

## Crop Residue Management (CRM) Scheme

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### Why in News?

Recently, Union Agriculture Minister and Environment Minister chaired a high-level meeting on stubble management. A provision has been made for 2026-27 under the CRM scheme.

- **Aim** - To address stubble burning in Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and NCT Delhi.
- To provide permanent solutions for stubble management, reduce air pollution, protect soil fertility, and increase farmers' income.
- **Type** - Centrally Sponsored Scheme, not fully funded
- **Centre-State Sharing** - Funds are shared 60:40 between the Centre and Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, and Madhya Pradesh, while NCT Delhi receives 100% Central funding.
- **Launched in** - 2018, implemented under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)
- **Nodal Ministry** - Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.
- **Implementing Agency** - State Agriculture Departments under the supervision of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).

### Subsidies for farmers

<b>Crop residue management machines.</b>	50% subsidy
<b>Custom Hiring Centres (CHCs).</b>	80% subsidy
<b>Paddy straw supply chain projects.</b>	65% subsidy

### Key Features

- **Supply Chain** - Paddy straw is collected, baled, and linked to industries such as *biomass power plants, thermal power plants (co-firing), bio-CNG units, and ethanol plants.*

- This converts stubble from waste into a resource, creating a permanent market and reducing burning.
- **Awareness and Training** - Information, Education and Communication (IEC) campaigns, technology demonstrations, and capacity-building programmes train farmers in Direct Seeded Rice (DSR), bio-decomposers, and CRM machinery to drive sustainable residue management

*DSR - Sowing paddy seeds directly into the main field, eliminating labour-intensive nursery raising and manual transplantation into fields.*

- **Monitoring** - Real-time monitoring of stubble burning incidents, geotagging of Custom Hiring Centres (CHCs), and deployment of a Stubble Protection Force in NCR districts ensure strict enforcement and accountability.
- **In-situ (on-site) management** - Promote retention, incorporation, mulching, bio-decomposer use.
- **Ex-situ (off-site) management** - Strengthen baling, transport, industrial use in biomass power, bio-CNG, ethanol, pellet units.
- **Coverage** - Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, NCT Delhi, ICAR institutions, Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK), State Agricultural Universities (SAU).

### Target 2026-2027

- **Machines** - Distribute 46,000 crop residue management machines to farmers.
- **CHCs** - Establish 910 Custom Hiring Centres for rental access.
- **Supply Chains** - Develop 141 projects linking farmers with straw-using industries.

### References

1. [PIB | CRM](#)
2. [Farmech | Operational Guidelines](#)