

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2258
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07/08/2026

**IMPLEMENTATION OF CROP DIVERSIFICATION AND CROP RESIDUE
MANAGEMENT PROGRAMMES IN PUNJAB**

2258. SHRI TARUN CHUGH

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

- (a) the details of the Central assistance sanctioned, released and utilised during the last four years under the crop diversification and crop residue management programmes in Punjab, along with the objectives, implementing agencies and physical progress thereunder, district-wise;
- (b) the targets fixed, achievements made, shortcomings and the reasons therefor in Punjab, district-wise; and
- (c) the details of the corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken in consultation with Government of Punjab to address these shortcomings and the current status of their implementation?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR)

(a) to (c): The Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) is promoting Crop Diversification Programme (CDP) under Pradhan Mantri - Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVVY), since 2013-14 in the original Green Revolution States of Haryana, Punjab and western Uttar Pradesh to divert the area from water intensive paddy cultivation to less water intensive alternative crops such as shree anna, pulses, oilseeds, coarse cereals etc. Under this programme, assistance is provided for alternative crop demonstrations, farm mechanization & value addition, site-specific interventions and contingency activities related to awareness generation & capacity building.

To support the efforts of the Governments of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and NCT of Delhi to address air pollution caused due to paddy stubble burning and to subsidize machinery required for management of crop residue, a scheme on Crop Residue Management (CRM) is being implemented by the DA&FW. Under this scheme, the farmers are facilitated to adopt measures for in-situ crop residue management and ex-situ utilization of paddy straw in various applications. Financial assistance @ 50% for purchase of machines by the farmers on individual ownership basis are intended to enable farmers to easily access and purchase agricultural equipment they might not otherwise be able to afford. Higher subsidy (@80%) is provided to the Cluster Hiring Centers (CHCs) that benefits the farmers by making crop residue management machines more accessible on rental basis and the farmers incur lower costs than when purchasing machinery themselves.

In-situ crop residue management strategy involves promoting technologies and machinery to incorporate, retain, or mulch crop residues directly in the field. Machines like Super Straw Management Systems, Happy Seeder, Super Seeder, Smart Seeder, Surface Seeder, Zero Till Seed cum Fertilizer Drill, Mulcher, Shrub Master/Rotary Slasher, Paddy Straw Chopper, Hydraulically Reversible Mould Board Plough, Crop Reapers and Reaper Binders are used to mix the residue back into the soil to improve soil health, rather than burning it. The use of bio-decomposers supplement to accelerate the in-situ decomposition of paddy straw.

Ex-situ Crop Residue Management strategy focuses on establishing a supply chain through a cluster-based approach, collecting, baling, and transporting straw from the field for its further use in industries such as bio-energy, thermal power plants, bio-CNG, and for fuel. Financial assistance @ 65% on the capital cost of machinery costing up to Rs. 1.50 crores is provided for establishing paddy straw supply chains.

Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) are conducted to raise awareness among stakeholders, farmers, and the public regarding the adverse effects of burning and the benefits of management practices. This includes large-scale demonstrations, training, and education programs.

CDP and CRM are implemented by the State Government and since 2022-23 to 2025-26, an amount of ₹1246.25 crore was allocated to the State of Punjab, against which ₹974.41 crore was released, of which ₹827.12 crore has been utilized by the State under these schemes. The district wise targets fixed and achievements made under CRM and CDP during 2025-26 as reported by the State is at **Annexure – I**.

Review meetings under the Crop Residue Management (CRM) scheme are convened at the level of the Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare with the Hon'ble State Ministers of Agriculture and representatives of stakeholder Ministries to review the implementation and progress of the scheme. In addition, review meetings on the CRM and Crop Diversification Programme (CDP) are regularly held at the level of the Secretary/Joint Secretary with officers of the State Governments.

Further, an Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) was constituted on 18.12.2023 to regularly monitor the effective and time-bound implementation of various schemes for paddy straw management through a convergent and synergistic approach. The IMC conducts monthly review meetings with State Governments in Delhi and also undertakes visits to States to facilitate effective monitoring and timely resolution of implementation-related issues. Since its constitution in December 2023, the IMC has held 26 meetings up to June 2026.

The district wise targets fixed and achievements made under CRM and CDP during 2025-26 as reported by the State as referred in point (a) to (c) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question Number 2258.

District	CRM 2025-2026				CDP 2025-2026	
	Target in Numbers		Achievement in Numbers		Target in Acres	Achievement in Acres
	CHCs	Individual	CHCs	Individual	Crop Demonstrations	
Amritsar	75	218	33	232	400	172
Barnala	63	185	50	198	300	41.7
Bathinda	92	293	70	399	5000	1649
Faridkot	67	199	27	139	50	27
Fatehgarh Sahib	36	105	29	44	200	145
Fazilka	81	234	80	212	300	240.3
Ferozepur	94	242	117	287	50	35
Gurdaspur	63	185	66	252	3750	1557
Hoshiarpur	25	93	18	179	-	-
Jalandhar	68	199	118	239	1250	2410
Kapurthala	50	144	41	215	1250	0
Ludhiana	107	280	84	289	350	213
Mansa	69	203	67	240	50	106
Moga	87	255	31	241	200	315
Pathankot	21	93	14	66	-	-
Patiala	99	291	74	226	200	404
Rupnagar	21	93	19	85	-	-
Sangrur + malerkotla	138	369	160	467	5000	1867
SAS Nagar	21	93	28	93	-	-
SBS Nagar	21	93	8	94	350	744.5
Sri Muktsar Sahib	104	268	87	219	200	2.4
Tarn Taran	86	249	41	222	300	70
