

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3805
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 22ND DECEMBER, 2015

BURNING OF FARM RESIDUES

3805. SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA:
SHRI PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA:
SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:
SHRI V. PANNEERSELVAM:

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

- (a) whether the recent satellite photographs have shown that the recent haze over North India was caused by the burning of farm residues in several State/UTs;
- (b) if so, the details of the affected areas in each State/UT in North India;
- (c) whether the Government has directed the States/UT administration to check the practice of burning farm residues;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the States thereto; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to encourage better and scientific disposal of the farm residues?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI MOHANBHAI KUNDARIA)

(a) & (b): The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has released satellite image of some Northern and North-western states during October and November 2015, which reveals burning of crop residues in Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. NASA imagery further reveals that, due to agricultural fires in some northern and northwestern states, smog and hazy weather conditions are formed in northern India, especially over Delhi and National Capital Region.

(b) to (e): Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare has formulated the "National Policy for Management of Crop Residues (NPMCR), 2014" and circulated to all States/UTs, to ensure prevention of burning of crop residues, by incentivizing purchase of modern machineries to minimize left-over crop residue in the field, in-situ conservation and mixing of residue in soil to increase soil fertility, multiple uses of crop residue, formulation of fodder pellets and briquettes. Besides, Indian Council of Agricultural Research has developed technology for incorporation of crop residue through conservation agricultural practices, preparation of bio-enriched compost/vermin compost, and use of crop residues for cultivation of mushroom. Awareness campaigns for encouraging better and scientific disposal of the farm residues are being organized by Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) by holding Krishi Goshthis, Radio/TV Talks for implementation of technology developed by ICAR. Implementation of these measures has resulted in reduction of stubble burning in the States of Punjab and Haryana.
