GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2119 TO BE ANSWERED ON 13/12/2024

FUNDING PATTERN UNDER CRM SCHEME

2119. SHRI VIKRAMJIT SINGH SAHNEY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Crop Residue Management (CRM) Scheme has been implemented in Punjab since 2018-19 and it was 100 per cent centrally sponsored by Government but in the year 2023-24 the funding pattern was changed to 60 (Centre):40 (State) and scheme was made Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have received a request from Punjab to give incentive of ₹2500 per acre to the farmers of Punjab under the Scheme; and

(d) if so, whether Government is planning to accede to the request, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) & (b): The Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, (DA&FW) is implementing Crop Residue Management Scheme from 2018-19 to support efforts of the State Governments of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh & NCT of Delhi to address air pollution caused due to paddy stubble burning and to subsidize machinery required for management of crop residue. On the recommendations of Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC), the scheme is merged under Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) and is being implemented under the umbrella of Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)' from 2023-24 on 60:40 funds sharing basis between Centre and State.

(c) & (d): The proposal of the State Government of Punjab to provide an incentive of Rs. 2500/- per acre to farmers to meet the expenditure to be incurred on operational cost of usage of crop residue management machinery, over and above the financial assistance provided under the crop residue management scheme was received in DA&FW in October 2024.

The Department is already supporting the State Government and during the period from 2018-19 to 2024-25 (as on 30.11.2024), the central funds amounting to Rs. 1681.45 crores have been released to the State of Punjab for providing financial assistance to the farmers for purchase of crop residue management machines @ 50% of the cost of machines and for establishing Custom Hiring Centres (CHCs) of crop residue management machines @ 80% of the project cost. The paddy straw supply chain projects are also provided financial assistance @ 65% on the capital cost of machinery for the projects costing up to Rs. 1.50 Crores. Funds have also been provided to the State and Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) for taking up Information, Education and Communication activities for mass awareness farmers. The State Government of Punjab has been requested to take actions within the framework of Crop Residue Management (CRM) scheme in a holistic manner along with a comprehensive awareness of farmers.