

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH & EDUCATION

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 25
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.07.2023

KVK SUPPORT IN CROP RESIDUE MANAGEMENT

***25. SHRI MOHAMMED NADIMUL HAQUE:**

Will the Minister of **Agriculture & Farmers Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of incentives provided to the Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) as a support to farmers with regards to crop residue management machines;
- (b) if so, details thereof, if not, reasons therefor;
- (c) whether KVKs provide alternate crop residue management solutions to farmers in northern India during winter season to discourage stubble burning;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether KVKs have carried out surveys for location-specific technology or knowledge modules in the regions facing issue of stubble burning, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the table of the house.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE RAJYA
SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 25 TO BE ANSWERED ON 21/07/2023
REGARDING “KVK SUPPORT IN CROP RESIDUE MANAGEMENT”**

(a) to (b): Yes, Sir. Government of India provided ₹ 67.97 crore including 1163 machines to Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) to support farmers by creating awareness amongst farmers with suitable alternatives of crop residue management (CRM) under “Information, Education and Communication (IEC)” component of the Central Sector Scheme on ‘Promotion of Agricultural Mechanization for *In-Situ* Management of Crop Residue in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and National Capital Territory of Delhi’ since 2018-19. The IEC component is implemented by 60 KVKs including 22 KVKs of Punjab, 14 KVKs of Haryana, 1 KVK of Delhi and 23 KVKs of Uttar Pradesh.

The activities under IEC component include organization of awareness programmes, demonstrations and hands-on training to farmers on different CRM Machineries namely, Happy Seeder, Super Seeder and Smart Seeder for direct seeding of wheat without burning the rice residue; Reversible Mould Board Plough for incorporating the paddy stubble in the field for production of vegetable/ potato; and other farm machinery like Zero Till Drill, Shrub Master/ Cutter-cum-Spreader, Mulcher/ Chopper, etc. for *in-situ* residue management.

KVKs organized 3898 awareness camps involving about 2.99 lakh farmers, 1342 training programmes for 46,568 farmers, 1.22 lakh demonstrations and 349 Kisan Melas involving 7.9 lakh farmers. Further, KVKs also mobilized more than 2.0 lakh school and college students against residue burning. Besides, social media (WhatsApp, Facebook, and YouTube), print media and mKisan portal have also been extensively used for providing technical advisory services to the farmers for crop residue management.

(c) to (e): The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has developed Pusa 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 KVKs have conducted 8803 demonstrations on farmers’ fields and awareness programmes to promote Pusa Decomposer for management of crop residue.

KVKs made a survey 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 yield 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 residue. Awareness, Demonstrations and capacity building programmes are carried out based on the findings of assessments. The efforts made through above Central Sector Scheme resulted into drastic reduction in incidences of residue burning in the year 2022 compared to that of previous year (2021).
