

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 328

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 2ND DECEMBER, 2025

INCENTIVES TO ACHIEVE ZERO STUBBLE BURNING

328. SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the ongoing challenges faced by Punjab farmers in adopting crop residue management machines despite subsidies;
- (b) if so, the number of such machines distributed in Jalandhar and other Punjab districts in 2025; and
- (c) the details of the additional incentives planned under the Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanisation to achieve zero stubble burning by 2026?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (c): In order to support the farmers of Punjab for adopting crop residue management practices, the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) is implementing Crop Residue Management (CRM) Scheme through the State Government of Punjab w.e.f. 2018-19. Under this scheme, the central funds amounting to Rs. 1963.45 crores have been released to the State of Punjab for providing financial assistance to the farmers for purchase of crop residue management machines @ 50% of the cost of machines and for establishing Custom Hiring Centres (CHCs) of crop residue management machines @ 80% of the project cost. Higher share of subsidy is provided for CHCs with the intention of making available machines and equipments to small and marginal farmers at lower rentals. The paddy straw supply chain projects are also provided financial assistance @ 65% on the capital cost of machinery for the projects costing up to Rs. 1.50 Crores with the objectives of ensuring biomass supply security for paddy straw based industries such as Bio-Compressed Natural Gas (CNG), Compressed Biogas (CBG), Bio-ethanol, biomass based power plants etc. The sale of paddy straw by the farmers for use by such industries also

fetches additional income for them. Funds have also been provided to the State for taking up Information, Education and Communication activities for mass awareness of farmers.

The farmers are adopting crop residue management machines and during the period from 2018-19 to 2025-26 (as on 25.11.2025), more than 1.59 lakh machines have been supplied in the State. The overall benefits of in-situ residue management practices by using these machines also include enrichment of soil fertility and savings on reduced application of fertilizers. There is no provision for additional incentives under Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) and all these interventions under the CRM scheme aims at managing the paddy straw in a holistic manner to achieve zero stubble burning.

The number of crop residue management machines distributed to farmers in various districts of Punjab in the year 2025 is given in Annexure-I.

The overall objective of reducing the burning of paddy straw through the initiatives under CRM scheme is getting realized as it is evident from the reports published by the Consortium for Research on Agroecosystem Monitoring and Modelling from Space (CREAMS) Laboratory, Division of Agricultural Physics, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) – Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi. The paddy straw burning events between 15th September to 30th November during 2018 in the States of Punjab were 67079, which have been reduced to 10909 events during 2024 for the same period, which indicates 83.7 percent reduction in paddy straw burning. During the current year, the paddy straw burning events between 15 September to 27 November have been reported as 5106 numbers, which are less by 52.8% as compared to year 2024 for the same period.

Annexure-I

Number of crop residue management machines distributed to farmers in various districts of Punjab in the year 2025 (as on 25.11.2025)

S.No.	Name of the district	Number of crop residue management machines distributed
1	Amritsar	256
2	Barnala	511
3	Bathinda	436
4	Faridkot	239
5	Fatehgarh Sahib	214
6	Fazilka	731
7	Ferozepur	1159
8	Gurdaspur	464
9	Hoshiarpur	170
10	Jalandhar	1019
11	Kapurthala	461
12	Ludhiana	519
13	Malerkotla	206
14	Mansa	540
15	Moga	366
16	Pathankot	73
17	Patiala	419
18	Ropar	115
19	Sangrur	1042
20	SAS Nagar	178
21	SBS Nagar	95
22	Sri Muktsar Sahib	535
23	Tarn Taran	347
	Total	10095
