

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL**

**NEW DELHI**

Original Application No. 666 / 2018 (Earlier O.A No. 451/2018)

in

the matter of

Smt. Ganga Lalwani V/s Union of Indian

&

Others

Reply by way of Affidavit of Manmohan Kalia,  
Nodal Officer, Crop Residue Management-cum-Joint Director  
Agriculture Engineering (Officiating) on behalf of Government  
of Punjab.

I, Manmohan Kalia, Nodal Officer, Crop Residue Management-  
cum-Joint Director Agriculture Engineering (Officiating) on  
behalf of Government of Punjab, the above named deponent,  
aged about 55 years, having office at Kheti Bhawan, SAS  
Nagar, do hereby solemnly affirm and state as under:.

1. That the Principal Bench of the Hon'ble National Green  
Tribunal was pleased to pass instructions vide order dated  
1.10.2019, the relevant part of which is reproduced as under :-

*Manmohan Kalia*



ORDER

*Principial Bench, NGT, New Delhi , Dated 1.10.2019 ,*

12. *Thus, it does appear that unless further effective measures are adopted the problem of air pollution by burning of crop residue may not be remedied. We are of the view that this concern needs to be addressed by effective environmental governance which is inalienable duty of the State. No doubt, the funds have been allocated by the Central Government for the purpose but the Central Government ought to provide further guidance in terms of effective strategies to be used for monitoring the situation. At the level of States, the responsibility may be more onerous and still more onerous at the District level. It may be desirable to have a special cell in the office of the Chief Secretary so that the situation is reviewed on daily basis atleast for next one month, even on holidays. Similar cells may be required at the offices of District Magistrates or at such other levels as may be considered necessary by the State Authorities. Such monitoring mechanism may be finalized by 7.10.2019 and placed on the website of the State which may encourage public participation and enhance awareness.*

13. *We do hope that with sincere efforts at all levels it may not be difficult to contain the problem in the interest of better air quality and public health.*

14. *We direct the concerned Joint Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India and Secretaries, Agriculture of States of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh (whatever may be the*

*Atre*



*designation in the concerned States) to appear before this Tribunal alongwith their status reports on 15.10.2019 at 10.30 am for further consideration.*

2. That the State of Punjab has set up special cell in the office of Chief Secretary to review the number of paddy straw burning incidents on daily basis. Similarly, District Magistrates have been directed to set up similar special cells. The same have been placed on the website of the State and other websites. In addition to this , the State Government has nominated one senior IAS officer for each district to monitor the management efforts by various agencies and oversee the stubble burning incidents . A copy of the same is annexed as **Annexure R-PB/1 ; 2 & 3.**

3. That the State of Punjab has a large area under Paddy cultivation; producing around 20.0 million tons of paddy and thereby producing almost equal residue of 20.00 million tons in shape of loose paddy straw & standing stubbles . Though Punjab was not traditionally a state for paddy production, its cultivation has been taken up by the farmers of the State motivated by the Union Government to meet the demand of the country in the early seventees. The State has been contributing 30 to 40 % of paddy to the central pool supported by the assured procurement on Minimum Support Price (MSP) . No doubt the farmers in the State has earned too and the

*Ake*

paddy is most remunerable crop of present times. Although the State had to suffer losses in terms of natural resources such as ground water and the soil fertility with continued paddy cultivation since then, yet the majority farmers are not ready to shift to other crops unless an assured procurement on MSP is ensured for alternate crops like maize, cotton & basmati, the crops which can be substituted in its place. Farmers have also developed with them & have invested a lot in fleet of tractors & other equipment for paddy cultivation. On the other hand, the farmers have been burning its residue (stubbles & loose paddy straw left behind after the operation of Combine Harvesters), primarily because of the limited window between harvesting of paddy and sowing of wheat and other crops. There has not been any practical solution or remedy available for management of this much of paddy straw except mechanical solution. The State has considered an Action Plan prepared by Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana for procurement of In-situ & Ex-situ equipment for management of paddy straw based to cover the state with its usage on full capacity of equipment. The State Government has approached the Government of India for providing Rs.665 crores as grant-in-aid to the state . During the year 2017 , the State has also submitted a three year proposal in the shape of Action Plan for Control of Crop Residue Burning to the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers



*Handwritten signature in blue ink.*

Welfare and to the High Level Task Force set up by the Government of India. This plan included two components;

- One is to provide equipment to farmers on 100% cost basis and as 100% grant-in-aid from Government of India .
- The second proposal included the Paddy Straw Management Compensation @ Rs. 100 per quintal of paddy produced, either as part of MSP of paddy or otherwise. The State has also submitted that the benefit of this compensation will be extended to those farmers only, who will not burn paddy straw in the farms.

4. With the intervention of Hon'ble Supreme Court in a related matter on Air Pollution in Delhi in February 2018 , the Ministry of Environment , Forest & Climate Change has submitted an action plan prepared by High level Task Force in association with NITI Aayog & CII . Thereafter, the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare , Government of India , has prepared **"Centre Sector Scheme for Promotion of Agricultural Mechanization through In-situ Management of Crop Residue"** and provided 269.38 crores during 2018-19 and Rs. 273.80 crores during the current year 2019-20. The allotment includes the share for Information Education Communication (IEC) activities too. The brief details of the equipment provided in year 2018-19 and the sanctioned equipment during the current year is as under;

*Ack*

		2018-19			2019-20		
Purpose of Equipment	Name of Equipment	Individuals	CHCs in Cooperative	CHCs by Farmer Groups	Individuals sanctioned	CHCs in Cooperative	CHCs by Farmer Groups
Facilitating equipment for chopping & spreading paddy straw	i. Super SMS attachment to Combine Harvesters	3481	27	126	793	0	43
	ii. Paddy Chopper Shredders / Mulchers	1635	1738	1022	2760	90	2214
	iii Shrub Master / PAU Paddy Cutter Spreader	18	0	68	0	98	264
	iv. Rotary Slasher	27	371	77	0	0	110
Sowing Wheat in the Chopped Straw kept as mulch ;	Happy Seeders	4859	3060	1839	1219	244	2125
	Zero Till Drill	1186	1579	673	2319	375	2052
Incorporation of Paddy Straw into the Soils	RMB Plough	784	1479	770	660	74	1187
	Rotavator	85	2841	764	0	0	0
	TOTAL	12075	11095	5439	7751	881	7995*
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		28609		24000		

\* Being updated with 2/3 equipment per CHC,

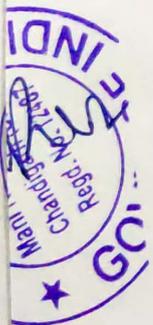
*ATK*

5. That the State Government has been promoting the adoption of equipment meant for paddy straw management since the 2016-17 under the other schemes with matching State Share (Centre:State as 60:40) under the Rashtrya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY), Crop Diversification Programme (CDP) and Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM). The details of distribution of equipment are as under:-

	CDP 2016-17	RKVY 2016-17 /2017- 18	SMAM 2017-18/2018-19		
			SMAM Compon ent 3,4,5 & 6	KKA Phase 1& 2(SMAM )	Non In- situ Equipm ent in CSS Insitu CRM
Equipments	PHY.	PHY.	PHY.	PHY.	PHY.
Paddy Straw Chopper Shreder/Mulch ur	00	440	1343	16	70
R.M.B Plough	198	177	125	10	3
Happy Seeder	324	361	425	54	1
Rotavator	293	00	00	374	16
Zero Till Drill	532	00	00	13	00
Super SMS	00	00	844	10	121
Sub-Soiler	00	00	12	00	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>1347</b>	<b>978</b>	<b>2749</b>	<b>477</b>	<b>215</b>
<b>Total Funds Rs. Lakhs</b>	<b>370.24</b>	<b>616.69</b>	<b>1335.84</b>	<b>256.22</b>	<b>103.65</b>
Baler	00	160	59	00	4
Rake	00	136	52	00	4
<b>Total Phy</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Total Funds Rs. Lakhs</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>883.31</b>	<b>325.25</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>00</b>
CHC	00	00	75	5	1
<b>Total Funds Rs. Lakhs</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>742.01</b>	<b>58.11</b>	<b>10.00</b>
	<b>370.24</b>	<b>1500.0</b>	<b>2403.1</b>	<b>314.33</b>	<b>113.65</b>

6. That the farmers in the State of Punjab has contributed around 190 crores as their share to procure the large number of equipment as mentioned in paras 4 & 5 above and have utilized it during 2018 paddy harvesting season . A review of the utilization of equipment by farmers has been conducted based on the actual average capacity of the equipment for the in-situ & ex-situ management of paddy residue during 2018 , the state has been able to manage 10.21 million tons of paddy straw out of the total 20.00 million tons but it includes around 2.89 million tons of paddy straw as partially burnt & kept out from the fields also.

7. That the area under paddy cultivation in the state was 31.03 lakh hectares (lakh ha) during 2018-19 out of which approximately 16.60 lakh ha. area has been managed during 2018-19. Out of this, 5.11 lakh ha were brought under basmati type of paddy; 5.49 lakh ha has been brought under direct seeding of wheat through Happy Seeders; another 5.0 lakh ha (including area as partially burnt straw) has been managed with the equipment meant for incorporation both provided under the current scheme/ previous schemes, as well as available with the farmers and nearby 1.00 lakh ha area has been managed through industrial usage through Bio Mass Power Plants/Bio Gas and other ex-situ techniques for



*Atke*

collection, removal & transport of paddy straw as compact bales.

8. That after taking into account, the equipment available now with the farmers and even that of being provided during 2019-20; the State still needs additional equipment based on the average capacity and considering block wise area under paddy. Taking into account all the equipment, the State will be able to manage 18.31 lakh ha of area and total of 24.31 lakh ha including area under Basmati & other Ex-situ techniques. This will be helpful in management of 12.00 million tons of paddy straw through equipment & 3.3 million tons from basmati & other ex-situ techniques ; thereby leaving behind 4.7 million tons .This much paddy straw has to be managed by farmers with traditional equipment & at comparatively higher costs of management .

9. That during the financial year 2019-20, as many as 7751 individual farmers have been issued sanctions for the purchase of equipments. In addition to this, 900 Cooperative Societies and 5500 Farmers Groups have been issued sanctions for establishment of Custom Hiring Centres (CHC). The equipment in CHCs in multiples of 2 or 3 will take the figures of equipment to 24000. Till date, around 13,000 machines have been procured by the farmers including Custom Hiring Centres. It is expected that all the machines will be supplied by 15<sup>th</sup>



*Aske*

November, 2019 till the wheat sowing is completed . It is wrth mention here that the sowing of wheat will even extend upto 15<sup>th</sup> December this season , due to untimely rains in the month of September that has delayed the harvesting time of paddy by around 10 days.

10. That the High Level Task Force (HLTF) set up by the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change in its report dated 27th February 2018 has recommended the proposal for providing subsidy @ 50% to individual farmers or 80% to Custom Hiring Centres (CHC) in the coopertaives/farmer groups equipment for in-situ management of crop residue. The HLTF did not recommend the proposal for ex-situ equipment such as Balers & Rakes. Moreover, the proposal for providing paddy straw management compensation @ Rs.100 per quintal of paddy produced has not been recommended. On the other hand HLTF has recommended the incentive of Rs. 130 for farmers who will be engaged in converting paddy straw into bio char. But this practice has not been picked up in the state because of many reasons .

11. That even though the farmers have been provided equipment during the year 2018-19 and additionally will get this year too , the proposal for providing Paddy Straw Management Compensation @ Rs.100 per quintal of paddy produced is still relevant. Since all the farmers are still not



*Arke*

ready to adopt the technique of direct seeding in the chopped paddy straw and a sizeable majority will have to incur additional expenses in case of incorporation of paddy straw. Even the farmers adopting Happy Seeders will require some financial assistance to make up small loss of yield for first three years before the indirect benefits that will be available to them by after 3 years and are realized. This incentive for paddy straw management becomes necessary for the farmers adopting other techniques because of untimely rains and deficiency in the germination of wheat seed and the expenses on control of insect/pest too, because of paddy straw kept as mulch in the fields.

12. That the State Government has taken the following steps for making farmers aware about the harmful effects of paddy straw burning as well as for motivation to manage the paddy straw in the farms itself:-

- The Cabinet Council has passed a resolution to issue an Exclusive Appeal to farmers not to burn paddy straw especially as mark of respect to Great Guru Baba Nanak whose 450th birth year is being celebrated this year. Baba Nanak gave the message to society many years ago to conserve & honor the nature with air as Master, water as Father and land as Mother; scripted as "PAWAN GURU ,PAANI PITA , MAATA DHARAT MAHAT ",
- The Shiromani Gurudwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) has passed a resolution to accept the proposal of the State

*Atke*

Government for issuing a directive to its authorities not to burn paddy straw in the lands owned/ cultivated by Gurudwara Committee. SGPC has also issued directive to all the Gurudwara Managers in the State, all Granthis of Gurudwaras to issue appeal & motivate farmers not to burn paddy straw , as mark of respect to Baba Nanak;

- Advertisements have been carried out in the Leading Regional Newspapers/Magazines advising farmers not to burn paddy straw and their motivation to avail the services of improvised equipment for in-situ management;
- About 306 Column/Articles in newspapers/magazines etc. have been published with complete knowledge about the benefits of in-situ crop residue management to motivate farmers;
- Articles & News Features have been published with focus on those farmers, who have not been burning paddy straw and other crop residue for years;
- Experience sharing stories of farmers who adopted Happy Seeders & other machinery recently, for sowing wheat in the mulch or chopped paddy straw;
- Awareness-cum-Training Camps are being organized in the villages which have witnessed higher burning during last two years; complete lists of villages with higher burning during 2016, 2017 & 2018 have been provided to Deputy Commissioners & District Agriculture Officers to concentrate more on these villages;
- Awareness Camps have been organized for providing information on the demerits of Paddy Straw Burning in the state as under till now,



*Arke*

- 7 at District level; 162 Block level and 1219 at village level;
- Message for "No-Burning of Paddy Straw" has been propagated by the State Government & Chief Minister himself at Kisan Mela held in PAU Ludhiana on 21st September attended by more than 2 lakh farmers;
- Similar messages have been propagated on 6 Kisan Melas at Regional Centres of PAU in the State; 15000 farmers have been addressed;
- Deputy Commissioners & other senior officials of the district administration are also attending Awareness-cum-Training Camps and are advising farmers not to burn paddy straw;
  - A Dedicated Campaign is being run by the Dept. of Information & Public Relations and under this campaign ,
    - 191 jingles as motivational messages for non burning per day are being played on Radio channels every day,
    - Short thought provoking song is being aired on FM Channels ,
    - Motivational Messages in the shape of Side & Rear Panels have been put up on 1400 buses plying in the State,
  - Mobilization of schools and college students through essay competition, painting, debates etc. have been organized in 11 places,
  - 100 demonstrations of equipment & 6 - training programs have also been arranged in the state.
  - Short Video Messages are being run on social media / websites by Department of Agriculture, and PAU/KVKs for advising farmers not to burn but adopt in-situ management techniques for better soil health, increased crop yield, saving in fertilizer/ weedicide & one or two irrigation;

*Arke*

- Short Video Messages being circulated by Punjab State Farmers & Farm Workers Commission about proper use of Happy Seeders & other equipment for better yield;
- 1,20,000\* flexis / pamphlets will be put up on the Govt. Buildings at Village/Block & Tehsil Level; Religious Places/ Panchayat for distribution in the state.
- Organisations like Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), TATA TRUST, Associated Chambers of Commerce & Industry of India (ASSOCHAM); NGOs like India Paryavaran Sansthan (IPS) & Gadri Baba Dula Singh Foundation Raikot (GBDSF) , Guru Nanak National College Doraha and other foundations are working in collaboration with Dept. of Agric./PAU and as many as 1000 villages have been adopted . All sort of help is being provided to farmers/cooperative societies to procure & even operate the equipment in their farms;
- Punjab Pollution Control Board and ASSOCHAM has motivated NSS volunteers to cover all 13000 villages for spreading awareness amongst farmers not to burn paddy straw and save the deteriorating soil health and environment.
- Certain incentives are also being announced through NGOs & other bodies in case the paddy straw management is achieved to 100% in the whole village ;
- State Government will give cash rewards to Panchayats out of the scheme funds for achieving Zero Burning in whole of village land.

In addition to these efforts ,

1. The State Government has set up district level monitoring committees to approach the concerned farmers ; in whose fields burning has been higher in previous years and physically visit the spots shared through the Remote Sensing System to control further incidents of paddy straw burning;

*Arke*



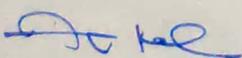
2. The State Government, has warned all its employees (about 3 lakhs in number), of strict disciplinary action, in case paddy straw is burnt in the lands in their names & even in the name of their family members;

3. Other Administrative Measures also being considered to effectively control the paddy straw burning.

13. That there has been a considerable reduction in the Air Pollution in the State and Air Quality Index has also been at comparatively lower levels during the months of October & November in 2018 .

14. That the State of Punjab has focused on diversifying area from Paddy to alternate crops like Maize, Cotton & Basmati this Kharif Season 2019-20. As a result, area under paddy has been brought down by 2.00 lakh hectares, while area under Basmati has been increased by 1.13 lakh hectares. Similarly area under Cotton has been increased by 1.34 lakh hectares while under Maize has been increased by 51000 hectares.

15. That under a Project "National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change " , an area of 1000 hectares in 5 districts has been brought under Maize Cultivation with assistance in the shape of Compensation to Marketing Loss during 2018-19. During 2019-20, 20 such Blocks in 11 districts have been covered under the project and an additional area of 3000 hectares has been brought under Maize , where area under maize has been very less .



16. The Equipment for collection & removal is being extensively used and the straw collected is being utilized for converting it into Bio Gas; Use in the Power Generation Plants; Briquette Making; Converting it into Manure by burying paddy straw through Deep Pits; as mulch in Horticulture/Mushroom Cultivation; and its conversion to Bio Manure. Some units are working in the state with one or the other techniques as mentioned above. Sampurn Agriventure is operating in the district Fazilka in the state and is producing bio gas from paddy straw . **Annexure R-PB/4;**

17. The State Government is making earnest, concerted and continuing efforts to eradicate the problem of crop stubble burning in the state and is sincerely endeavoring to manage, control and consume the total generation of paddy straw/ crop residue scientifically in the next few years. The task is huge and more than 8.00 Lakhs farmers are engaged in Paddy Cultivation in the State. It has been observed and scientifically proven that majority farmers will be able to understand after 2/3 years of practical experience for management of paddy straw in the soils in their farms , which have been otherwise burning it for more than 30 years. State is also working in tandem with the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India



and at present in favor of educating and making them understand the benefits of in-situ paddy straw management.

18. That it is humbly submitted that despite best efforts by the State, certain practical issues and concerns have arisen out of implementation of certain directions of the Hon'ble Tribunal. Farmers are still seeking compensation for management of paddy straw, due to financial stress being faced by farming community. The State Government cannot bear such compensation of its own. That the State Government has submitted requests for considering paddy straw management compensation @ Rs.100 per quintal that can play a positive role for full control of paddy straw burning. Meetings have also been held up during 2018 in the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare & with the Agriculture Costs & Price Commission, for making this incentive as part of MSP of paddy or otherwise. Even the Chief Minister has also taken up the matter with the Prime Minister of India; Finance Minister & Minister for Agriculture, Government of India. Copy of the recent communication through D.O letter by Chief Minister, Punjab to Prime Minister as **Annexure R-PB/5** for consideration of the Hon'ble Tribunal and for issuance of appropriate directions to Government of India.



*Done*

19. That it is further, submitted that in light of the above, it is humbly prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may take the status reports and action plans on record, and pass appropriate directions.

Date 14.10.2019

*Ack*  
Deponent

Place Chandigarh

### Verified

Verified that the contents of Para No.1 to 17 of the above reply by way of affidavit are true and correct to my knowledge as derived from the official record. Para No.18 & 19 are prayer. No part of the above affidavit is false and nothing material has been kept concealed therein.

Date 14.10.2019

Place Chandigarh

*Ack*  
Deponent

14 OCT 2019

The Contents of this affidavit/Document has been explained to the deponent/ executants He/She has admitted the same to the correct. The deponent/executant has signed Register at Sr No. 28  
P. No. 21 Date 14-10-2019



ATTESTED AS IDENTIFIED

MANI RAJU VERMA  
NOTARY CHANDIGARH (U.T.)

Execution on Document  
attested of ID No. 4705317

**GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FARMER WELFARE**

NOTIFICATION

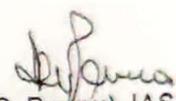
**Sub:- Constitution of special cell to monitor paddy residue burning at State level.**

A committee of officers, as given below, is hereby constituted to monitor the cases of burning of paddy residue in the fields at State level on daily basis:-

1. Joint Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Govt. of Punjab
2. OSD to Chief Secretary, Govt. of Punjab
3. Deputy Secretary, Department of Environment, Govt. of Punjab

This committee shall meet every day till 15<sup>th</sup> of November and monitor/review the crop residue burning incidents in the State with a view to take corrective measures by bringing the matter to the notice of Chief Secretary and Additional Chief Secretary (Development), Punjab.

Chandigarh  
Dated: 11.10.2019

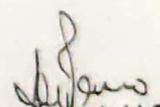
  
(K.S. Panhu), IAS  
Secretary

Endst. No. PA/SA/2019/ 5795 (2)

Chandigarh dated the 11.10.2019

A copy of the above is forwarded to the following for information and necessary action:-

1. OSD to Chief Secretary, Govt. of Punjab for kind information of Chief Secretary.
2. Addl. Chief Secretary (Development), Govt. of Punjab.
3. Concerned officers.

  
(K.S. Panhu), IAS  
Secretary

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FARMER WELFARE

NOTIFICATION

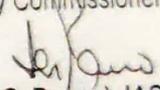
Sub:- Constitution of special cell to monitor paddy residue burning at District level.

A committee of officers, as given below, is hereby constituted to monitor the cases of burning of paddy residue in the fields at district level on daily basis:-

1. Addl. Deputy Commissioner (Development)
2. Chief Agriculture officer of the District
3. Environmental Engineer/Asstt. Environmental Engineer of the district, Punjab Pollution Control Board

This committee shall meet every day till 15<sup>th</sup> November and monitor/review the crop residue burning incidents with a view to take corrective measures by bringing the matter to the notice of Deputy Commissioner.

Chandigarh  
Dated: 11.10.2019

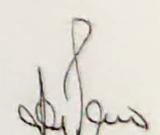
  
(K.S. Pannu), IAS  
Secretary

Endst. No. PA/SA/2019/ 5723

Chandigarh dated the 11.10.2019

A copy of the above is forwarded to the following for information and necessary action:-

1. All Deputy Commissioners, In the State of Punjab.
2. All Addl. Deputy Commissioners (Development), In the State of Punjab.
3. Director, Department of Agriculture, Govt. of Punjab.
4. Chairman, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Patiala.

  
(K.S. Pannu), IAS  
Secretary

Government of Punjab  
Department of Agriculture

The following officers are hereby deputed, in addition to their present assignments, for coordinating and monitoring activities related to curbing the Paddy residue burning in Kharif 2019 in the fields in Punjab, in the districts mentioned against their names:

Sr. No.	Name of present posting of the officer	Name of the Districts
1	Mrs. Vini Mahajan, IAS Additional Chief Secretary, Industries & Commerce	Ludhiana
2	Shri Viswajeet Khanna, IAS Additional Chief Secretary, Development	Sangrur
3	Mrs. Ravneet Kaur, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Power	SBS Nagar
4	Shri Sanjay Kumar, IAS Additional Chief Secretary, Sports & Youth Services	Mansa
5	Shri. V.K. Janjua, IAS Principal Secretary, Labour	Ferozepur
6	Shri Kripa Shankar Saroj, IAS Principal Secretary, Social Justice, Empowerment & Minorities.	Barnala
7	Shri. Anirudh Tiwari, IAS Principal Secretary, Finance	SAS Nagar
8	Shri. Anurag Aggarwal, IAS Principal Secretary, Health & Family Welfare.	Amritsar
9	Shri. R. Venkat Ratnam, IAS Principal Secretary, Jails.	Gurdaspur
10	Shri. A. Venu Prasad, IAS Principal Secretary, Local Government	Pathankot
11	Mrs. Seema Jain, IAS Financial Commissioner, Rural Dev & Panachayats.	Rupnagar
12	Shri. Sarvjit Singh, IAS Principal Secretary, Water Resources and Principal Secretary, Mines and Geology.	Tam Taran
13	Mrs. Raji P. Srivastava, IAS, Principal Secretary, Social security, Women & children Dev.	Fatehgarh Sahib
14	Shri K A Sinha, IAS, Principal Secretary, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Parliamentary Affairs.	Faridkot
15	Shri. Jaspal Singh, IAS Principal Secretary, Planning.	Hoshiarpur
16	Shri Anurag Verma, IAS Principal Secretary, Technical Education & Industrial Training and Higher Education, Education & Languages.	Shri Muktsar Sahib
17	Shri. Rakesh Kumar Verma, IAS Principal Secretary, Science Technology & Environment.	Bathinda
18	Shri. K. Siva Prasad, IAS Principal Secretary, Transport	Fazilka
19	Shri Vikas Pralap, IAS Principal Secretary, Tourism & Cultural Affairs	Kapurthala
20	Shri Alok Shekhar, IAS, Principal Secretary, General Administration & Coordination.	Jalandhar
21	Shri Tejveer Singh, IAS, Principal Secretary to CM and Civil Aviation.	Patiala
22	Shri. D.K. Tiwari, IAS, Principal Secretary, Medical Education & Research	Moga

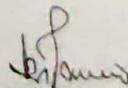
Chief Secretary Punjab

PA/SA/2019/ 5593

Chandigarh/Dated: 07.10.2019

A copy of the above is forwarded to following for information & necessary action:

1. Principal Secretary to Chief Minister Punjab.
2. OSD to the Chief Secretary Punjab.
3. All the deputed officers.
4. All the Administrative Secretaries to Government of Punjab.
5. All the Deputy Commissioners of Punjab.

  
K.S. Pannu  
Secretary Agriculture



ਮੁੱਖ ਮੰਤਰੀ, ਪੰਜਾਬ  
Chief Minister, Punjab

CMO/Confi-2019/674  
September 25, 2019

**Compensation to farmers for Zero Burning of Paddy residue**

Dear Sh. Narendra Modi Ji,

I draw your attention to my earlier D.O. letter No.CMP/Confi-2018/728 dated 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 on the subject cited above.

The harvesting of Paddy crop has started and it is likely to pick up speed in next 10 days. As in the past, Punjab's farmers will face the challenge of managing about 20 million tonnes of Paddy straw. The State Government has supplied about 28,000 machines to the farmers last year on subsidy ranging from 50% to 80%. Another 26,000 machines will be supplied to them this year for in situ management of Paddy straw. A very comprehensive and all encompassing campaign to make the farmers aware about the ill effects of open Paddy straw burning has also already started.

Since the window available to farmer after harvesting of Paddy crop for sowing the next Rabi crop is very small, farmers have the tendency to burn the Paddy residue for quick clearance of their fields so as to save the cost of managing Paddy straw through machines supplied to them and also available on custom hire basis since the additional cost of using the machines is between Rs.2,500/- to Rs.3,000/- per acre which no farmer can afford.

It is, therefore, again requested that a cost compensation of Rs. 100/- per quintal of paddy grown should be given to the farmers, so that they may arrange to manage the stubble without resorting to its open burning by incurring extra cost out of the compensation money.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Amarinder Singh)

Sh. Narendra Modi  
Prime Minister of India  
South Block, New Delhi