

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1277**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 30<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2024

**CROP RESIDUE MANAGEMENT**

1277. SMT. KAMALJEET SEHRAWAT:

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

- (a) the status of the 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';
- (b) whether the Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) have taken measures to provide alternate crop residue management solutions to farmers in Northern States during the winter season to discourage stubble burning;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether KVKs have carried out assessment surveys for location-specific technology or knowledge modules in regions facing the issue of stubble burning, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

- (a) Paddy stubble burning is mainly practiced in Indo-Gangetic plains of the States of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh due to short window between the harvesting of paddy crop and sowing of next Rabi crop. To support the efforts of the these States, to address air pollution caused due to paddy stubble burning and to subsidize machinery required for management of crop residue, the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has implemented 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 during the period from 2018-19 to 2022-23. The scheme has been merged with Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) with effect from 2023-24 and is now being implemented as a Component of Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) on funds sharing basis between Centre and State. Under this scheme, financial assistance @ 50% is provided to the farmers for purchase of crop residue management machinery and @ 80% is provided to Rural Entrepreneurs (Rural youth & Farmer as an entrepreneur), Cooperative Societies of farmers, Registered Farmers Societies, Farmers Producer Organization (FPOs) and Panchayats for establishment of Custom Hiring Centres (CHCs) of crop residue management machines.

The scheme promotes the usage of machines and equipments for management of crop residues such as 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 for in-situ management of crop residue and Balers & Straw Rakes for collection of straw for further ex-situ utilization. Financial assistance @ 65% on the capital cost of machinery costing up to a maximum of Rs. 1.50 Crore per project is also provided for paddy straw supply chain which covers the machinery and equipments like higher HP Tractors, Cutters, Tedder, Medium to large Balers, Rakers, Loaders, Grabbers & Telehandlers.

(b) to (d): The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) 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 in about 20-25 days. The Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) have conducted 8803 number of demonstrations on farmers' fields and awareness programmes to promote Pusa Decomposer for management of crop residue. KVKs have conducted surveys to assess different technologies for crop residue management to find out their location specificity to tackle the issue of stubble burning. Assessments indicate that higher yields of wheat was obtained as a result of sowing of wheat with Happy Seeder and Super Seeder in the standing stubble and helped in in-situ management of paddy straw. Awareness, demonstrations and capacity building programmes are carried out based on the findings of assessments.

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