

PART XIV.—General.

156. Inspection.—Any person authorized by the Central Government by special or general order in writing in this behalf may—

(a) at all reasonable times enter any place to which access is necessary for the purpose of exercising his powers or carrying out his duties under these rules;

(b) at all times during working hours enter that portion of any factory or place in which aircraft or parts of aircraft or aero-engines or parts of aero-engines are being manufactured, overhauled, repaired or assembled and inspect any such factory or place, aircraft, aero-engines or parts and any drawings relating to such aircraft, aero-engines or parts;

(c) at any time inspect any flying machines which is required by these rules to be certified as airworthy or in respect of which a certificate of airworthiness is in force;

(d) enter, inspect and search any aircraft for the purpose of securing compliance with any of these rules.

157. Forgery, etc., of documents.—No person shall fraudulently lend any licence or certificate issued under these rules or allow it to be used by any other person.

158. Foreign military aircraft.—No person shall fly or land, or assist in flying or landing, any foreign military aircraft over or in India except on or with the invitation or permission in writing of the Central Government and on such conditions as may be specified in the invitation or permission.

159. Obstruction of authorized persons.—No person shall voluntarily obstruct any person acting in the exercise of his powers or in the discharge of his duties under these rules.

160. General power to exempt.—The Central Government may by general or special order in writing exempt any aircraft or class of aircraft or any person or class of persons from the operation of these rules, either wholly or partially, subject to such conditions, if any, as may be specified in such order.

161. Penalties.—(1) Any person contravening any of these rules shall, where no punishment is provided for such contravention in the Indian Aircraft Act, 1934 (XXII of 1934), be punishable to the extent laid down in Schedule VI to these rules.

It shall be a defence to any proceedings for contravention of or failure to comply with these rules if the contravention or failure is proved to have been due to accident, stress of weather or other unavoidable cause; and it shall be a defence to any proceedings under these rules against the owner, hirer, operator, pilot or commander of an aircraft that the alleged contravention took place without his actual fault or privity.
