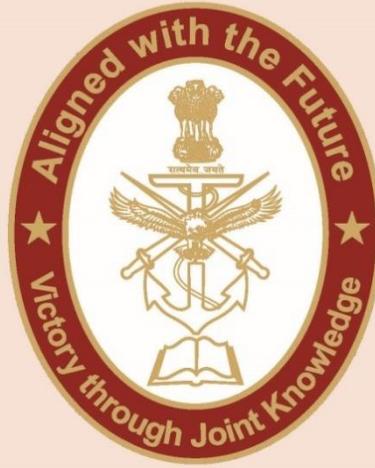


# CENTRE FOR JOINT WARFARE STUDIES



## CENJOWS

### CHINA'S 3 ENGINE UAV

1. **China Test Flies World's First Three-Engine UAV.** The Chinese media reported that the World's first large, three-engine utility drone made its first flight on 16 Jan 2010. The drone is developed by Chengdu-based Tengden Technology Company, and is a three-engine variant of Tengden's twin-engine TB Twin-tailed Scorpion. It has a length of 11 meters and width of 20 meters. It is equipped with three piston engines, one under each wing and the third on its tail, enabling maximum takeoff weight of 3.2 tons and endurance of 35 hours. It has a flight ceiling of 9,500 meters, maximum climb rate of 10 meters per second and top speed of more than 300 km per hour.



*World's first large, three-engine utility drone on its first flight on 16 January 2020*

2. **Comments.** Chinese domain experts say that this indigenously developed drone would be extra reliable and versatile because of the extra engine, and can be used for wider range of purposes like transportation, patrol, reconnaissance and attack missions. Because the drone uses piston engines which have long life-span, it is also very cost efficient. The extra engine makes this new drone more powerful, enabling carriage of more payload and take off from shorter air strips. The drone can also be used for disaster relief, forest firefighting, geographic mapping, meteorological observation and aerial communications relay, as required. The drone is likely to be "put into market in various variants" by 2021.

**Source:** <https://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1177309.shtml>