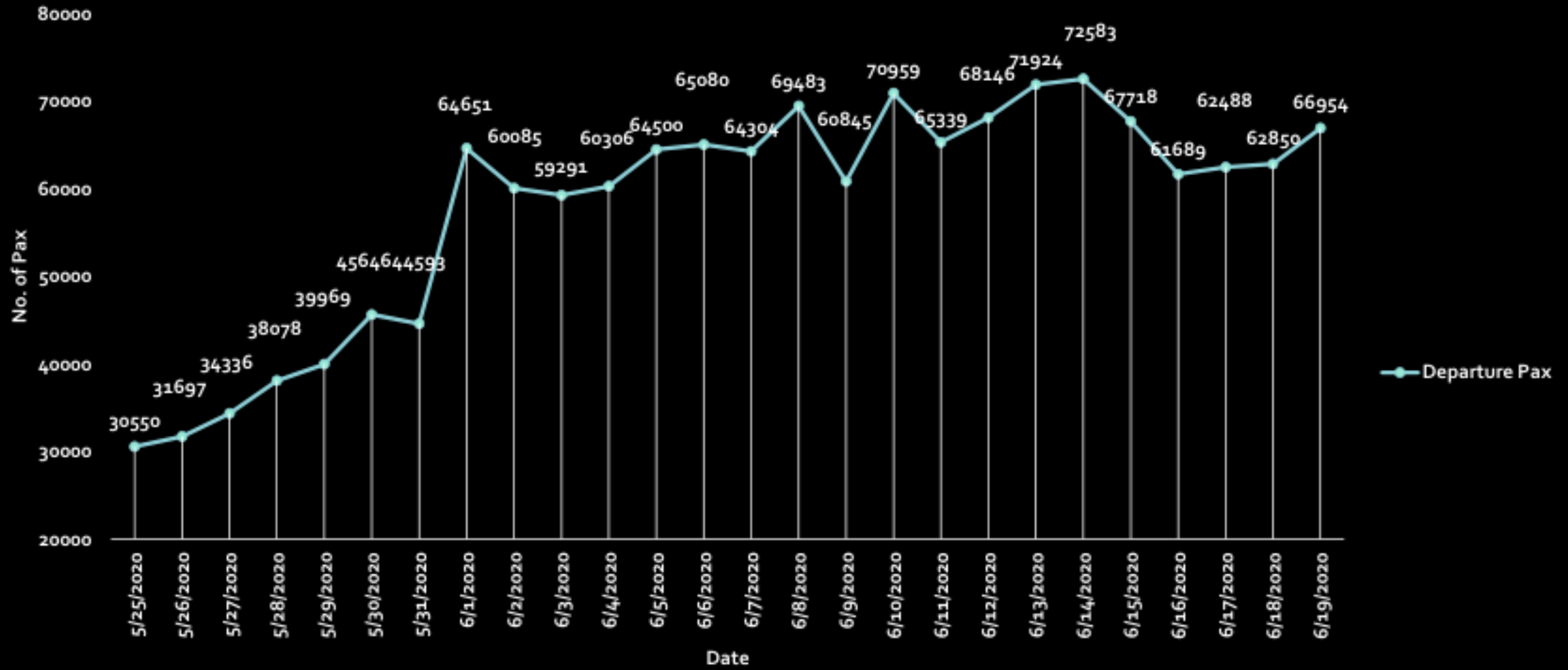
DOMESTIC OPERATIONS

Sl.No.	Date	No. of Departures	No. of Pax	Cumulative	
				Departures	Passengers
1	25.5.2020	428	30550	428	30550
2	26.5.2020	445	31697	873	62247
3	27.5.2020	460	34336	1333	96583
4	28.5.2020	494	38078	1827	134661
5	29.5.2020	513	39969	2340	174630
6	30.5.2020	529	45646	2869	220276
7	31.5.2020	501	44593	3370	264869
8	01.6.2020	692	64651	4062	329520
9	02.6.2020	657	60085	4719	389605
10	03.6.2020	641	59291	5360	448896
11	04.6.2020	671	60306	6031	509202
12	05.6.2020	697	64500	6728	573702
13	06.6.2020	674	65080	7402	638782
14	07.6.2020	664	64304	8066	703086
15	08.6.2020	703	69483	8769	772569
16	09.6.2020	655	60845	9424	833414
17	10.6.2020	712	70959	10136	904373
18	11.06.2020	697	65339	10833	969712
19	12.06.2020	724	68146	11557	1037858
20	13.06.2020	715	71924	12272	1109782
21	14.06.2020	714	72583	12986	1182365
22	15.06.2020	730	67718	13716	1250083
23	16.06.2020	706	61689	14422	1311772
24	17.06.2020	725	62488	15147	1374260
25	18.06.2020	749	62850	15896	1437110
26	19.06.2020	784	66954	16680	1504064

Departure Flights



Departure Pax



DOMESTIC OPERATIONS

- Started with one third capacity of the approved summer schedule.
- Airport Authority of India issued detailed guidelines/SOPs in view of the various safety measures necessitated.
- It included protocols to be followed - From Place of Origin to Airport, At Airport, In the Aircraft and From Airport to Destination.
- The endeavour is to promote **contact less travel experience** through the airports. Be it web check in, e-Boarding pass, wearing of face masks, downloading of Arogya Setu, maintaining social distancing, collecting safety kit from airline staff, traveling without meal on board, etc. Keeping in view the safety of fellow travellers, the passengers wear masks and carry sanitizer bottles. The Airlines provide water bottles but no meals on board.
- Amongst all the modes of rail, road and air, air travel is the only mode that has controlled access and complete tracability at the point of embarkment, transit and disembarkment, making it least risky amongst all modes of public transport.

MEASURES FOR AVIATION SECTOR

- In January, 2020 Fuel Throughput charge was rationalised. Airport operator will not directly put this charge on airlines; rather Airport Economic Regulatory Authority of India (AERA) will regulate this fee.
- Central Excise Duty on Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) was reduced to 11% in October 2018.
- GST rate on MRO has been reduced from 18% to 5% with full input tax credit from 1 April 2020. This will attract MRO business to India leading to a lot of savings for airlines in maintenance and also creation of jobs.
- Till now, only 60% of the Airspace was available for civilian Aircraft movement. Now, these restrictions are proposed to be eased out so that civilian flight operations will become more efficient and save time and money for the passengers and the Airlines.
- The proposal to bring ATF under the ambit of GST is before the GST Council which has representation from the States as well.

PRIVATISATION OF AIRPORTS

- Out of the six airports for which bids were invited in the first round, Concessionaire Agreement has already been signed in February 2020 for three – Ahmedabad, Lucknow and Mangaluru.
- The other three - Guwahati, Jaipur and Trivandrum will also be handed over as the relevant issues are being sorted out.
- On the advent of COVID-19 scenario, M/s AEL has cited force majeure and filed for extension in March, 2020 and sought time till 15th February, 2021.
- AAI has agreed to the extension of time of additional 03 months to achieve Commercial Operation Date (CoD) by the Concessionaire in view of force majeure on account of COVID-19.

PRIVATISATION OF AIRPORTS

Next Round of Six Airports

- The Board of AAI on 05.09.2019 recommended to the Government of India for undertaking the Operations, Management and Development of another set of six airports through Public Private Partnership (PPP). These airports are Varanasi, Amritsar, Bhubaneswar, Raipur, Indore and Trichy.
- The approval of the Union Cabinet is awaited.
- Transaction Advisor has been appointed by AAI for undertaking the next round of PPP Transaction.
- It is expected that additional investment of around Rs.13,000 Crore will be made by private players in the 12 airports.

Unmanned aircraft systems – DRONES

- Application in mass benefit areas like agriculture, disaster relief, healthcare and law enforcement.
- The Draft UAS Rules 2020 have been released on 4 June 2020 for public feedback.
- Digital Sky Platform (Beta version) launched by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) for managing civil drones.
- Simplified enlistment process for drones was launched in Jan 2020 to capture details of drones and their owners. Over 20,000 drones have since been enlisted.
- GARUD portal ('Government Authorisation for Relief Using Drones') was launched to provide fast track exemptions to government agencies for COVID-19 related drone operations.
- A conditional exemption granted on 21 May 2020 for use of drones for aerial spraying of pesticides for anti-locust operations within a day of receipt of the request from Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare. On 6 June 2020, five drone companies were issued work orders and they have commenced aerial spraying in remote districts of Rajasthan with remarkable outcomes.

Unmanned aircraft systems – DRONES

- Some Photos of Drone Operations



THANK YOU