

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 5255
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 04.04.2022

Guidelines for Burning of Crop Residues

5255. SHRI BHOLANATH (B.P. SAROJ):

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

- (a) the details of the guidelines issued by the Government for compliance by respective State Governments towards prevention of burning of crop residues by farmers in their agricultural fields;
- (b) the extent to which the pollution level has increased in various cities due to burning of crop residues;
- (c) whether it is a fact that techniques for making many items/products, like cardboard, paper, husk, grain chaff and animal fodder out of crop residue are available for which experts have been giving their suggestions from time to time; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a)

The Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas, on 10.06.2021 has provided a framework to the states of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan, along with the NCT of Delhi, for control/elimination of crop residue burning and directed to draw up the state specific action plans based on the major contours of the framework. The commission on 16.09.2021 directed the Chief Secretaries of the states of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan, along with the NCT of Delhi to effectively implement the framework and the detailed action plan.

Further, Government is implementing a special scheme 'Promotion of Agricultural Mechanization for In-Situ Management of Crop Residue in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi' to support the efforts of the governments of Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and the NCT of Delhi towards prevention of burning of crop residue and to subsidize machinery required for in-situ management of crop residue.

(b)

As per the System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting (SAFAR), Ministry of Earth Sciences, estimated average contribution of biomass burning to PM_{2.5} levels in Delhi was 13% for both years i.e. 2020 (10 October - 03 December) and 2021 (10 October- 23

November) with maximum estimated contribution reaching up to 42% in 2020 and 48% in 2021.

Active Fire Event (AFE) count due to paddy crop residue burning, provided by Consortium for Research on Agro ecosystem Monitoring and Modeling from Space (CREAMS), IARI, indicates reduction of AFE in 2021, by 14% in Punjab, while increase by 66.3% in Haryana, as compared to AFE count observed in 2020. Though, Net AFE count in Punjab and Haryana has decreased by 10% in 2021, as against 2020. District-wise AFE count for the States of Punjab and Haryana for 2020 and 2021 is enclosed as Annexure-I.

(c) & (d)

Paddy straw is used as conventional animal feed in most parts of the country. However, it can be better utilized by making it nutritional feed material by treating with urea solution. The paddy straw is also used for paper making. However, it is less preferred by the paper industry due to high silica content causing chocking of blast furnaces, low fiber strength, less pulp yield, yellowness in pulp and requirement of large storage space etc.

A committee was constituted by ICAR to analyze various *ex-situ* crop residue management options for their technical feasibility and economic viability and brought out document entitled 'Ex-situ Crop Residue Management Options'.

Annexure-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 5255 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 04.04.2022 REGRADING 'GUIDELINES FOR BURNING OF CROP RESIDUES' RAISED BY SHRI BHOLANATH (B.P. SAROJ), HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

**District-wise AFE count for the state of Punjab
(15 September-30 November)**

District	2020	2021
Amritsar	3067	2174
Barnala	5342	4326
Bathinda	5239	4481
Faridkot	4734	3953
Fatehgarh Sahib	1536	1724
Fazilka	2616	2389
Firozpur	8525	6289
Gurdaspur	2132	1396
Hoshiarpur	388	331
Jalandhar	1951	2548
Kapurthala	1886	1798
Ludhiana	5065	5817
Mansa	3786	3217
Moga	7421	6515
Muktsar	5072	4598
Pathankot	13	6
Patiala	6433	5426
Rupnagar	205	307
Sangrur	11727	9389
S.A.S. Nagar	127	148
SBS Nagar	132	355
Tarn Taran	5605	4117
Total	83002	71304

**District-wise AFE count for the state of Haryana
(15 Sep-30 Nov)**

District	2020	2021
Ambala	346	308
Bhiwani	5	12
CharkhiDadri	0	0
Faridabad	1	3
Fatehabad	880	1479
Gurugram	0	0
Hisar	56	245
Jhajjar	6	7
Jind	347	919
Kaithal	840	1157
Karnal	592	955
Kurukshetra	406	538
Mahendergarh	0	0
Mewat	0	0
Palwal	46	115
Panchkula	0	0
Panipat	55	254
Rewari	0	0
Rohtak	50	78
Sirsa	357	551
Sonipat	72	219
Yamunanagar	143	147
Total	4202	6987