# **DRONE APPLICATIONS**

Drones have a major user application all over the world. Listed below are a few but not limited to their application. With no limits to imagination a drone can be used anywhere a human cannot be reached.

# **Agriculture**

A drone can be used to find the crop type, plant count, as area index, soil type and even the soil moisture. You can growth stage, plant height, nitrogen deficiencies if any, plant health, detasseling and of course yield monitoring. Many research scientists use drones to study minerals and soil with the help of drones. Sophisticated sensors once fitted on a manned aircraft can now be fitted on a simple drone and resolve many problems.



### Water

Drones can be used to create irrigated land mapping, impervious surface mapping and watershed planning. Most of the landslides along the river and the flow of the river can be easily monitored from time to time using drones. This indeed reduces risk of flooding.

#### **Environment & Climate**

Land cover mapping and Carbon capping have become a new interest for the meteorological departments all over the world who are also keen on weather atmospheric studies. Clean tech has more interests in the renewable energy using solar power. We have solar drones that are being positioned in the lowest layers of atmosphere to act as long enduring temporary satellites.

#### Oil & Gas

Many Oil companies in the Middle East as well as Far East have starting oil spill tracking in the international waters surrounding their countries. Pipeline monitoring is a major business opportunity for drone makers. Environmental assessment as mentioned earlier is also picking up in most of the countries. Pit surveys can be carried out and even mines can be detected saving so many lives.

# **Forestry**

Drones have major use in monitoring the biomass in forests as well as keep a track of the Forest health. Disease detection can be done using drones. In India animal monitoring is another important area view extinction of many animals.

#### **Utilities**

Drones can be helpful for vegetation management as well as asset verification. It can't pay bills though; we need to monitor those ourselves.

# **Disaster Response**

India seems to be showing more interest towards wildfire monitoring lately as concerns for forests has grown high. Flooding is a very important area as it becomes critical to asses situation during floods and hence using drones to understand the geographical situation will help reduce risks. Damage assessment can be done during natural calamities with a rapid response provided quickly by drones in just minutes.

# Video & Photography

From news coverage to film making and traffic monitoring to disaster management, getting an aerial footage is an ultimate experience using drones. It was impossible until recently to take extremely difficult shots for film makers. Recent release of FAA regulations exclusively for film makers has helped many production companies to create some eye catching movies. India is also expected to see a major increase in revenues as the regulatory bodies in India start permitting the use of drones for film making.

#### **Education**

The field of aeronautics is taking a new shape in all the universities in the world with increased student interest towards this amazing field of unmanned systems technology. Drones benefit hugely industrial engineering, robotics studies, 3D printing and much more.

#### Insurance

Similar to any vehicle insurance, the drone insurance industry is going to take off so well that the early start-up companies in this field will be the best benefectors. We have few UAV insurance companies already in the US and UK including Australia. Indian insurance companies should fast embrace this massive business opportunity.

### Security

Another major area of concern is security. Homeland security as well as border security are a major concern for countries like India and Israel who are bordered with many enemies. Also infiltration can be monitored using drones.

Illegal entry at the borders can be observed along the line of borders. Indian agencies are seeking a lot of options for perimeter securities and this can be resolved only when DGCA allows independent organisations to use drones for their perimeter security.