

Can achieve 1% sustainable fuel blending by 2025: Puri

SUKALP SHARMA

NEW DELHI, MAY 19

INDIA IS well-positioned to achieve 1 per cent sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) blending in aviation turbine fuel (ATF) for all commercial flights by 2025, Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said Friday. Puri said while the government will set blending targets later, he felt that starting with 1 per cent blending in two-and-half years was "doable".

SAF is produced from sustainable feedstock and has similar chemistry to conventional ATF or jet fuel, which is derived from crude oil. Its carbon footprint is significantly lower than ATF.

"I personally think that 2025 is a very reasonable target for 1 per cent SAF blending... I am giving my view as a minister. The govern-



Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri

ment will set targets later, but I think this is doable," Puri told reporters at an event tomarkuse of domestically produced SAF in a commercial flight operated by AIX Connect (formerly Air Asia India).

A committee on SAF constituted by the petroleum ministry has submitted recommendations to the government. According to people aware of matter, the panel has recommended an initial SAF blending mandate of 1 per cent from 2025, before scaling it up to 10 per cent over subsequent years in phases. The report is being evaluated. FULLREPORTON

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'Investment opportunity of \$30 bn in petchem sector over next 10 yrs'

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: India offers investment opportunity of \$30 billion in the petrochemical sector over the next decade as the world's third largest energy consumer looks to meet growing demand, Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on Friday.

Addressing Asia Petrochemical Industry Conference 2023 here, the minister highlighted that the size of the Indian chemical and petrochemcial sector is around \$190 billion and it is poised for transformational growth.

He rued that the per capita consumption is still low as compared to developed economies.

Puri noted that the petrochemical sector has made a significant progress in recent years, becoming one of the largest producers of petrochemical products in the world. "The market size of the

"The market size of the Indian chemical and petrochemical sector I'm told is about \$190 billion. The per capita consumption of various chemical products and segments is significantly lower compared to the developed economies. And this gap offers substantial space for demand growth and investment opportunities," he said.

The minister said the chemicals and petrochemicals demand in India is expected to nearly triple and is expected to reach \$1 trillion by 2040.

"There is a potential investment opportunity of \$30 billion in next decade in petrochemical sector. And the government of India is proactively addressing the present challenges and implementing several flagship initiatives to improve the overall competitiveness quality and output of the industry," he said. Stating that this sector supports the Prime Minister's initiative of 'Make in India' and make for the world, Puri said that the chemical and petrochemicals sector can transform India into a global manufacturing hub.

"India today is not only the sixth largest chemical producer in the world, and the fourth in Asia, but also exports chemicals to more than 175 countries. It accounts for 13 per cent of India's total exports," he added.

The minister noted that the growth of the petrochemical industry in India has been driven by several factors, including increasing demand for such products from a growing population and a rapidly expanding economy.



Puri: 1% Sustainable Aviation Fuel by '25 Reasonable Target

Our Bureau

New Delhi: Blending 1% sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) by domestic airlines by 2025 could be a "reasonable" target, oil minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on Friday after welcoming an Air Asia flight that used blended fuel.

India has mandated the blending of 20%



ethanol in petrol by 2025 but has set no such mandate yet for aviation turbine fuel (ATF). The country has already achieved 10% blending in petrol and

begun to use biodiesel.

"If the ecosystem and all those involved in the production and in the blending are confident, I personally think that... 2025 is a very reasonable target for 1% SAF," Puri said. The European Union and the US are also planning a mandate for SAF.

"By 2025, if we target to blend 1% SAF in jet fuel, India would require around 14 crore litre of SAF per annum. More ambitiously, if we target for 5% SAF blend, India would require around 70 crore litre of SAF per annum," Puri said.



Puri: Demand for chemicals to hit \$1 trn by 2040

MANISH GUPTA New Delhi, May 19

DOMESTIC DEMAND FOR chemicals and petrochemicals is expected to nearly tripleand reach \$1 trillion by 2040, minister of petroleum & natural gas Hardeep Singh Puri said at the Asia Petrochemical Industry Conference (APIC) 2023 on Friday.

"The Indian petrochemical industry is poised for transformational growth and is expected to contribute almost 10% to the incremental growth in the global petrochemical demand in the coming years," Purisaid.

The Indian chemicals and petrochemical sector, with a current market size of \$190 billion, is growing at a rate of 1.2-1.5 times the GDP. The Centre has instituted policies to boost the sector, including 100% FDI through automatic route.

The proposed Petroleum, Chemicals and Petrochemicals Investment Region (PCPIR), policy to be implemented between 2020-2035, is likely to attract a total investment of over ₹34 trillion and there is a plan to set up more than 10 plastic parks, the ministers aid.

"The chemicals and petrochemicals demand in India is expected to (more than) triple and reach \$1 trillion by 2040," Puri said, adding that there are potential investment opportunities of \$30 billion in the decade to come. The minister further said that about 80% of India's petrochemicals capacity is integrated with petroleum refineries and that it gives India an edge in terms of petrochemical feedstock certainty. India's refining capacity has increased from 215 MMTPA in 2013-14 to 251.2 MMTPA—the fourth largest in the world.

Chemicals & fertilisers minister Mansukh Mandaviya said, "India is poised to be the new destination of petrochemicals, globally. The world views Indiaas a trusted partner and priority destina-



The Indian petrochemical industry is expected to contribute almost 10% to the incremental growth in the global petrochemical demand in the coming years."

HARDEEP SINGH PURI, MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS

tion for investment due to our business friendly policies." Mandaviya also said that India is focussing on making affordable and improved life-cycle petrochemical products to help reduce carbon footprint.

More than 1,200 delegates from seven member nations and participants from Europe, China, America, the Mid East and other Asian countries, including senior government officials of key nations and regional and global partners, attended the conference. APIC is hosted annually by the partner country associations from India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand.

Earlier in the day, on the successful flight of India's first commercial airplane using indigenously produced Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF), oil minister Puri called it a significant step towards decarbonising the aviation sector.



How Gujarat is working to become India's green hydrogen hub

Mahesh Langa

GANDHINAGAR

Gujarat has set the ball rolling to become the country's green hydrogen manufacturing hub and retain its dominance over the industrial sector. The State has signed memoranda of understanding (MoUs) with several big corporates, including Reliance, Adani, ArcelorMittal and Torrent, which have pledged huge investments in green energy projects and have been allotted land for the same.

"We aim to become a hub for green hydrogen by creating a production capacity of 8 metric tonnes per annum (MTPA) by 2035," State Industries Minister Balwantsinh Rajput said.

The State is framing a new policy for green hydrogen manufacturing, which will be given the sta-

Green (super)power

- Hydrogen produced through renewable/ non-fossil sources is called green hydrogen
- Expected to help decarbonise energyintensive industries like fertilisers, steel, chemicals, petroleum
- Gujarat aims to produce 8 lakh tonnes of green hydrogen per annum by 2035



ISTOCKPHOT

- 1.99 lakh hectares allotted for green hydrogen schemes in the State
- ₹10 lakh crore worth of investment expected in the State over the next 15 years

Investments pledged



Reliance Group ₹5.6 lakh crore

Adani Group ₹4.13 lakh crore

tus of a "priority sector", said officials. The State Cabinet approved the allotment of 1.99 lakh hectares in the Kutch-Banaskantha border areas against the proposals, by the corporates that signed the MoUs, for setting up projects across 3.26 lakh hectares. The land parcels will be allotted on a 40-year lease initially.

The government will

provide a range of incentives to the industries investing in the State's green hydrogen projects, officials said. As per the land allotment policy, the companies must meet 50% of their green hydrogen production capacity within five years of commissioning their plants and 100% within eight years.

Zero emission country

Under the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC), India has set a target of becoming a net-zero emission country by 2070. The country also aims to reduce its carbon emissions by 45% by 2030 by sourcing 50% of its energy from renewable sources.

"As a State with a favourable policy regime and solid infrastructure base, Gujarat will be a hub for green energy and its ecosystem," an official said, adding, "the State is expecting around ₹10 lakh crore worth of investments in this new sector over the next 15 years."

Any company intending to set up a green hydrogen plant in Gujarat should have prior experience in producing at least 500 megawatts (MW) of renewable energy or should be a user of "green", "blue", or "brown" hydrogen.

Major opportunities

Among the companies that have signed MoUs with the State, the Reliance group has committed investments worth ₹5.6 lakh crore to set up a renewable energy park and a green hydrogen park in Gujarat. The Adani group has also made significant commitments, announcing plans to invest more than ₹4.13 lakh crore over the next 10 years in green hydrogen

and associated ecosystems to create a capacity to produce up to 3 million tonnes of green hydrogen annually.

The companies plan to set up factories for solar photovoltaic modules, electrolysers, energy storage batteries and fuel cells, and wind and solar projects.

In its recent Union Budget, the Centre allocated ₹19,744 crore for the National Green Hydrogen Mission, which seeks to promote the development of green hydrogen production capacity of at least 5 MMT (Million Metric Tonnes) per annum, with an associated renewable energy capacity addition of about 125 gigawatts (GW) in the country by 2030. In addition, the policy aims to attract investment of over ₹8 lakh crore and create over 6 lakh jobs by 2030.



Centre working on rolling out petrochem policy: Mandaviya

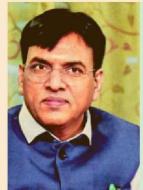
SUBHAYAN CHAKRABORTY

New Delhi, 19 May

Chemicals and Fertilizers Minister Mansukh Mandaviya has said the government is in the process of incrementally rolling out the revamped Petroleum, Chemicals, and Petrochemicals Investment Region (PCPIR) policy.

Speaking at the Asia Petrochemical Industry Conference on Friday, Mandaviya said reducing the country's import dependence across product categories remains a key goal, he said.

Currently, India is unable to meet its domestic requirements for all chemicals apart from Benzene. Covering more than 80,000 commercial products, India's chemical industry is extremely diversified and can be broadly classified into



INDIA IS POISED TO BE THE NEW DESTINATION OF PETROCHEMICALS, GLOBALLY. DUE TO OUR BUSINESS—FRIENDLY POLICIES, THE WORLD VIEWS INDIA AS A TRUSTED PARTNER AND PRIORITY DESTINATION FOR INVESTMENT

MANSUKH MANDAVIYA
Chemicals and Fertilizers Minister

bulk chemicals, specialty chemicals, agrochemicals, petrochemicals, polymers, and fertilisers. However, demand has far outstripped supply, government officials accepted.

A specific investment region with 250 square kilometres planned for the establishment of manufacturing facilities for the sector, the PCPIR policy aims to create multiple chemical hubs geared towards export and meeting specific industry needs. However, state governments had been slow to adopt the model first proposed in 2007, and the Centre has therefore brought out a new model, a ministry official said.

Tamil Nadu had cancelled a key PCPIR project in 2020,

Rajasthan has been struggling to attract investments to the Barmer PCPIR. Meanwhile, one of the largest such projects in Gujarat's Dahej has faced technical challenges, accidents and environmental concerns.

Other states have gone ahead with their plans, including Andhra Pradesh in 2021 in the Vizag-Kakinada region.

Mandaviya said the government was making long-term policies for the chemicals and petrochemicals sector to attract investments from domestic and foreign companies. He also stressed domestic industry to follow the path of reclaim, reuse and recycle for sustainable development. The statement may have come as a response to manufacturers strongly opposing India's extended producer responsibility norms.



Govt eyeing 1% SAF in all commercial flights by '25

Transition within 2 years, says Puri amid global pressure on Indian carriers

SUBHAYAN CHAKRABORTY

New Delhi, 19 May

India is looking to mandate the blending of 1 per cent of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) in all domestic commercial flights within the next two years, said Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri.

On Friday, Puri attended an event to mark the first such flight, powered by a 1 per cent blend of indigenously produced SAF at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport. Speaking to reporters after the Pune-Delhi AirAsia flight landed, Puri said the government was working to quickly raise the level of domestic SAF production and was aiming to make 1 per cent blending mandatory in all domestic commercial flights by 2025. This may be extended to 5 per cent in the next few years, he said.

"By 2025, if we target to blend 1 per cent SAF blending in Jet fuel, India would require around 140 million litres of SAF per annum. More ambitiously, if we target for 5 per cent SAF blend, India requires around 700 million litres of SAF per annum", the Minister said.

Officials said the SAF used on Friday was produced by Praj Industries, which, in partnership with Gevo Inc, has developed a breakthrough in Alcohol-to-Jet (ATJ) technology for the production of SAF using bio-based feedstock. The SAF samples underwent detailed testing at IOCL laboratories before it was blended for the special flight.

State-owned-IOCL is currently firming up plans to establish a plant in Panipat, Haryana, to make SAF with the same technology. To come up at IOCL's Panipat refinery at a cost of ₹3,000 crore over a period of two-and-a-half years, it will convert corn-based, cellulosic, or sugar-based ethanol into SAF, officials have confirmed. It would have an initial capacity to produce 85,000 tonne of fuel annually. Business Standard had reported last month that IOCL may offer minority equity stakes to domestic airlines for the production plant.

Production of SAF using sugarcane



Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri at India's first commercial passenger flight powered by indigenously produced Sustainable Aviation Fuel, in New Delhi PHOTO: PIB

molasses as indigenous feedstock is a major step towards self-reliance and decarbonisation of the aviation sector in line with India's commitment to achieve net zero by 2070, Puri stressed.

Global changes

Globally, since 2011 more than 450,000 commercial flights have been flown using SAF. To reduce the carbon footprint of the industry, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) has adopted an aspirational goal of 2 per cent annual fuel efficiency improvement through 2050. It also wants to hit Carbon Neutral Growth from 2020, and net zero by 2050.

Local production of SAF is critical as Indian airlines will have to offset carbon emissions generated from international flights from 2027. This is part of the global Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA) scheme launched by ICAO.

CORSIA is implemented in three phases, out of which participation is voluntary in the first two phases (2021-26). While India has decided not to participate in the voluntary phases, local carriers would

What is SAF?

SAF refers to waste-derived aviation fuel. Unlike traditional jet fuels, it is made from various sources such as used cooking oil, agricultural waste, municipal solid waste, fats or nonfood crops, and forestry residues. This means it has the potential to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by up to 80 per cent. As on date, Airbus and Boeing aircraft are capable of flying with up to a 50 per cent blend of SAF. Both aim to enable 100 per cent SAF capability by 2030.

need to follow their international counterparts after that date.

European countries such as Norway and Sweden have made it mandatory for fuel suppliers to blend conventional fuel with small quantities of SAF. The European Commission has proposed a SAF blending mandate for fuel supplied at its airports with a minimum share of SAF increasing from 2 per cent in 2025 to 63 per cent in 2050.



भारत को 2047 तक ऊर्जा के क्षेत्र में आत्मनिर्भर बनाने के लिए पेट्रोलियम क्षेत्र बहुत अहम : पुरी

एजेंसी ■नई दिल्ली

केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस तथा आवास एवं शहरी मामलों के मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने प्रधानमंत्री द्वारा स्पष्ट रूप से निर्धारित किए गए दृष्टिकोण के अनुरूप भारत को 2047 तक ऊर्जा के क्षेत्र में आत्मनिर्भर बनाने की आवश्यकता पर बल दिया। पुरी ने कहा कि यह बताने की आवश्यकता नहीं है कि पेटोलियम क्षेत्र को मोदी के इस दृष्टिकोण को साकार करने की दिशा में बहुत योगदान देना पड़ेगा। पुरी आज नई दिल्ली में उद्योग एवं मीडिया जगत की एक सभा को संबोधित कर रहे थे। इस अवसर पर पेटोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के सचिव. पंकज जैन भी मौजुद थे। विमानन क्षेत्र को कार्बन रहित करने की दिशा में एक महत्वपर्ण विकास के रूप में.



स्वदेशी रूप से निर्मित सतत विमानन ईधन (एसएएफ) मिश्रण का उपयोग करते हुए देश की पहली वाणिज्यिक यात्री उड़ान की आज सफलतापूर्वक शुरूआत की गई। पुणे से दिल्ली के लिए, एयर एशिया की उड़ान (आई5 767) ने प्राज इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड (प्राज) के साथ साझेदारी करते हुए इंडियन ऑयल कॉर्पोरेशन लिमिटेड द्वारा आपूर्ति किए गए एसएएफ मिश्रित विमानन टरबाइन ईंधन (एटीएफ) के साथ उड़ान भरी। मंत्री हरदीप सिंह परी ने हवाई अड्डे पर इस विशेष उड़ान का स्वागत किया। हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने इस अवसर पर कहा कि यह देश को 2070 तक शुद्ध-शून्य कार्बन उत्सर्जन की दिशा में किए जाने वाले कोशिशों में एक महत्वपूर्ण मील का पत्थर साबित होगा और उन्होंने कहा कि मुझे इस ऐतिहासिक अवसर का गवाह बनने और एसएएफ मिश्रित एटीएफ निर्मित ईंधन की पहली वाणिज्यिक उड़ान का साक्षी बनने पर खुशी महसूस हो रही है। उन्होंने कहा कि यह पहली घरेलू वाणिज्यिक यात्री उडान होगी जिसमें

प्रयोगिक रूप से 01 प्रतिशत तक एसएएफ सम्मिश्रण किया जाएगा। मंत्री ने कहा कि 2025 तक, अगर हम जेट ईंधन में 01 प्रतिशत एसएएफ सम्मिश्रण करने का लक्ष्य निर्धारित करते हैं. तो भारत को प्रति वर्ष लगभग 14 करोड लीटर एसएएफ की आवश्यकता होगी। उन्होंने कहा कि ज्यादा महत्वाकांक्षी बनते हए अगर हम 05 प्रतिशत एसएएफ मिश्रण का लक्ष्य निर्धारित करते हैं. तो भारत को प्रति वर्ष लगभग 70 करोड लीटर एसएएफ की आवश्यकता होगी।पुरी ने विमानन का पर्यावरण पर पडने वाले प्रभावों में कमी लाने की दिशा में स्वदेशी समाधान विकसित करने के लिए अपने-अपने क्षेत्रों के दिग्गजों जैसे इंडियन ऑयल, एयर एशिया और प्राज इंडस्टीज को बधाई दिया और उनकी सराहना की और उन्होंने भारत

में एसएएफ को व्यापक रूप से अपनाने का मार्ग प्रशस्त करते हुए आत्मनिर्भर भारत बनने के लिए प्रधानमंत्री मोदी के दृष्टिकोण को दोहराया। इस अवसर पर, एस एम वैद्य, अध्यक्ष, इंडियन ऑयल, एयर एशिया के प्रबंध निदेशक, आलोक सिंह भी उपस्थित हए। वैकल्पिक एवं दीर्घकालिक ईंधन स्रोतों की आवश्यकता पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, हरदीप सिंह पूरी ने कहा कि, हाल के वर्षों में एसएएफ उत्पादन प्रौद्योगिकी ने बहुत प्रगति की है। पारंपरिक जेट ईंधन के विपरीत, एसएएफ का उत्पादन नवीकरणीय स्रोतों जैसे कृषि अपशिष्ट, ठोस अपशिष्ट एवं वानिकी अवशेषों से प्राप्त किया जाता है। एसएएफ में पारंपरिक जेट ईंधन की तुलना में ग्रीनहाउस गैस उत्सर्जन को 80 प्रतिशत तक कम करने की क्षमता मौजद है।



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ऊर्जा के क्षेत्र में आत्मनिर्भर बनाने के लिए पेट्रोलियम क्षेत्र महत्वपूर्ण : पुरी

विशेष प्रतिनिधि

नई दिल्ली। केंद्रीय पेटोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस तथा आवास एवं शहरी मामलों के मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने प्रधानमंत्री द्वारा स्पष्ट रूप से निर्धारित किए गए दृष्टिकोण के अनुरूप भारत को 2047 तक ऊर्जा के क्षेत्र में आत्मनिर्भर बनाने की आवश्यकता पर बल दिया। श्री पुरी ने कहा कि. यह बताने की आवश्यकता नहीं है कि पेटोलियम क्षेत्र को श्री मोदी के इस दृष्टिकोण को साकार करने की दिशा में बहुत योगदान देना पड़ेगा। श्री पुरी आज नई दिल्ली में उद्योग एवं मीडिया जगत की एक सभा को संबोधित कर रहे थे। इस अवसर पर पेटोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के सचिव, पंकज जैन भी मौजूद थे। विमानन क्षेत्र को कार्बन रहित करने की दिशा में एक महत्वपूर्ण विकास के रूप में, स्वदेशी रूप से निर्मित सतत विमानन ईंधन (एसएएफ) मिश्रण का उपयोग करते हए देश की पहली वाणिज्यिक यात्री उडान की आज सफलतापूर्वक शुरूआत की गई। पूणे से दिल्ली के लिए, एयर एशिया की उडान (आई5 767) ने प्राज इंडस्टीज लिमिटेड (प्राज) के साथ साझेदारी करते हुए इंडियन ऑयल कॉपेरिशन लिमिटेड द्वारा आपूर्ति किए गए एसएएफ मिश्रित विमानन टरबाइन ईंधन (एटीएफ) के साथ उडान भरी। मंत्री हरदीप सिंह

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केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस तथा आवास एवं शहरी मामलों के मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी मीडिया को संबोधित करते हुए। (छाया: एएनआई)

पुरी ने हवाई अड्डे पर इस विशेष उड़ान का स्वागत किया। केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस तथा आवास एवं शहरी मामलों के मंत्री श्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी स्वदेशी रूप से निर्मित सतत विमानन ईंधन (एसएएफ) का उपयोग करके भारत की पहली वाणिज्यिक यात्री उड़ान के चालक दल के सदस्यों के साथ। हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने इस अवसर पर कहा कि यह देश को 2070 तक शृद्ध-शृन्य कार्बन उत्सर्जन की दिशा में किए

जाने वाले कोशिशों में एक महत्वपूर्ण मील का पत्थर साबित होगा और उन्होंने कहा कि मुझे इस ऐतिहासिक अवसर का गवाह बनने और एसएएफ मिश्रित एटीएफ निर्मित ईंधन की पहली वाणिज्यिक उड़ान का साक्षी बनने पर खुशी महसूस हो रही है। उन्होंने कहा कि यह पहली घरेलू वाणिज्यिक यात्री उडान होगी जिसमें प्रयोगिक रूप से 01 प्रतिशत तक एसएएफ सम्मिश्रण किया जाएगा। मंत्री ने कहा कि 2025 तक, अगर हम जेट ईंधन में 01 प्रतिशत एसएएफ सम्मिश्रण करने का लक्ष्य निर्धारित करते हैं, तो भारत को प्रति वर्ष लगभग 14 करोड लीटर एसएएफ की आवश्यकता होगी। उन्होंने कहा कि ज्यादा महत्वाकांक्षी बनते हुए अगर हम 05 प्रतिशत एसएएफ मिश्रण का लक्ष्य निर्धारित करते हैं. तो भारत को प्रति वर्ष लगभग 70 करोड लीटर एसएएफ की आवश्यकता होगी। श्री पुरी ने विमानन का पर्यावरण पर पड़ने वाले प्रभावों में कमी लाने की दिशा में स्वदेशी समाधान विकसित करने के लिए अपने-अपने क्षेत्रों के दिग्गजों जैसे इंडियन ऑयल, एयर एशिया और प्राज इंडस्टीज को बधाई दिया और उनकी सराहना की और उन्होंने भारत में एसएएफ को व्यापक रूप से अपनाने का मार्ग प्रशस्त करते हुए आत्मनिर्भर भारत बनने के लिए प्रधानमंत्री श्री मोदी के दृष्टिकोण को दोहराया।