

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

PRINCIPAL BENCH NEW DELHI

IN THE MATTER OF:

Smt. Ganga Lalwani

.....Petitioner(s)

Versus

Union of India &Ors.

.....Respondent (s)

STATUS REPORT BY WAY OF AFFIDAVIT OF AJIT BALA JI JOSHI, DIRECTOR GENERAL, AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE DEPARTMENT, HARYANA IN PURSUANCE OF ORDER DATED 01.10.2019 PASSED BY THIS HON'BLE TRIBUNAL.

I, the above named deponent do hereby solemnly affirm and state as under:

1. That the Court had directed the respondents to submit a report with regard to the action taken in compliance of the order before the next date of hearing on 20 December 2019.
2. That it is also pertinent to mention here that the State of Haryana has taken all necessary measures to bring down the crop burning incidents. The deponent submits that the number of active fire locations in Haryana as reported by the Haryana Satellite Centre (HARSAC) has come down from 10872 in 2017 to 10286 in 2018 and 6652 in 2019.

Sr. No.	Year	Cases of Stubble Burning
1.	2017	10872
2.	2018	10286
3.	2019	6652

This implies a reduction of 35.32% age between 2018 and 2019 only. By taking a slew of measures including extensive IEC activities on the one side, incentive to the farmers desisting from stubble burning on the other and strong regulatory measures to prevent recalcitrant elements from resorting to stubble burning. It is expected that in the next year with strenuous efforts from the very beginning, cases of stubble burning will cease in the State of Haryana.

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3. That the Hon'ble Court vide its order dated 06.11.2019 had directed the State Governments of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh to pay the small and marginal farmers @ Rs.100/- per quintal of non-basmati paddy. An amount of Rs. **15,574,692** has already been disbursed to **3756** farmers for not burning their crop residues and verification of remaining is under process.
4. That there are around 14.52 Lakh small and marginal farmers in the State as per the PM-KISAN data which are linked to revenue records and also Aadhar authenticated. As per the order dated 6th November, the government of Haryana has decided to provide assistance @ Rs. 1,000/- per acre towards operational cost for in-situ and ex-situ management of non-basmati crop residues in the fields of small and marginal farmers. An area of **44,438** acres of small and marginal farmers has been covered upto **20.11.2019** under in-situ and ex-situ management of crop residues. Funds for this purpose have already been disbursed to the districts concerned and the payment is being made to the CHCs and Ex-Situ machine operators after verification by the village nodal officer.
5. That more than 95% of the target assigned by the Government of India for the distribution of Crop Residue Management Equipments has been achieved by Haryana. We have created 1602 CHCs against 1300 which is an achievement of 123%. Continuous monitoring and reviews are being conducted and a dedicated control room has also been established at Headquarter to get regular reports.
6. That the State of Haryana took an initiative to rope in Gram Panchayats for establishment of Custom Hiring Centres at no cost. This initiative has got good response and till date, **as many as 851** numbers of Custom Hiring Centres have already been established. These CHCs are available for free of cost to the small and marginal farmers. *AR*
7. That in order to supplement the In-situ management of crop residue, in compliance to the order of Supreme Court the Government of Haryana is encouraging establishment of Straw Baler Units to promote Ex-situ management also. As a part of this initiative, progress indicated below has been made:

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Sr. No.	Straw Baler Units	Numbers
1	Established upto 05.11.2019 i.e. before the orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court	64
2	Established since 06.11.2019 to 20.11.2019	131
3	Purchase/establishment under process	155

8. To tackle the issue of straw burning and to promote paddy straw based biomass power projects in the State, Haryana is in process of setting up of six paddy straw based biomass power projects of about 50 MW capacity in 6 paddy dominant districts of the State i.e. Karnal, Kurukshetra, Ambala, Kaithal, Jind and Fatehabad (one in each districts of size 5 MW to 15 MW capacity) on pilot basis. This will consume about 5.5 lakh ton of paddy straw as fuel annually and these projects are likely to be commissioned in the year 2020-21. A Sub-Committee of officers was constituted in this regard. A copy of the report dated 19 November 2019 submitted by them is enclosed as **Annexure A-1**.

9. The Haryana Govt. has notified the Haryana Bio-Energy Policy 2018 vide notification no. 19/6/2018/-5Power dated 09.03.2018. The Policy has a target of installation of biomass based power projects of 150 MW by 2022. The Haryana State Pollution Control Board has exempted the CTE / CTO fees of projects / units covered under Haryana Bio-energy Policy, 2018. To demonstrate the strict action taken by the Government to control stubble burning, the deponent wishes to submit that during the current year till date, as many as 2020 FIRs/Complaints have been lodged and penalty amounting to Rs. 19.20 Lakh has been imposed on 736 defaulting farmers. Fire Brigades have been used to douse the crop burning at 172 locations during the current year.

10. A reward of Rs 1000 is also announced for giving information regarding such incidents. There are 74 such information received by informers and **31 informers** have been rewarded at the district level.

11. That action has also been taken against the Nodal Officers of the villages where crop residue burning incidents were reported. As per the reports received, 2 such officials have been placed under suspension, 23 have been charge-sheeted.

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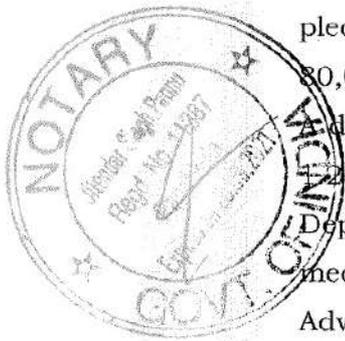
12. A large scale, comprehensive and pervasive IEC campaign has been active in Haryana for the past Six months. The focus has been to activate an engaging mid media plan while prioritizing people to people interventions.

For this purpose, various on-ground units such as 5,000 volunteers of the Rani Jhansi Brigade of Women Self Help Groups under NRM, 1.25 Lakh NSS volunteers who formed Parali Paltans for sensitization drives across the state, and many more groups from the civil society have been visiting villages and interacting with farmers, telling them of the compelling reasons to discontinue the archaic practice.

Farmers have themselves stepped ahead and taken part in mass pledges, committing to putting an end to stubble burning in 80,000 events of mass pledges in the state.

A dynamic and dedicated Social Media Campaign with a reach of 2 million has been running on all official handles of the Department of Agriculture, while the use of conventional mass media such as Radio, Newspaper Advertisements and TV Advertisements has also been upscaled.

A detail of the IEC initiatives taken to control and eliminate crop residue burning has been attached as "Annexure-II"



AB Panu

Place:

Deponent

Dated: __.12.2019

VERIFICATION:

Verified _____ on this ___th day of December, 2019 that contents of the Status Report are true and correct to my knowledge and based on information derived from official records which are believed by me to be true. No part of it is false and nothing material has been concealed therein.

AB Panu

Place:

Deponent

Dated: __.12.2019

ATTESTED

**JITENDER SINGH PANNU
NOTARY, PANCHKULA**

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RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE CONSTITUTED TO PREPARE A COMPREHENSIVE WORK-PLAN FOR EX-SITU MANAGEMENT OF CROP RESIDUE, ITS STORAGE AND MARKET/DISPOSAL HELD ON 15.11.2019 AT 04:00 PM UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF SH. T.C. GUPTA, IAS, ACS, POWER.

List of the participants is attached at Annexure-A.

2. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed all the participants and asked them to initiate the discussions on ex-situ management of paddy straw.
3. Sh. Wazir Singh from Department of Industries & Commerce informed that 4.18 lakh MT Bio-mass / Paddy straw is being consumed yearly by paper, power and packaging industries. He further clarified that in the existing system of Boilers, the paddy straw is not consumable, therefore, there is a need for the modification of these Boilers to make use of paddy straw.
4. Sh. Veenus Nathalia, representative from Development and Panchayat Department informed that for ex-situ management of paddy straw, the Panchayat concerned will bear the cost of transportation of paddy straw from field to storage place and further to the destination. The copy of the orders were handed over to the Chairman in the meeting. He further requested that the Industries & Commerce Department may co-ordinate and provide the destinations where the paddy straw is to be transported.
5. Sh. R.P. Sihag, Joint Director (CC), Agriculture and Farmer Welfare Department informed that the paddy area during the current year is 13.05 lakh hectares out of which 7.75 Lakh Hectares is under Basmati and 5.30 Lakh Hectares is under Non-Basmati. However, he failed to give the total paddy straw which is required to be managed under ex-situ management. This may be calculated by Agriculture Department while considering recommendations of this Committee.
6. Sh. Praveen Kumar, IAS, Director, New and Renewable Energy Department, (HAREDA) informed that 1 Acre space is required for storage of bales of paddy straw generated from 20 acres of paddy area. He pointed out that paddy-straw being highly inflammable in nature, it will be very risky to store it on Panchayat land in an open space as there would be a chance of unwarranted fire accident. He also informed that the two departments i.e. Department of Power and New and Renewable Energy are the departments which can play vital role in the ex-situ management of the paddy straw.
7. Sh. P.K. Nautiyal and Sh. O.D. Sharma, representatives from NRE Department handed over a note (Annexure-1), as per which there is a possibility to make use of 14.80 lac MTs of paddy straw. In addition, it was stated that Indian Oil Corporation has signed an MoU with New & Renewable Department for setting up of 1000 TPD plants to make CBG and if all of them fructify, additional 22.60 lac MTs of paddy straw can be used making a total of 37.40 lac MT. It was also informed that out of the four paddy straw based Bio-mass power projects, two at Jind and Fatehabad have stopped construction because of their dispute with High Powered Purchase Committee of Power Department. If these disputes are resolved, they can also be set up prior to starting of the next paddy harvesting season.

8. Sh. Anil Dua, Director of Haryana Power General Corporation Limited (HPGCL) informed that if 5% Bio-mass/Paddy Straw is used with coal, then 8.45 lakh MT of paddy straw can be consumed in Thermal Power Plants located in Haryana.

The submissions of all the Departments were discussed in detail by the Committee members and it was unanimous opinion that there is a possibility of using paddy straw in following fashion:-

Sr. No.	Item	By next year	Within 2 years	Total (MT)
1.	Existing Power and paper plants -	1.80 lac	---	1.80 lac
2.	CBG Plants - NRE Deptt.	1.40 lac	22.60 lac	24 lac
3.	Paddy straw based plants - NRE Deptt.	3.45 lac	2.25 lac	5.70 lac
4.	Sugar Mills Agriculture/Power Deptt.	5.90 lac	--	5.90 lac
5.	Thermal Power Plants - Power Deptt.	2 lac	6.45 lac	8.45 lac
6.	Other Industries after modification of boiler - Industries Deptt.	2 lac	--	2 lac
	Grand Total	16.55 lac	31.30 lac	47.85 lac

The Committee noted that if all the projects which can absorb 47.85 lac MT of paddy straw in the State fructify, it will put an end to burning of paddy straw in the State for which following action needs to be taken :-

(i) To achieve the target of setting up of CBG plant of 1000 TPD, NRE Department may hold interaction with the promoters of CBG plants to ascertain the difficulties being faced by them specially regarding financing by Banks so that corrective measures can be taken. It is hoped that this can really change the scenario regarding stubble burning.

(ii) Power Department should resolve the problems of paddy straw based power plants regarding tariff determination so that remaining two plants can also start construction immediately.

(iii) It was discussed that the Naraingarh Sugar Mill has the capacity of consumption of 1.43 lakh MT of Bio-mass/Paddy Straw and if all other Sugar mills also use the Paddy Straw/Bio-mass, then 5.90 lakh MT of Bio-mass / Paddy Straw can be consumed. However, the cost of power made from biomass/paddy straw is very high and Haryana DISCOMs are demanding differential amount of cost as subsidy before same is allowed. Sugar Federation should initiate a proposal for allowing co-generation plants to be run throughout the year for which matter be referred to the Govt. for appropriate decision regarding bearing of differential cost. If existing co-generation plants are allowed to run during off season also, they can immediately purchase paddy straw and start generating power.

(iv) HPGCL should immediately make arrangements for purchase of torrefied pellets to be used alongwith coal or mixing of paddy straw with coal so that more than

8 lac tons can be consumed by the thermal power plants located in Haryana by next season.

(v) Industries Department should hold meetings with the factory owners other than those of Power Plants having boilers to persuade them to carry out modifications in their boilers. In October/November, 2019, the Industries in NCR using fuel other than biomass have been closed for more than 20 days and it will be in their own interest to modify the boilers so that they can start using biomass from next year onwards.

Meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair and the participants.


(T.C. Gupta, I.A.S.,
ACS, Power)

PADDY STRAW PROCUREMENT STATUS/FORECAST FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS IN HARYANA AS ON 13.11.2019

At a Glance:-

S. No.	Type of Project	Paddy Straw Purchased so far	Paddy Straw to be Purchased during current season 2019	Quantity of Paddy Straw to be purchased during 2020 harvest
1	Existing Biomass Power Plants	1,26,058 ton	55,500 ton	1,80,000 ton
2	Paddy straw based biomass power projects (under installation)	31,969 ton	63,431 ton	5,70,000 ton
3	8 Sugar Mills where off-season power generation using paddy straw with MUST Run status, if allowed	75,000 ton (NSML)	68,000 ton (NSML)	5,90,000 ton
4	Compressed Bio Gas (CBG) plants through IOCL MoU route from 11 projects of 48.7 TPD capacity out of 38 approved projects			1,40,000 ton
	Estimation for balance 27 projects of 185.36 TPD yet to be made after receipt of DPR.			
Total		2,33,027 ton	1,86,931 ton	14,80,000 ton

In Detail:-

1. Paddy Straw consumed in existing biomass power plants:-

S. No.	Name of the Plant and Capacity	Status	Paddy Straw Purchased so far	Approx. Paddy Straw to be Purchased	Total Quantity of Paddy Straw
1	M/s Sri Jyoti Renewable Energy Pvt. Ltd., Dhana Narsan, Bhiwani (9.9 MW)	Existing (in operation)	21,500 ton	8,500 ton	30,000 ton
2	M/s Starwire India Vidyut Pvt. Ltd. Khurawta, Mahendergarh (9.5 MW)	Existing (in operation)	200 ton	10,000 ton	10,200 ton
3	M/s Sainsons Paper Industries, Pehowa, Kurukshetra (3.0 MW + 5.0 MW)	Existing (in operation)	1,07,858 ton	33,000 ton	1,40,000 ton (including required for paper industry)
Total Paddy Straw Purchased/to be Purchased			1,26,058 ton	55,500 ton	1,80,200 ton Say 1.8 lakh ton

4. Paddy Straw that can be consumed in Compressed Biogas (CBG) Plants

S. No	Name	Location of site	Proposed capacity (Tonnes/day)	Likely commissioning date	Likely date purchase of Paddy	Quantity of Paddy to be used annually from 2020 harvest
1	Sharp Renewal Energy Pvt. Ltd	Israna, Panipat	2.4	July,2020	Oct,2020	30% (3456 MT)
2	Haritma Ventures Pvt. Ltd	Kalayath	5.8	Oct,2020	Oct,2020	50% (13920 MT)
3	TVISI Energy Pvt. Ltd	Palwal	8	Oct,2020	Oct,2020	100% (38400 MT)
4	Matra Energy Pvt. Ltd	Kaith, Sonipat	8	June,2020	Oct,2020	50% (19200 MT)
5	Mann Residency Pvt. Limited	Sonipat	2.5	Nov. 2020	Oct,2020	15% (1800 MT)
		Panipat	2.5	Nov. 2020	Oct,2020	15% (1800 MT)
		Karnal	2.5	Nov. 2020	Oct,2020	15% (1800 MT)
		Kurukshetra	2.5	Nov. 2020	Oct,2020	15% (1800 MT)
		Palwal	2.5	Nov. 2020	Oct,2020	15% (1800 MT)
		Ambala	2.5	Nov. 2020	Oct,2020	15% (1800 MT)
		Yamunanagar	2.5	Nov. 2020	Oct,2020	15% (1800 MT)
6	Quality Foils (India) Pvt. Ltd	Kharkhara	10	Nov,2020	Oct,2020	100% (48000 MT)
		Barwala	10	No plans yet		
		Hathwala	10	No plans yet		
		Kharad	10	No plans yet		
7	Quality Stainless Pvt. Ld	Kharkhara	10	No plans yet		
8	Spectrum Renewable Energy Pvt. Ltd.	Rohtak	6	January, 2020	Nil	Nil
9	Verbio India Pvt. Ltd	Karnal	30	To be planned for next year		
		Ambala	30			
10	Sam India Pvt. Ltd	Karnal	5	No response		
		Kaithal	5			
		Fatehabad	5			
11	Trinix Impex Pvt. Ltd	Charkhi Dadri	2	June,2020	Oct, 2020	30% (2880 MT)
12	Adani Port and Special Economic Zone	Patil, Gurgaon	2	No response		
13	BRM Petrochem Pvt. Ltd.	Sonepat	10	New Case		

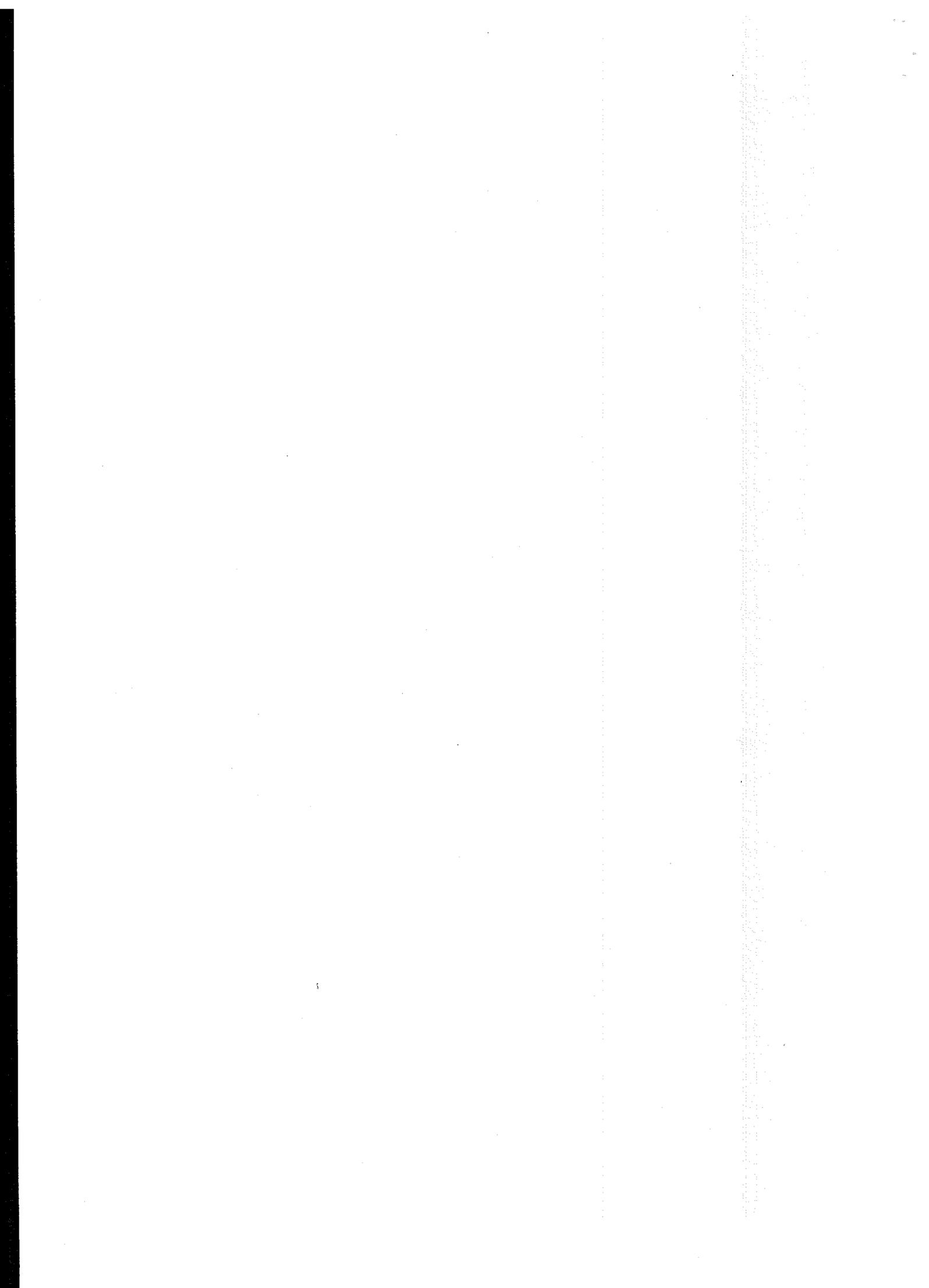
2. Requirement of Paddy Straw for paddy straw based Biomass Power Projects of 49.8 MW capacity under Installation

S. No.	Name of the Plant and Capacity	Status/Likely Commissioning date	Paddy Straw Purchased so far	Paddy Straw to be Purchased during the current harvest for trial run	Total Quantity of Paddy Straw to be purchased from 2020 harvest
1	M/s Sukhbir Agro Energy Ltd., Kangthali, Kaithal (15.0 MW)	August-2020	19,500 ton	9,250 ton	1,72,500 ton
2	M/s Hind Samachar Ltd., Chhajjapur, Kurukshetra (15.0 MW)	August-2020	12,469 ton	16,231 ton	1,72,500 ton
3	M/s Jind Bio-Energy LLP, Alewa, Jind (9.9 MW)	August-2020	Yet to start	18,975 ton	1,14,000 ton
4	M/s Fatehabad Bio-Energy LLP, Bhuna, Fatehabad (9.9 MW)	August-2020	Yet to start	18,975 ton	1,14,000 ton
Total Paddy Straw Purchased/to be Purchased			31,969 ton	63,431 ton	5,73,000 ton Say 5.7 lakh ton

3. Paddy Straw that can be consumed in sugar mills in their existing cogeneration power plants during off-season with MUST Run Status

Sr. No	Name of the Mill	Capacity	Paddy Straw that can be consumed in off-season (6 months)
1	Ch.Devi Lal Co-operative Sugar Mill Ltd., Gohana	6.00 MW	34,500 ton
2	The Sonapat Cooperative Sugar Mill Ltd., Sonapat	3.00 MW	17,250 ton
3	The Meham Cooperative Sugar Mill, Rohtak	5.00 MW	28,750 ton
4	The Rohtak Cooperative Sugar Mill, Rohtak	16.00MW	92,000 ton
5	The Shahbad Cooperative Sugar Mill, Kurukshetra	24.00MW	1,38,000 ton
6.	The HAFED Cooperative Sugar Mill, Asandh, Karnal	6.00 MW	34,500 ton
7.	The Piccadily Agro Industries, Bhadso, Karnal	17 MW	97,750 ton
8.	Naraingarh Sugar Mill Ltd., Naraingarh, Ambala	25 MW	1,43,000 ton
	TOTAL	102 MW	5,85,750 ton
	Paddy Straw purchased by M/s Naraingarh Sugar Mill so far	25 MW	Say 5.9 Lakh ton 75,000 ton

14	Falcon Force Private Limited	Sangel, Nuh	2	New Case		
15	GKM Energy pvt Ltd	Thaska, Hisar	10	New Case		
16	Royal Construction Co.	Karnal	2	New Case		
17	Vaman Rugs	Panipat	2	New Case		
18	Clean Effentech International Pvt Ltd	Gohana	3.92	New Case		
		Assandh	2.94	New Case		
19	Dakshesha Hospitality Private Limited	Jhajjar	2	New Case		
20	Daya Enterprises	Kurukshetra	2	New Case		
21	Escalation management services pvt ltd.	Bilaspur,	2	New Case		
		Gurugram				
22	Helping Hands Welfare Society	Sonepat	4	New Case		
		Panipat	4	New Case		
23	Nehamrit Organic and Renewal Energy Pvt Ltd	Karnal	2.5	New Case		
24	Mahadev Bio Energy	Yamunanagar	8	New Case		
			234.06			
Total approved projects-38 of 234.06 TPD (CBG) capacity						
Total from 11 plants of 48.7 TPD (CBG)						1,38,456 MT
Estimation for remaining 27 plants of 185.36 TPD capacity yet to be made.						Say 1.40 lakh MT



Activities undertaken the IEC component of the Crop Residue Management Scheme

- The IEC in Haryana began with high spirits with a launch of 3 IEC trucks, called "**Krishi Soochna Raths**" and a mascot on June 28, 2019 by the former Agriculture Minister of Haryana, **Shri Om Prakash Dhankar**. The inventively designed mascot is a creative configuration symbolizing the mass movement and alternatives of burning, used with every activity under the Scheme to emphasize the idea. The "Krishi Soochna Raths" are trucks, designed with attractive creatives all over, which were given a route to tour around the **16 vulnerable districts of the State**. Even the remotest of villages were covered during the tour, so that each and every farmer can be informed about the ill-effects of crop residue burning, and the advantages of mechanized management. These trucks are equipped with LED screens and a sound system, helping in playing the appeal videos from various political leaders to the farmers in their own villages.
- To promote these ideas via various aesthetics, a **Special Postal Cover on theme of mechanization of crop residue management** was commissioned by the Department and launched by the **Hon'ble Chief Minister of Haryana Shri Manohar Lal** in a Press Conference in Chandigarh. These Special Covers aim at engraving the idea of using machines via the use of daily objects.
- The use of technology has led to an increase in the commonality of Social Media and consequently its users. It is the latest developing technique, which helps in convenient flow of information and attaining immediate feedback. The IEC 2019-20 is being extravagantly popularized and publicized on Social Media and have been receiving feedbacks from farmers. Various info-graphics about the machines, their uses, cost, hiring rates, and locations of Custom

Hiring Centres etc. are posted on Social Media platforms daily to encourage the farmers to utilize machines, and solve their queries related to the machines. A reach of **1.2 million** has been attained on Social Media, which means the posts have been reaching a lot of people, educating them about the scheme and its benefits.

- Social Media advocated an **online motto-writing competition** to engage the people in the mass movement. They were asked to create a motto of 20 words or less, on the theme of Crop Residue Management. Many entries were received, among which top five were selected. Those five participants were **awarded Rs. 2000** each and their mottos are utilized in various activities pertaining to the theme.
- This movement involved a mass participation of people; therefore a requirement of opinion leader arose. **Yogeshwar Dutt** was made Brand ambassador for the Scheme, and his video bytes were shot for the purpose. These videos were uploaded on Social Media platforms and played on the "Krishi Soochna Raths" around the State to encourage the farmers for adopting better practices.
- The farmers were required to become an active part of the movement, therefore, to emphasize the importance a **pledge** was formed, so that farmers would be able to understand the dire need of mechanization. It was taken by many farmers so that they would not burn the crop residue and use machines to manage it. A **separate pledge was formed for the students**, so that they would be able to stop the elders from burning crop residue and educating them about the ill-effects.
- **CRM Pakhwada** was organised by the Department in all the **16 vulnerable districts of the State**. It was 15-day duration fair organised in many villages, so that all the farmers can be sensitized about the movement. The Pakhwada was organised from 20th

September, 2019 to 5th October, 2019 in the 16 dark zone districts with high cases of stubble burning. Comprehensive activities such as painting competitions, essay and slogan writing competitions, distribution of CRM goodies (badges, stickers,) plantation drives, marathons, cycle rallies, farm visits, demonstrations, gram chaupals, sports competition, etc. on the theme of Crop Residue Management were organised. A State Level CRM Mela - **Dhuein Ko Dein Dhubhi Pachhad** was organised during the CRM Pakhwada wherein CRM Machines were displayed and demonstrations were given to the farmers. These festivities were organised in 5,061 villages, and more than 30,000 farmers participated in the Pakhwada.

- **Student volunteer group** were utilized to spread awareness about the Crop Residue Management Scheme, called **Parali Paltan**. The objective was simply to sensitize, from an early stage, the children of the state towards the cause of Crop Residue Management and to spread awareness among the masses in general and farmers in particular about the ill-effects of crop residue burning. The Parali Paltan was formed at Block/ District Level during the CRM Pakhwada to help the Administration in organizing various events, conduct door to door campaigning and to monitor and report the cases of stubble burning happening in the state. The Parali Paltan actively participated in these fortnightly celebrations. **Approximately 1.25 lakh volunteers were engaged in the Parali Paltan.**
- To understand why farmers are still not using CRM machines despite a number of subsidies and incentives being made available to the farmers under the CRM Scheme, an **online survey** was created on the Social Media, wherein suggestions and problems were invited. The survey helped the Department in tackling the problems that the farmers were facing and planning the way ahead. The problems of the farmers were acknowledged by the Department and necessary steps were taken to address them.

- To give the due credit to farmers for providing us with food and clothes, for making our country self sufficient, a **Thank You Kisan campaign** was organised on Social Media. The farmers are being thanked for providing food security and expressing our gratitude towards them for adopting environmentally friendly and sustainable ways of managing crop residue. While the farmers of the state are being criticised for burning crop residue and adding to the air pollution, especially in the winter months and around Delhi-NCR. The people post a selfie with a farmer, or write a thank you note for them, or share a picture or video of themselves thanking the farmers for one of the many reasons they're grateful to the farmers, like for their favourite meal or their favourite clothes and thank them for their endless hard work and sacrifices. They nominate 3 other people with the hashtag #ThankYouKisan and tag us at @digitalkisanhr.
- Since not all farmers are well equipped and informed with social media trends, a **WhatsApp service** has also been started to cater to such farmers. Another WhatsApp group has been created with all the Department Officials as members in which these queries/ grievances are shared. The concerned officer then addresses them and the DKC replies to the concerned farmer.
- To deliver personalized messages to the farmers, to elucidate the positives of mechanized Crop Residue Management and the ills of crop residue burning, an SMS service was started to directly encourage the practice in the farmers. Approximately **40,000 SMS** are being sent every day to the farmers under the Crop Residue Management Scheme.
- For reaching a broader audience and to make the Government's initiatives a mass campaign print media ads are of utmost importance. **Print Media Ads** are periodically made in the national and local dailies.

- A booklet namely **Fasal Avshesh Prabandhan** on the Crop Residue Management scheme was published in the month of April. It is comprised of information about the Scheme, subsidies available to individual farmers and Custom Hiring Centres, machines available under the Scheme, and success stories of progressive farmers who have adopted the Crop Residue Management Scheme instead of burning their stubble.
- **CRM Patrika**, a compendium of all IEC work done in the State of Haryana by the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare under the Crop Residue Management Scheme, was launched by the Union Minister of Agriculture at the National Conference of Farmers held in Delhi on 9th September. Information about the IEC Trucks, deputed by the Department, online competitions and campaigns, on ground activities and camps organised, etc. is given in the booklet.
- A large amount of NSS volunteers were engaged for the month of October to raise awareness among the general public to come forward and participate in the cause and among the farmers to shun the practice of crop residue burning. The volunteers were given an orientation on the subject and then they helped in organising nukkad nataks, flash mobs, door to door campaigning and surveys in nearby villages. Pictures of the activities were shared on social media.
- For reporting the burning incidents, a GPS enabled reporting mechanism has been built on the **DKH App** wherein people can report cases of crop residue burning and receive a monetary incentive of **Rs. 1000, announced by the Government. About 70 such informers have been identified till date. The identity of these informers is kept secret over security concerns for the informers.**

- **"RANI JHANSI BRIGADE"**

The Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Haryana has been engaged **women Self Help Groups under the National Rural Livelihood Mission**, all over the State. These women form an important connection between the Department and ground level with the help of their active participation and essential role in the project. The objective of 'zero' crop residue burning is being carried out with the help of these groups in the State. They are instructed to report any active fire location or incident to the to the Assistant Agriculture Engineer concerned or/and other appropriate authority. Also, helping with spreading information among farmers through Prabhat Feris and Farmers' Field School during every week .Each woman is being given an incentive of Rs. 25 for every acre that they are helping to manage through machinery (machines used from Custom Hiring Centers). They are given a tentative target of 100 acres, initially.

A daily incentive of Rs. 50 is being provided to these women, in a total of 1500 villages of the State; which marks welfare of farmer through proper awareness regarding the CRM Scheme, with the simultaneous upliftment of women in villages.

- The above-mentioned activities is active account of the fundamental engagements proceeded under the Crop Residue Management Scheme IEC components for 2019-20, till date. These activities have helped in reducing the cases with a margin of 17% in comparison to last year and at a rate of 80% less in comparison to the States' neighbour, Punjab. However, certain activities are still under process so that the farmers can understand the benefits that they receive from the Scheme and opt for the better alternatives.