

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 51**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.11.2019

**Stubble burning in Haryana and Punjab**

51. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that stubble burning by farmers in neighbouring States of Punjab and Haryana continue to choke the environment in the National Capital, making the air poisonous;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Government's failure to stop stubble burning by farmers in these two States; and
- (c) details of effective measures Government proposes to take in this regard?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**  
**(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)**

(a), (b) & (c) Stubble burning in Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh is considered as one of the contributors to the poor air quality in Delhi and NCR during early winter months. As per System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting and Research (SAFAR) of Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, the estimated impact of stubble burning in PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels of Delhi ranged between 2% (07.11.2019) to 46% (31.10.2019).

As per the analysis of paddy residue burning in Punjab, Haryana, & UP in using Satellite Remote Sensing carried out by Consortium for Research on Agroecosystem Monitoring and Modeling from Space (CREAMS) Laboratory, Division of Agricultural Physics, ICAR – Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, about 54% reduction in the number of burning events is observed in 2019 (till 14<sup>th</sup> November) as compared to that in 2016, respectively. About 53% and 58% reduction in number of burning events have been observed in 2019(till 14<sup>th</sup> November) as compared to that in 2016 in the States of Punjab and Haryana respectively.

In order to prevent stubble burning, a new 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’ for the period from 2018-19 to 2019-20 is being implemented by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare with the total outgo from the Central funds of Rs. 1151.80 crore (Rs. 591.65 crore in 2018-19 and Rs. 560.15 crore in 2019-20).

Under this Scheme, the agricultural machines and equipments for in-situ crop residue management such as Super Straw Management System (SMS) for Combine Harvesters, Happy Seeders, Hydraulically Reversible MB Plough, Paddy Straw Chopper, Mulcher, Rotary Slasher, Zero Till Seed Drill and Rotavators are promoted with 50% subsidy to the individual farmers and 80% subsidy for establishment of Custom Hiring Centres of these machines.

Further, extensive Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities for creating awareness among farmers have been undertaken by the States. Incentives of Rs. 100/quintal is given to farmers who did not burn stubble in current season. States are also taking strong measures against those who have burnt stubble by way of lodging FIRs and charging penalties.

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