

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1551**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 20<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2020

**BURNING OF CROP RESIDUE**

1551. SHRIMATI SHARDABEN ANILBHAI PATEL:

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 compelled to burn the crop residue and stubble in the open due to the non-availability of technology for their management and non-provision of cash incentives for their scientific disposal;
- (b) if so, the immediate steps taken by the Government to tackle the resulting problem of deteriorating Air Quality Index particularly in Delhi and Northern parts of the country; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a): Paddy stubble burning is mainly practiced in Indo-Gangetic plains of the States of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh to clear the fields for Rabi crop sowing.

(b) & (c): To address air pollution and to subsidize machinery required for in-situ 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. The funds of the tune of Rs. 584.33 crores in 2018-19 and Rs. 594.14 crores in 2019-20 have been released for these States. Out of these funds, the State Governments during 2018-19 and 2019-20, have supplied more than 1,12,162 machines to the individual farmers and to the Custom Hiring Centres on subsidy for in-situ management of crop residue. The State Governments and KrishiVigyanKendras (KVKs) have also undertaken Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities on a massive scale for creating awareness among farmers.

As per satellite data, overall about 18.8% and 31% reduction in number of paddy residue burning events were observed in the year 2019 as compared to that in 2018 and 2017, respectively in these three States.

The scheme has been continued during 2020-21 and so far funds amounting Rs. 548.20 crores have been released to the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Indian Council of Agricultural Research for crop residue management.

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