

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 791
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 7TH FEBRUARY, 2023

TECHNOLOGY FOR STUBBLE MANAGEMENT

791. SHRI MALOOK NAGAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that farmers are forced to burn straw/stubble/crop stubble in the open due to non-availability of technology for their management and non-existence of any provision of cash incentives for their scientific disposal; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government to deal with this problem which is resulting into worsening of Air Quality Index (AQI) in the northern parts of the country and particularly in Delhi?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) and (b): Paddy stubble burning is practiced in Indo-gangetic plains of the States of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh to clear the fields for Rabi Crop sowing. To support the efforts of the Governments of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi to address air pollution and to subsidize machinery required for management of crop residue, a 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' is being implemented from 2018-19. The scheme promotes the usage of machines for stubble management such as Super Straw Management Systems, Happy Seeder, Super Seeder, Smart 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 for in-situ management of crop residue and Balers & Straw Rakes which are used for straw collection in the form of bales for other ex-situ uses of straw. Financial assistance @ 50% of the cost of machinery is provided to the farmers for purchase of these identified crop residue management machinery and financial assistance @ 80% of the project cost is provided to the Cooperative Societies of Farmers, Farmers Producers Organization (FPOs) and Panchayats for establishment of Custom Hiring Centres (CHCs) of

these identified crop residue management machinery. The details of State-wise funds released during each of the last five years is as under:

Year	Funds Released (Rs. in Crores)					Total
	Punjab	Haryana	Uttar Pradesh	NCT of Delhi	ICAR & Others	
2018-19	269.38	137.84	148.60	0.00	28.51	584.33
2019-20	273.80	192.06	105.28	4.52	18.48	594.14
2020-21	272.50	170.00	120.20	0.00	8.00	570.70
2021-22	331.94	193.35	159.59	0.00	6.02	690.90
2022-23	278.83	223.46	180.00	1.53	14.28	698.10
Total	1426.45	916.71	713.67	6.05	75.29	3138.17

The States have established more than 37000 Custom Hiring Centres (CHCs) and more than 2.40 lakh crop residue management machines have been supplied to these CHCs and individual farmers of these States. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has developed Pusa bio-decomposer, a microbial consortium of fungal species (both in liquid and capsule forms) for rapid decomposition of paddy straw. Use of this consortium accelerates process of paddy straw decomposition in the field itself and in the year 2022, the decomposer has been used by the States in an around 7.45 lakh hectare area. The satellite-based monitoring indicated that a total 56600 paddy residue burning events were detected in Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh in 2022 season which are 31.4% less than those reported in 2021.
