

# Aircraft Nationality & Registration Marks

Visual Master Guide:  
Annex 7 & CAR Sec 2  
Series F Part I

Designed for DGCA Examination Precision



## Triad Node Diagram

### International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

Allots foundational nationality symbols via radio call signs.

(e.g., symbols 4YA to 4YZ for common marks)

### International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

Sets global standards (Annex 7) for the use and location of letters, numbers, and graphic symbols on airborne vehicles.

### State of Registry (e.g., India/DGCA)

Assigns the final specific 1 to 5 digit/character registration marks to the individual aircraft.



# PROHIBITED MARK COMBINATIONS

Registration marks **MUST NOT** be confused with global safety and communication protocols.

## 5-LETTER COMBINATIONS

Used in the International Code of Signals.

## 3-LETTER COMBINATIONS

Beginning with Q  
(used in the Q Code).

## DISTRESS SIGNALS

Specifically SOS.

## URGENT SIGNALS

Explicitly including  
XXX, PAN, and TTT.

# Mark Measurements: Heavier-Than-Air

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**Wings:**  
Minimum Height  
50 cm



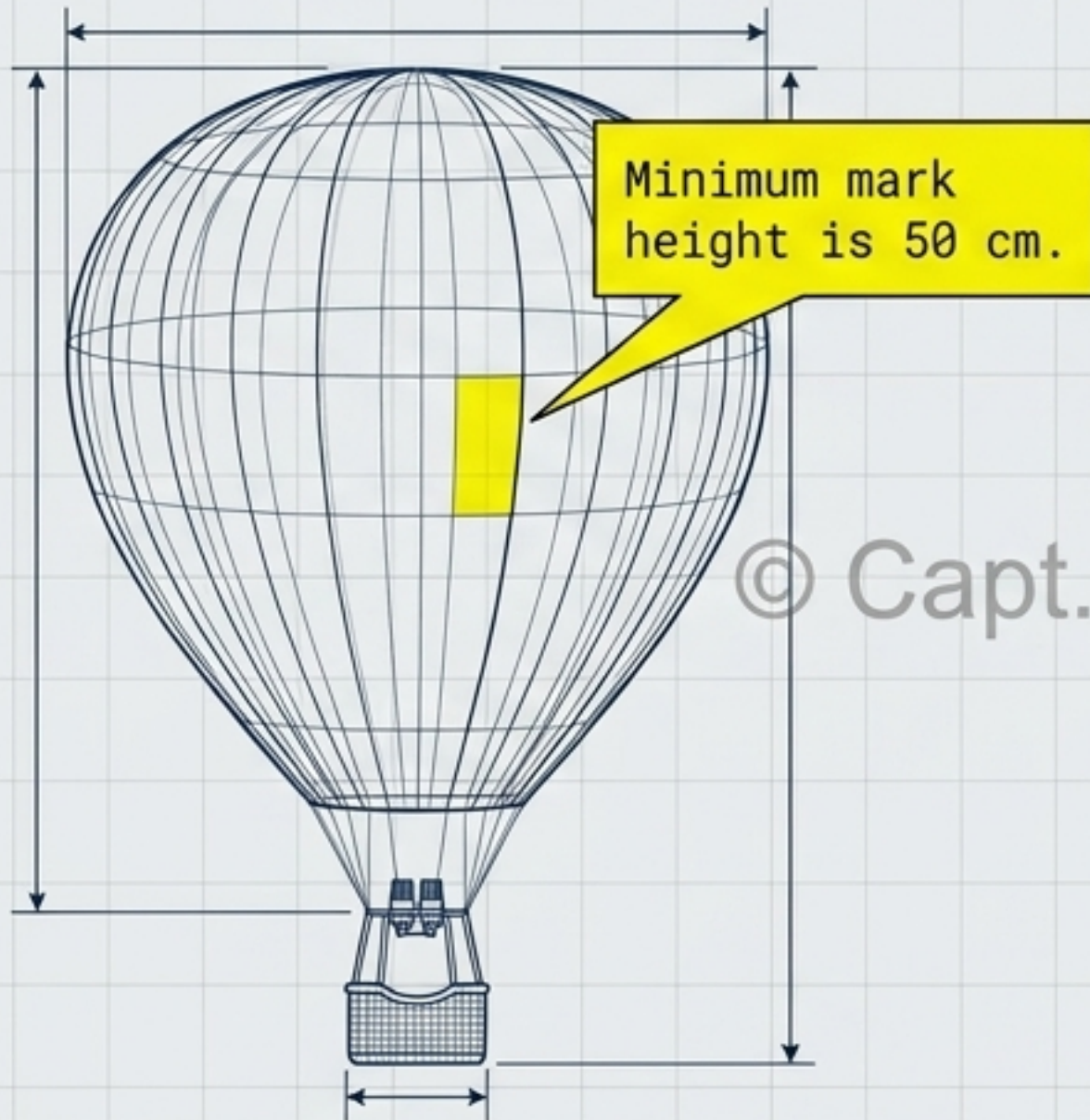
**Fuselage:**  
Minimum Height 30 cm

**Vertical Tail:**  
Minimum Height 30 cm

**Vertical Tail:**  
Minimum Height  
30 cm

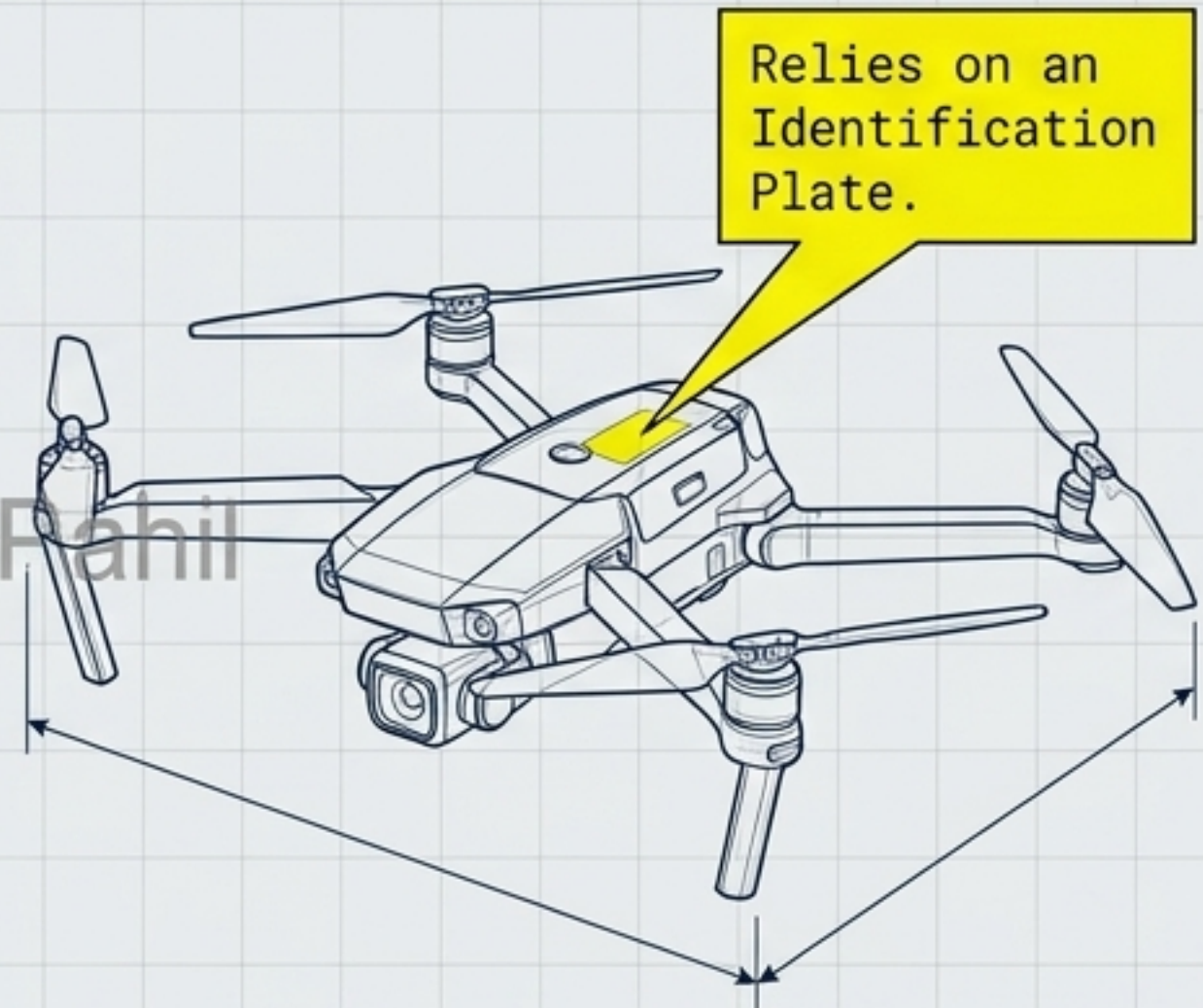
Design Constraint: Letters and numbers in each separate group of marks must be of equal height.

## Lighter-than-Air Aircraft



Exception: Excludes unmanned free balloons. Measurements for unmanned free balloons are determined by the State of Registry based on payload size.

## Remotely Piloted / Drones



Secured in a prominent position near the main entrance/compartments, OR affixed conspicuously to the exterior if no main entrance exists.



MUST BE MADE OF FIREPROOF METAL/MATERIAL.

MUST BE INSCRIBED WITH NATIONALITY + REGISTRATION MARK.

MUST BE PLACED PROMINENTLY NEAR THE MAIN ENTRANCE.

## EXTERIOR MARKING RULES

**DON'T:** DISPLAY ADVERTISEMENTS/SIGNS UNLESS EXPLICITLY PERMITTED BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL.

**DON'T:** BEAR MARKS PRESCRIBED FOR STATE AIRCRAFT (IF A NON-STATE AIRCRAFT).

**DO:** DISPLAY OWNER'S NAME/EMBLEM (IF LOCATION, SIZE, SHAPE, AND COLOR DON'T CAUSE CONFUSION WITH REGISTRATION MARKS).

**DO:** DISPLAY NATIONAL FLAGS/COLORS (IF DISTINCT AND NOT LIKELY TO CAUSE CONFUSION WITH MILITARY MARKINGS).

# THE CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION (C OF R)

Issued by the Central Government. Must be carried in the aircraft at all times.

✓	Type of aircraft & Year of manufacture.
✓	Constructor's number.
✓	Nationality & Registration marks.
✓	Full name, nationality, and address of the owner.
✓	Usual station of the aircraft.
✓	Date of registration and period of validity.

## THE LEASE ADD-ON

If leased, the C of R MUST also include:

Validity of the lease + names, nationalities, and addresses of the lessor and lessee.

Registration is not in conformity with the rules.

Registration was obtained by furnishing false information.

Aircraft could more suitably be registered in another country.

Aircraft has been destroyed or permanently withdrawn from use.

It is inexpedient in the public interest to remain registered in India.

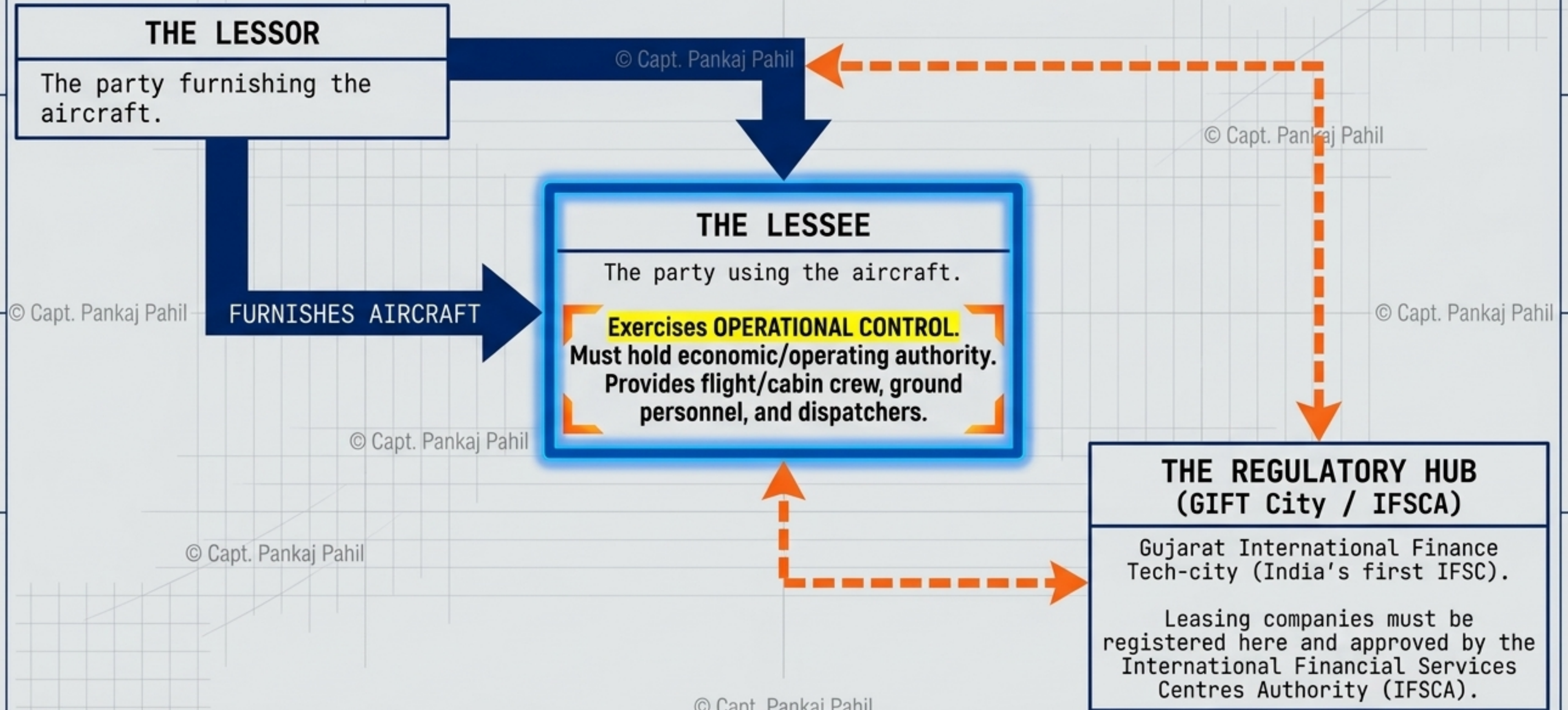
The lease has expired, been mutually terminated, or terminated per terms.

**Certificate of Airworthiness has expired for a period of 5 years or more.**

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**CANCELLATION BY DGCA**

# OPERATIONAL CONTROL RELATIONSHIP MAP



# DGCA Exam Knowledge Synthesis

Exam Matrix	
The Trigger	The Exam Answer
Who assigns specific registration marks?	State of Registry
Who allots common mark symbols to ICAO?	ITU
What urgent signals are strictly banned?	XXX, PAN, TTT, SOS
Minimum mark height on wings?	50 cm
Minimum mark height on fuselage/tail?	30 cm
C of R validity period?	Valid until cancelled by DGCA
India's ITU allotted symbols?	AT to AW
India's actually used civil/military marks?	VT, VU, and U
Who exercises operational control of a lease?	The Lessee
Who approves leasing companies in India?	IFSCA