GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 2728

(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 18th August 2025)

ADOPTION OF SUSTAINABLE AVIATION FUEL(SAF) IN THE COUNTRY

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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Government has initiated any policy or promotional measures for adoption of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the steps taken in this regard and their current implementation status;
- (c) whether any partnership has been made with any private or international organisation to promote the use of SAF, and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the challenges in implementing production and use of SAF on a large scale in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) & (b) The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) has adopted a market based measure i.e. Carbon Offsetting Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA) to reduce carbon emissions from international aviation. India, being a Member State of the ICAO, is under obligation to comply with the mandatory phase of CORSIA from 2027. Under the CORSIA scheme airlines are required to offset their emissions, above a set baseline.

The Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MoPNG) has informed that Public Sector Oil companies are engaged in setting up pilot/commercial scale facilities to produce Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) including standalone as well as co-

processing plants. The Government has approved indicative blending targets of 1% by 2027, 2% by 2028, and 5% by 2030 for SAF in ATF, initially for international flights.

- (c) India has joined ICAO's Assistance, Capacity-building and Training for Sustainable Aviation Fuels (ACT-SAF) programme which aims to support the mitigation of CO2 emissions from international civil aviation in ICAO Member States. Further, at the G20 Summit, India, US, and Brazil launched the Global Biofuel Alliance to enhance cooperation in sustainable biofuel use.
- (d) Production and use of SAF on a large scale in the country faces challenges such as high capital and operational expenditure, expensive feedstock, fragmented supply chains, absence of long term off-take agreements between Airlines companies and Oil Marketing Companies for procurement of SAF, absence of policies support like tax benefits and subsidies for SAF production etc.
