

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

OA NO. 632 OF 2023

IN RE: NEWS ITEM TITLED "POLLUTION TAKES FIRES
A FRONT SEAT AS STUBBLE SPIKE IN PUNJAB"
APPEARING IN THE HINDU DATED 06.10.2023

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New Delhi
Dated 07.11.2023

Filed by

Director
CAQM

Through

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राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र और निकटवर्ती क्षेत्रों में वायु गुणवत्ता प्रबंधन आयोग
Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR & Adjoining Areas
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17वीं मंजिल, जवाहर व्यापार भवन (एस टी सी बिल्डिंग), टॉलस्टॉय मार्ग,
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FURTHER ACTION TAKEN REPORT DATED 06.11.2023

The Commission has filed a detailed action taken report on 19.10.2023 before this Hon'ble Tribunal. Order dated 20.10.2023 of this Hon'ble Tribunal takes cognizance of the report filed by the Commission and inter alia observed that "*For achieving the above targets effective on ground action is required by the responsible authorities. Hence, we direct PPCB to prepare and place on record the area-wise Crop Residue Management Plan.*"

Hon'ble Tribunal was please to direct that "*Let further action taken report be filed by the PPCB as also by the Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR & Adjoining Areas on or before the next date of hearing*".

In respectful compliance of the Order dated 20.10.2023 in the subject matter, the Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas further submits as under:

- The Commission has been keeping a close watch on the fire counts being reported on account of paddy stubble burning, as per the protocol developed by ISRO.


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- Apart from various meetings held earlier, another detailed review of the status of implementation of the respective plans for prevention and control of paddy stubble burning in the States of Punjab and Haryana was conducted by the Commission on 02.11.2023 and 03.11.2023 respectively.
- Performance of these two states including district-wise performance in this regard was comprehensively reviewed with Chief Secretaries, Secretaries in-charge of Department(s) concerned and the Deputy Commissioners. They were appropriately impressed upon the compelling necessity to intensify various measures listed in the plans with respect to stricter monitoring, enforcement including effective *in-situ* / *ex-situ* management measures in areas where the harvest is yet to be completed.
- A comparative status of fire counts on account of paddy stubble burning in the state of Punjab, Haryana and NCR upto 5th November for this year and last 3 years is indicated below:

**District-wise cumulative number of Paddy residue
burning events**

(Period: 15 September-05 November)

PUNJAB

Districts	2020	2021	2022	2023
Amritsar	2918	1556	1437	1432
Barnala	2446	1743	1606	577
Bathinda	2471	1522	2123	876
Faridkot	2857	1745	973	673
Fatehgarh Sahib	1308	697	986	707
Fazilka	528	415	582	167
Firozpur	6395	2790	2406	1850
Gurdaspur	2074	1087	825	339


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Districts	2020	2021	2022	2023
Hoshiarpur	359	243	231	79
Jalandhar	1461	1195	1070	666
Kapurthala	1734	1322	1161	707
Ludhiana	2849	2075	1357	818
Malerkotla*	--	--	--	160
Mansa	1835	892	1346	1256
Moga	3448	1730	1180	671
Muktsar	2355	1608	1085	404
Pathankot	11	4	0	3
Patiala	4996	2078	2951	1289
Rupnagar	176	128	213	39
Sangrur	7496	2762	4676	2698
SAS Nagar	122	109	97	102
SBS Nagar	98	144	183	128
Tarn Taran	5170	3092	2912	1762
Total	53107	28937	29400	17403

*Fire counts in Malerkotla were included as a part of Sangrur till 2022

HARYANA

Districts	2020	2021	2022	2023
Ambala	339	241	202	182
Bhiwani	3	0	0	2
Faridabad	1	2	1	3
Fatehabad	378	691	499	296
Hisar	21	28	50	74
Jhajjar	5	0	1	9
Jind	137	335	319	212
Kaithal	689	968	585	211
Karnal	536	804	270	96
Kurukshetra	399	504	291	142
Palwal	44	83	38	55
Panchkula	0	0	0	1
Panipat	22	70	31	20
Rohtak	20	2	2	24
Sirsa	76	92	98	52

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Districts	2020	2021	2022	2023
Sonipat	35	40	18	59
Yamunanagar	132	137	125	76
Total	2837	3997	2530	1514

Cumulative Paddy Residue Burning events (Period: 15th September –5th November)

Punjab			Haryana			Total (including Delhi and NCR Districts of Rajasthan and U.P.)		
2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023
28,937	29,400	17,403	3,997	2,530	1,514	33,002	31,977	18,970
		(- 41% over 2022)			(- 40% over 2022)			(- 41% over 2022)

Paddy Residue Burning events for last 10 days during current year

	Punjab	Haryana
	2023	2023
27 th October	766	67
28 th October	127	14
29 th October	1068	75


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	Punjab	Haryana
	2023	2023
30th October	1030	52
31st October	1389	51
1st November	1921	99
2nd November	1668	48
3rd November	1551	28
4th November	1360	33
5th November	3230	109
Total (27th Oct to 5th Nov.)	14,110	576
Percentage of cumulative fire incidences for the period from 15th Sep. to 5th Nov.	81%	38%

As can be seen from the above tabulation, at this critical juncture when the paddy stubble burning incidents are at peak, the State government of Punjab and various administrative agencies under it need to strictly and effectively implement the various components of the action plan to drastically bring down stubble burning cases in areas where paddy harvest / management of paddy straw is still underway.

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Dated 07.11.2023

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