

Managing stubble burning

636. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts being made by Government to stop stubble burning in Northern States;

(b) the efforts made by Government to initiate research to manage the stubble without burning it; and

(c) whether Government proposes to give bonus to the farmers for managing stubble, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) To address air pollution and to subsidize machinery required for *in-situ* management of crop residue, 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 has been launched with the total outgo from the Central funds of ₹ 1151.80 crore (₹ 591.65 crore in 2018-19 and ₹ 560.15 crore in 2019-20). During 2018-19, the funds amounting to ₹ 269.38 crores, ₹ 137.84 crores and ₹ 148.60 crores have been released to the Government of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh respectively for distribution of *in-situ* crop residue management machinery to the farmers on subsidy, establishment of Custom Hiring Centres (CHCs) of *in-situ* crop residue management machinery and undertaking Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities for creating awareness among farmers.

(b) Research efforts have been done by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) for *in-situ* and *ex-situ* straw management. Various crop straw management machines/implements such as Super Straw Management System for Combine Harvester, Happy Seeder, Mulcher, Paddy Straw Chopper cum Spreader, Rotary Slasher, Hydraulically operated Reversible Mould Board Plough etc. have been developed and demonstrated by the Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering and Punjab Agricultural University Centre of All India Coordinated Research Project on Farm Implement and Machinery.

(c) There is no such proposal to give assistance to the farmers in the form of bonus for managing stubble.