

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 834
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2023

Paddy Pellet Scheme

834. DR. AMEE YAJNIK:
SMT. RAJANI ASHOKRAO PATIL:
SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH:
SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken cognizance of the concerns raised by the beneficiaries of the Paddy Pellet Scheme that the financial incentives under the same do not cover production costs;
- (b) whether Government had held consultations with manufacturers and other stakeholders before the introduction of the Scheme;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government intends to expand the Scheme to other crops beyond paddy; and
- (e) the State-wise data on instances of stubble burning per year since 2018?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) to (d)

As per scheme guidelines framed by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), a maximum amount of Rs. 14 lakhs per ton plant production capacity per hour, towards capital cost of plant and machinery as one-time financial support by CPCB, subject to a total financial support of Rs. 70 lakhs per proposal in case of pelletisation plant. In case of torrefaction plant, a maximum amount of Rs. 28 lakhs per ton plant production capacity per hour, shall be paid as one-time financial support by CPCB, subject to a total financial support of Rs. 1.4 crore per proposal.

The cost proposed in draft guidelines was based on discussions and information obtained from market players which were further shared with concerned central ministries and other stakeholders for comments especially on the aspect of funding.

Guidelines were prepared for paddy straw based pellet plants considering the issue of paddy straw burning that takes place in northern region, which is one of the factors impacting air quality in Delhi and NCR.

(e)

The State wise data in respect of states of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and the NCT of Delhi on instances of stubble burning since 2018 is given as **Annexure**.

The Active fire event counts reported for 2018-2022 in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan and NCT of Delhi

States	Number of active fire events of paddy residue burning				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Punjab (Oct. 01- 30 Nov)	59695	50738	83002	71304	49922
Haryana (Oct. 01- 30 Nov)	9232	6364	4202	6987	3661
Delhi (Oct. 01- 30 Nov)	-	-	9	4	10
Rajasthan (Oct. 01- 30 Nov)	-	-	1756	1350	1268
Uttar Pradesh (Oct. 01- 30 Nov)	6636	4230	4631	4242	3017