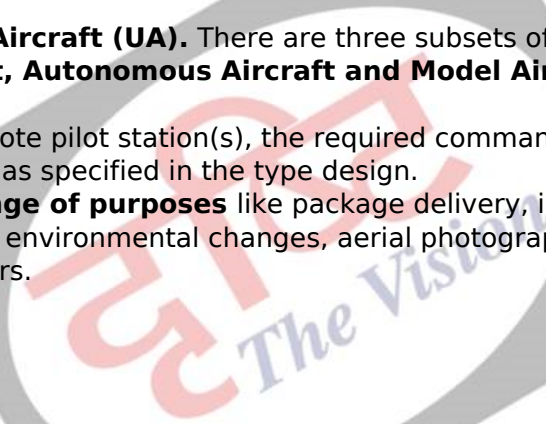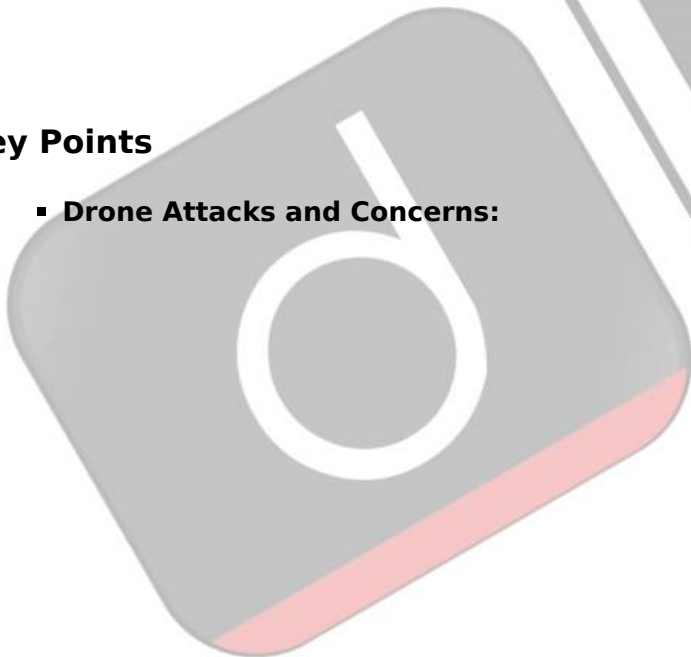# Jammu Drone Attacks

Why in News

Recently, **[Drones](#)** were used for the **first time to drop explosive devices,** triggering blasts inside the Air Force Station's technical area in Jammu.

Drone

- Drone is a layman terminology for **Unmanned Aircraft (UA).** There are three subsets of Unmanned Aircraft- **Remotely Piloted Aircraft, Autonomous Aircraft and Model Aircraft.**

    - Remotely Piloted Aircraft consists of remote pilot station(s), the required command and control links and any other components, as specified in the type design.
- Besides **combat use,** drones are used for **a range of purposes** like package delivery, in agriculture (spraying pesticides etc), monitoring environmental changes, aerial photography, and during search and relief operations, among others.

Key Points

- **Drone Attacks and Concerns:**

PAKISTAN'S ROGUE DRONES

The neighbour ramps up the use of drones to drop weapons across the border

AUG. 13, 2019

Police recover a crashed hexacopter drone from Mohawa village in **Amritsar**, Punjab

1

SEPT. 9-16, 2019

Eight drone sorties delivered arms into Punjab, according to information provided by terrorists arrested from **Tarn Taran**, Punjab, on Sept. 22

5
16
4
9
5
2
₹10 lakh
2

JUNE 20, 2020

BSF shoots down a spy drone in the Hiranagar sector of Jammu and Kashmir's **Kathua** district

1
1   4
7
1   2
60

SEPT. 19, 2020

J&K police arrest three Kashmir Valley-based Lashkar terrorists from **Jammu** who had received weapons via drones the previous night

2   2
6   4
180

SEPT. 22, 2020

J&K police find weapons delivered via drones at a village in **Akhnoor** sector

2   3
90   1

INDIA

PAKISTAN

	Hexacopter drone		Grenades		Wireless sets
	AK47/AK56		Fake currency		Batteries (22k MAH)
	M4 carbine		Satellite phones		
	Ammunition				Radio signal receiver
	Magazines		Mobile phones		

Text by
ROSHNI
MAJUMDAR

Graphic by TANMOY
CHAKRABORTY

- Over the past two years, **drones have been deployed regularly by Pakistan-based outfits** to smuggle arms, ammunition and drugs into Indian territory.

    - Drones fly low and therefore **cannot be detected by any radar system.**
- According to government figures, **167 drone sightings were recorded along the border with Pakistan in 2019,** and in **2020, there were 77 such sightings.**
- With the **rapid proliferation of drone technology and exponential growth** of its global market in recent years, the possibility of a drone attack cannot be ruled out even in the safest cities in the world.
- Drones are **becoming security threats particularly in conflict zones** where non-state actors are active and have easy access to the technology.

    - **For example:** 2019 twin drone attacks on Aramco crude oil production in Saudi Arabia.
- What makes combat drones in the hands of non-state actors most dangerous is the **threat of them being used to deliver weapons of mass destruction.**

    - **Weapons of mass destruction** are weapons with the **capacity to inflict death and destruction on such a massive scale** and so indiscriminately that its very presence in the hands of a hostile power can be considered a grievous threat.
- In the military domain, **small drones have been proliferating at a rate that has alarmed** battlefield commanders and planners alike.

    - In certain incidents, the **small drones were also armed with explosive ordnance,** to convert them into potentially lethal guided missiles, thus demonstrating the growing sophistication with which these potent warriors have found relevance in combat zones.

- **Reason for Increasing Drone Attacks:**

    - **Cheap:**

        - The primary reason for this proliferation is that **drones are relatively cheaper in comparison to conventional weapons** and yet can achieve far more destructive results.
    - **Remotely Controlled:**

        - The biggest advantage that comes with using a drone for combat purposes is that **it can be controlled from a remote distance** and does not endanger any member of the attacking side.
    - **Easy to Operate:**

        - It is this **easy-to-procure, easy-to-operate,** and proven damage potential that makes it important for any country to equip its forces with anti-drone combat technology.

- **Rules for Drone Regulations in India:**

    - Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Rules, 2020**:**

        - It is a set of rules notified by the government that aims **to regulate the production, import, trade, ownership, establishment of the drone ports (airports for drones) and operation of UAS.**
        - It also seeks to **create a framework for drones use by businesses.**
    - National Counter Rogue Drones Guidelines 2019**:**

        - The guidelines had suggested a **number of measures to counter rogue drones** depending on the vitality of assets being protected.
        - For places of critical national importance, the rules called for deployment of a model that consists of primary and passive detection means like radar, **Radio Frequency (RF) detectors, electro-optical and infrared cameras.**

- In addition to this, soft kill and hard kill measures like **RF jammers,** Global Positioning System (GPS) **spoofers, lasers, and drone catching nets** were also suggested to be installed.
- **Other Initiatives:**

  - **Directed-Energy Weapon:**

    - **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** has developed two **anti-drone** Directed-Energy Weapon (DEW) systems**,** with a 10-kilowatt laser to engage aerial targets at 2-km range and a compact tripod-mounted one with a 2-kilowatt laser for a 1-km range. But they are yet to be productionized in large numbers.
  - **Smash-2000 Plus:**

    - The armed forces are now also importing a limited number of other systems like Israeli **'Smash-2000 Plus' computerized fire control and electro-optic sights,** which can be mounted on guns and rifles to tackle the threat from small hostile drones in both day and night conditions.

Way Forward

- In the backdrop of the drone attack, the **Ministry of Civil Aviation** could potentially look at **making the existing regulations for unmanned aircraft systems more stringent.**
- Current drone rules are sufficient to get information into the system about drones from the manufacturer or importer to end users. However, **rogue drones will always be non-compliant. But yes, tightened regulations are required to create deterrence.**

Source: TH

PDF Refernece URL: https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/jammu-drone-attacks