Overview of Nepalese Drone Operation

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CAA Nepal

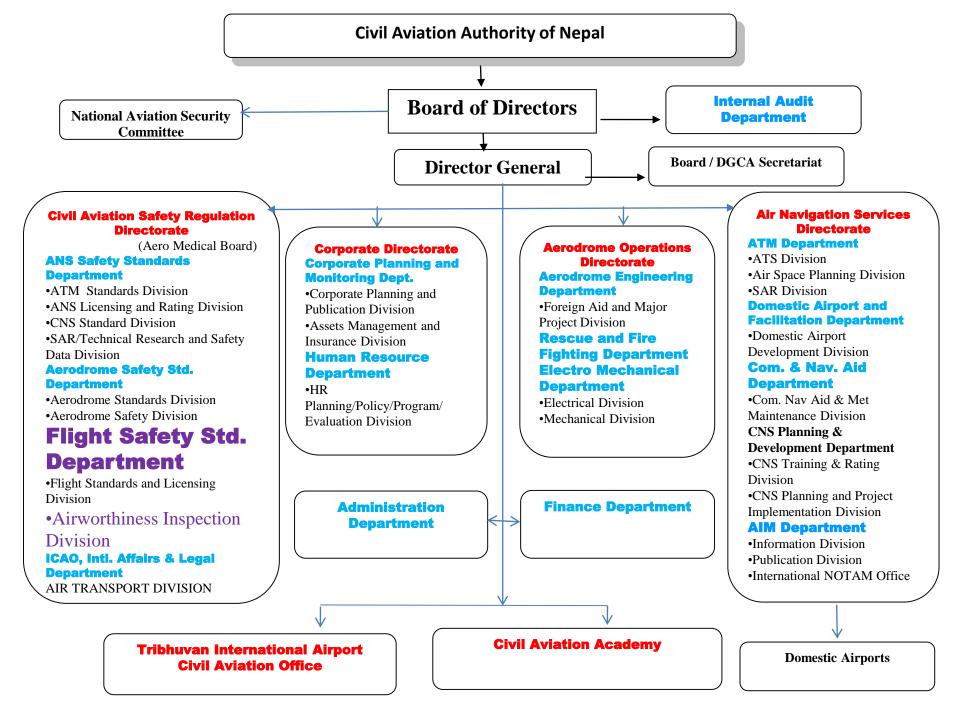
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Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal

- Established in 1998 as per CAAN Act 1996
- Head office at Babar Mahal Kathmandu
- Regulator for all aviation activities in Nepal
- Owner and operator of all airports in Nepal



Historical background

- 2015 massive earthquake
- Foreigner and media group started to capture destruction
- Safety of aircraft, occupants and public is CAAN's prime responsibility

Regulatory framework

- Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal Act 1996
 Article 5 requires any flying object shall be regulated by CAAN
- Flight Operations Directive 07 (2015) CAAN
- RPA SOP (2016) MOHA revised in (2019)
- Requirements for the Licensing of DRONE pilots in Personnel Licensing Requirements (PELR) of CAAN in line with ICAO regulation.

Flight Operations Directive

Issued on- May 2015

Objective- To regulate the operation of UAVs in territory of Nepal

- Two categories –small and large
- Small- less than 20kg
- FOD applicable for small UAVs only

Action prohibited:

- Dropping off any objects
- Conduct unsafe flight endangering safety of public
- Conduct flight without permission from CAA Nepal if the UAV is more than 7kg and flight is in controlled airspace and flight above 200ft

Flights prohibited for:

- a) over or within 150 meters of any congested area;
- b) over or within 150 meters of an organized open-air assembly of more than 1,000 persons;
- within 50 meters of any vessel, vehicle or structure which is not under the control of the person in charge of the aircraft; or
- d) within 50 meters of any person
- No flight in approach and takeoff area of airport irrespective of height

Drone related directives (2016) MOHA revised in (2019

- Main features
- All types of drone must be registered and Unique Identification Number (UIN) must be received from CAAN
- Drones are classified according to weight, purpose of flight and sensitivity of risk of flight
- Strong enforcement action has been imposed

- Category A drone which has weight up to 250 gm very low risk operation
- Category B drone which has weight up to 250gm-2 Kgs low risk operation
- Category C drone which has weight up to 2Kgs-25 Kgs Regulated low risk operation
- Category D drone which are more than 25
 Kgs Regulated risk operation

Qualification to operate drone

- Minimum age is 18 years
- Must have basic know how of radio frequency
- Must have knowledge about flying equipment such as control of flight, landing and airspace
- Must be aware of sensitivity archaeological importance, army area restricted and prohibited area

Weather conditions

- Only in day light within sunrise to sunset
- Ground visibility more than 5 km
- Cloud ceiling 450 meter
- During rain, thunderstorm and extreme weather conditions (Don't fly)
- Don't fly if wind speed is more than 10 Kts

Other Conditions

- Within 5 km of airport and air routes
- 5km horizontal distance from international borders
- 1000 meters aerial distance from VVIP residence / Office/ Army, Security headquarters
- Area declared by govt as restricted or prohibited and areas where securities activities are going on

Always inform local administrations of the drone operation and if asked by securities agencies then provide the data taken by drone

- For Category C and D third party liability insurance is must
- UAV less than 2 kg flown over the private property and below 200ft AGL need no permission from CAAN
- However in all cased drone must be registered and permission from District administration office must be obtained before flight.

Enforcement action

Violation of the provisions leads to legal action set forth in Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal Act 2053 (1996) amounting to 25,000 however as per new directives of MOHA if anybody found flying drone without permit then drone will immediately seized and brought to CAAN with police report and CAAN will auction that drone and revenue will be deposited to govt revenue account and inform to seizing authority (Police)

UAV flight permission procedure

For registration of Drone Contact office-Flight Safety Standards Department Sinamangal Civil Aviation Safety Regulation Directorate Telephone 00977-1-411075

Fax 00977-1-4111141

Then they go to concerned District Administration Office to get permission with required details

Challenges for CAAN

- Recreational and commercial drone operation permission procedure with limited resources
- Lack of adequate surveillance mechanism
- Busy with conventional aviation activities
- Could not grow in size with rapid growth in such technical progress
- Lack of coordination among interline agencies such as ministry of home affairs, ministry of defense, ministry of communication and information, Nepal police local government bodies etc.

Expectation of CAA from this workshop

- Assistance in better certification standards
- Clear demarcation in sets of rules of regulations for commercial and sports activities
- License issuance and conversion process
- Continued support from all the stake holders and team work for the betterment and take benefit of this technology.

Thank you for patience!!