

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1592
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 29TH JULY 2025

SUPPORT FOR PADDY RESIDUE MANAGEMENT

1592. 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 proposes to formulate a scheme to provide per acre expenditure support to paddy growing farmers for the collection and safe disposal of paddy residue to discourage stubble burning;
- (b) if so, the details of the proposed scheme, including quantum of financial assistance per acre and modalities of direct transfer to farmers;
- (c) whether the Ministry has assessed the cost incurred by farmers for residue management per acre, and if so, the findings thereof
- (d) whether the Government will consider integrating this support with existing crop residue management machinery schemes to ensure effective implementation and environmental compliance; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (e): The Crop Residue Management(CRM) Scheme being implemented by the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) since 2018-19 in the states of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi. Under the CRM scheme as on 30.06.2025, the central funds amounting to Rs. 3951.16 Crores have been released. The States have provided more than 3.24 lakh crop residue management machines to the farmers. The States have also established more than 42,000 Custom Hiring Centres of Crop Residue management machines with 80% subsidy with the intention of making available the equipments and machines to the farmers as per their requirements on rental basis at the rates lower than the market rates.

There is no proposal to formulate a scheme to provide per acre expenditure support to paddy growing farmers for collection and safe disposal of paddy residue over and above the financial support already being provided under the Crop Residue Management (CRM) scheme

Under this scheme, ex-situ management of paddy straw is also promoted by providing financial assistance for establishing paddy straw supply chain with the boarder objectives of ensuring biomass supply security for pre-identified ex-situ based small-medium-large scale industrial projects of bio-CNG/CBG, Bio-Ethanol or Biomass based power generation etc. The sale of paddy straw to these industrial projects provide an additional income to the farmers.

Super seeder is the most preferred machine for in-situ management followed by Happy Seeder and Smart Seeder. These machines are used for sowing wheat directly into just-harvested rice fields without burning or removing straw. The average rentals for Super/Happy/Smart Seeder is around Rs. 2500/- per acre for sowing of wheat, which is almost equal to the cost of sowing wheat by other methods after burning the paddy straw. 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.

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, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh were 75514, which have been reduced to 18457 events during 2024 for the same period, which indicates 75.5 percent reduction in paddy straw burning.
