GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 799
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 23rd July 2026)

USAGE OF SUSTAINABLE FUEL IN AIRCRAFTS

799. SHRI SUKHJINDER SINGH RANDHAWA
Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government is considering the use of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) in aircraft and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the differences between the existing aviation fuel and Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF), including the cost of production, environmental impact and operational challenges in aircraft operations;

(c) the present availability of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF); and

(d) whether crude oil would be required to be imported for SAF production and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) to (d): As per the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) is a drop-in aviation fuel produced from sustainable feedstocks such as used cooking oil, agricultural residues, municipal solid waste and other renewable or non-fossil sources and does not require crude oil as the primary feedstock, whereas Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) is a conventional aviation fuel derived from petroleum (crude oil).

Being a drop-in fuel, SAF can be blended with conventional ATF and used in the existing aircraft engines and fuel systems without requiring any modification. Further, SAF has the potential to significantly reduce lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions compared to conventional ATF, thereby contributing to the decarbonisation of the aviation sector. However, the current production cost of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) is higher than that of conventional Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) due to developing technologies, limited production capacity and limited availability of sustainable feedstocks.

The Government has approved indicative blending targets of 1% by 2027, 2% by 2028, and 5% by 2030 for SAF in conventional Aviation Turbine Fuel for international operations. Public sector Oil Marketing Companies are actively engaged in achieving the stated blending targets.

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