

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 708
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.12.2018

Pollution in Delhi due to crop burning

708. DR. SANTANU SEN:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of measures taken by the Ministry, to ensure that crop burning does not happen in areas surrounding Delhi;
- (b) details of the extent of crop burning in Haryana, since 2013; and
- (c) the plans of the Ministry, for curbing pollution this year?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

- (a) To stop burning of crop residue that leads to higher level of air pollution in Delhi and NCR especially during adverse meteorological conditions in early winter in North India, the Central Government has introduced a new Central Sector Scheme on 'Promotion of Agricultural Mechanization for in-situ management of Crop Residue in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi' for the period from 2018-19 and 2019-20 with an outlay of Rs. 1151.80 crore. This year's allocation of Central funds is Rs. 591.65 crore.
- (b) Satellite-based tracking of Active Fire Incidents due to stubble burning has been done by State Governments and remote sensing institutes. Daily tracking of active fire events in Punjab and Haryana is done on the basis of reports sent by Remote Sensing Institutes/Organisations. In Haryana, 9232 (29 % reduction) active fire events have been reported till 30th November 2018 from 30th Sep 2018 and for the same period 13085 events were reported in 2017.
- (c) The Central Government has notified a Comprehensive Action Plan (CAP) and Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) for prevention, control and mitigation of air pollution in Delhi and NCR. The Central Government has also finalized National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) under the Central Sector "Control of Pollution" Scheme as a long-term time bound national level strategy to tackle the increasing air pollution problem across the country in a comprehensive manner. The overall objective is to augment and evolve effective ambient air quality monitoring network across the country besides ensuring comprehensive management plan for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution.
