

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Sir, this is a very robust system, which has been proved beyond doubt and the sensitivity of the system is excellent, and, therefore, once you actually carry out the test, you can be assured of the fact as to whether the person has any alcoholic content or not. The moment it is noticed, he is de-rostered, and, for the first three months, he is not allowed to fly...

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is about pilots but the hon. Member has asked about the other staff members; the cabin crew.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: It is there not only for these persons but also for the maintenance staff. Sir, as far as flying crew is concerned, they are subject to the test but not to that extent because they are not in the 'safety' category. But people, who are actually going to have an effect on the flight operations, whether it is maintenance or training staff, are subject to this test.

DR. SANTANU SEN: Sir, I want to know as to whether any Code of Conduct or more stringent Code of Conduct for the pilots is being set up or drafted and whether it is available in the public domain.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Sir, it is definitely available in public domain.

श्री संजय सेठ: सभापति महोदय, इसमें pre-flight check के बारे में तो बताया गया है, लेकिन मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या post-flight check की कोई व्यवस्था है? चूंकि इंटरनेशनल फ्लाइट्स के अंदर liquor available होता है, इसलिए मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या post-flight check के लिए भी कोई मापदंड रखे हुए हैं?

श्री सुरेश प्रभु: सर, जब विदेश से हमारी फ्लाइट्स आ जाती हैं, विदेश में इसके लिए उनकी अपनी व्यवस्था होती है, उसके तहत वे उनकी टेस्टिंग करते हैं, लेकिन यहां आने के बाद भी हम उनकी टेस्टिंग करते हैं। इस संबंध में उत्तर में दिए गए टेबल में आपने देखा होगा कि दुबई से और शारजाह से जो लोग आए थे, जब उनका भी टेस्ट पॉजिटिव पाया गया, तो उनको भी de-roster किया गया।

Bringing natural gas and ATF under GST

*153. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that natural gas and Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) are being brought under the Goods and Services Tax (GST);
- (b) if so, what is the response of the States; and
- (c) how does the Central Government propose to compensate losses of States?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) Article 279A (5) of the Constitution provides that Goods and Services Tax Council shall recommend the date on which goods and services tax shall be levied on petroleum items including natural gas and Aviation Turbine Fuel. Thus while, petroleum products are constitutionally included under GST, the date and rate of GST which shall be levied on such goods, shall be as per the decision of the GST Council, which has representations of Ministers-in-charge of Finance or Taxation or any other Minister nominated by each of the States and Union Territories with legislature.

DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Sir, my question is on ATF. ATF is being brought under GST. Currently, ATF has 14 per cent excise tax charged by the Centre and the States charge differently, from 5 per cent to 29 per cent, the lowest being Odisha and probably the highest being Tamil Nadu. My first supplementary is: When ATF comes under GST, under what slab is it going to be? Presuming that it is 28 per cent, the highest, in that event, how do you propose to compensate the loss to the States?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question has to be specific. Presumption and assumption का कोई जवाब नहीं होता है।

DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Okay. My question is: What will they charge and how will they compensate the States?

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Sir, I think you have already answered on my behalf.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I guided the Member. That's all.

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: It is a very important question, Sir. But the GST Council is the competent authority. The hon. Member is a learned Member. He knows that it is the GST Council which is the appropriate authority to decide when to include ATF and natural gas in the tax regime and what the slab will be.

DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Sir, my second supplementary is: When the ATF comes under this, how will it affect the cargo and the air fares?

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Sir, my answer is the same. The GST Council is the competent authority. They are the authority to decide the slabs and also the compensation.

SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Sir, I would like to know whether there is any proposal before the Government to include petrol and diesel under the GST and whether the Government has studied its impact on the prices.

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, as the in-charge of petroleum sector, we stand by what the GST Council, during its formation, had decided, to put all the petroleum products within the GST ambit. But in our structure, the GST Council is an autonomous and a very important body created by an enactment of Parliament. Participation of each and every State and Union Government is there. The GST Council will take appropriate action at appropriate time with due deliberation.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, I would request, through you, the hon. Minister to put the views of the Union of India. We understand about GST. Sir, 45 per cent of India's revenue base is kept out of GST. But at the time when the GST Constitution (Amendment) Bill was passed, which facilitated the passing of the GST Bill, it was discussed in detail and we were given the assurance...

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your question?

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: I am coming to that, Sir. The Union Government's view should come on that, not whether it will be a part of the GST. The specific supplementary of mine is, the aviation sector is going through a crisis.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right. I understand, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: No, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*... Will the Central Government consider, because it is a question of economic viability of many airlines of the country which employ a large number of people, giving them some relief when it comes to Central excise before the GST Council decides?

श्री धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान: सभापति महोदय, जब जी.एस.टी. काउंसिल और जी.एस.टी का पूरा फ्रेमवर्क बना, तब naturally, petroleum hydrocarbon के सारे प्रोडक्ट्स को उसमें रखा गया था, लेकिन सभी राज्यों ने इस विषय पर एक शर्त रखी थी कि इसकी डेट और स्लैब हम subsequently तय करेंगे। मैंने माननीय सांसद के पहले प्रश्न में ही कहा, सिद्धांततः Ministry of Petroleum का opinion है कि इस इंडस्ट्री के सारे प्रोडक्ट्स जी.एस.टी. के दायरे में आने चाहिए। मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि यह भारत सरकार की Ministry of Petroleum के view points हैं। मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि सिर्फ ए.टी.एफ. ही नहीं, पेट्रोल, डीज़ल, किसानों की उपज सभी सस्ते हों, एक new tax regime आए, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि यह स्वागत योग्य होना चाहिए।

श्री रेवती रमन सिंह: सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगा कि यू.पी.ए. सरकार के समय में पेट्रोल और डीज़ल का दाम कितने रुपए प्रति barrel था और आज कितने

[श्री रेवती रमन सिंह]

रुपए प्रति barrel है? आज आपकी सरकार में पेट्रोल और डीज़ल का क्या दाम है? मैं आपसे यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि अभी जो टैक्स लगा है, क्या आप उसे माफ करेंगे, जिससे कि आम आदमी को सस्ता पेट्रोल और डीज़ल मिल सके?

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Chairman Sir, this is a separate question.

*154. [*The Questioner was absent*]

Installation of more CEPTs in textile industry towns

*154. DR SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken steps to install more Common Effluent Treatment plants (CETPs) in the textile industry towns of Coimbatore and Tirupur to prevent further pollution of Siruvani and Noyyal rivers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government intended to open more textile parks in the State of Tamil Nadu;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government is facing opposition on the ground that opening up of more textile parks in the State would further aggravate the pollution of river stretched; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government is implementing the Integrated Processing Development Scheme (IPDS) for enabling the textile processing sector to meet environmental standards through adoption of appropriate technology, specifically in the area of water and waste water management. The Government has sanctioned 3 Projects under the IPDS for setting up Common Effluent Treatment plants (CETPs) with Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) systems in the state of Tamil Nadu. The details of the projects are as under:—