

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
Lok Sabha**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 4494

(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 27th March 2025)

PRODUCTION OF SUSTAINABLE AVIATION FUEL

4494. DR. BYREDDY SHABARI

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

be pleased to state:-

- (a) the current status of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) production in the country along with the number of SAF pilot projects and test flights conducted;**
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to promote SAF production including partnerships with international aviation and fuel companies;**
- (c) the details of challenges faced in SAF production in the country along with the measures being taken to address the said challenges;**
- (d) the details of research and development initiatives, collaborations or funding provided for the development of SAF in the country including the support provided to Indian refineries to produce SAF; and**
- (e) whether the Government proposes to incentivize the development and production of SAF in the country to make it more competitive with conventional aviation fuel and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION
(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)**

(a) to (e) Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) has been used in the following test flights:

- i. M/s Vistara operated ferry flight of B-787 from USA to India using 28% of SAF blended fuel on 29th March 2023.**
- ii. M/s Air Asia operated first commercial domestic flight (Pune to Delhi) with 0.75% SAF blended fuel on 19th May 2023.**
- iii. M/s Spicejet flight operated with 25% SAF (Biofuel produced by Indian Institute of Petroleum, CSIR lab) blended with ATF from Dehradun to Delhi in August, 2018.**
- iv. All Airbus ferry flights fly on 5% SAF blended fuel from Toulouse to India**

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Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MoPNG) has informed that Public Sector Oil companies are engaged in setting up pilot/commercial scale facilities to produce SAF including standalone as well as co-processing plants. Production of SAF faces challenges such as high capital expenditure and operational expenditure, expensive feedstock, fragmented supply chains, absence of an Indian certification agency for certification and sustainability standards, 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. However, envisaged SAF plants are expected to catalyze the development of ecosystem for domestic SAF production by establishing commercial projects and setting benchmarks for the development and indigenisation of the technologies used for the commercial projects.

The PM JI-VAN Yojana, launched in 2019 and amended in 2024, allows grant of financial assistance to set up commercial and demonstrative advanced biofuel plants including SAF 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.
