



SMOG MITIGATION ACTION PLAN 2025



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB

INTRODUCTION

Smog is a significant air pollutant that poses serious risks to both agriculture and human health. It decreases crop yields and leads to severe respiratory and cardiovascular ailments. In Punjab, smog has become one of the most urgent environmental issues challenges. In response to the growing severity of smog, the Punjab Agriculture Department has formulated a comprehensive Smog Mitigation Action Plan to address the root causes of pollution and promote cleaner, sustainable agricultural practices. The plan aims to reduce crop-residue burning by promoting modern machinery and environment friendly alternatives, thereby protecting farmers and nearby communities. Through scientific research, targeted policy measures, and broad farmer awareness, the department seeks to create a more resilient agricultural sector that promotes cleaner air, improved public health, and a sustainable future for Punjab



Key Note

Punjab Government, under the visionary leadership of Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, is taking bold and historic steps to transform our province into a model of resilience, sustainability, and responsible growth. Our mission is clear: to protect our natural resources, reduce harmful emissions, and secure a healthy environment for our future generations. This vision is firmly embedded in the Climate Resilient Punjab Vision & Action Plan 2024 and its wide-ranging initiatives.

One of the most urgent challenges we face today is the threat of smog. It affects our health, our economy, and the well-being of our children. That is why the Government of Punjab has made smog control a top priority, adopting a whole-of-government approach to address it comprehensively and effectively.

The Punjab Agriculture Department stands as an active and committed partner in this transformational journey. From the very first day, we have worked tirelessly to tackle the root causes of smog and to promote sustainable, climate-smart agricultural practices. Through strong extension services, subsidies for modern machinery, widespread awareness campaigns, and strict enforcement of environmental regulations, especially the provision of 5,000 Super Seeders on a 60% subsidy, we are ensuring that farmers have the tools and support they need to adopt cleaner and more efficient methods.

Our resolve is unwavering. We are determined to lead Punjab toward a greener and more eco-friendly future. But this mission cannot be achieved by the government alone. I call upon every citizen, farmer, student, professional, and village notables to stand with us. Together, we can build a Punjab where clean air is not a distant dream, but a daily reality.

I am proud to share that our collective efforts are already showing remarkable results. Due to the determined actions of the Punjab Agriculture Department and the cooperation of our farmers, stubble burning has been reduced by 65%. This is a significant milestone, and it reflects our shared commitment to safeguarding the environment.

The Punjab Government remains fully committed to ensuring that clean air becomes the legacy that we pass proudly to the generations yet to come.

Syed Ashiq Hussain Kirmani
Minister for Agriculture, Punjab



Prologue

The Punjab Agriculture Department bears the vital responsibility of ensuring food security and strengthening the national economy. Over time, we have made significant progress in modernising Punjab's cropping practices. Our commitment to enhancing agricultural productivity, sustainability, and climate-smart farming continues firm.

However, smog has recently become a serious environmental and public health issue in Punjab, mainly due to the burning of crop residues. Stubble burning reduces soil fertility and releases large amounts of pollutants into the air. This threat weakens food security and disrupts ecosystem stability, leading to significant yield losses for vital crops such as wheat and rice. Smog also causes visible leaf damage and speeds up plant aging, further decreasing productivity. Additionally, the acidic compounds in smog, like sulphur and nitrogen oxides, react to form acid rain, which lowers the pH of soils and water bodies, removes essential nutrients, releases toxic substances, and damages aquatic life.

To address these challenges, the Punjab Agriculture Department has developed a comprehensive Smog Control Plan aligned with the instructions of the Government of the Punjab. This plan intends to eradicate stubble burning and encourage sustainable, climate-smart farming methods. We are enforcing anti-burning regulations with strong resolve, dedication, and determination, while also offering farmers practical, accessible alternatives through advanced mechanised farming solutions, particularly to eliminate paddy straw burning. So far, 5000 Super seeders have been distributed at a 60% subsidy. The machines are also used to promote line sowing for wheat, and the efficiency of phosphatic fertiliser use is improved by placing it directly in the root zones. This enhances per-acre productivity and profitability of grain.

Our commitment is unwavering. We will continue to protect our environment, support our farmers, and secure the future of Punjab's agriculture. Together, through shared responsibility and persistent effort, we can overcome the challenge of smog and build a healthier, more resilient Punjab for generations to come.



Mr. Iftikhar Ali Sahoo
Secretary Agriculture, Punjab

Provision of Super Seeders

Objective:

To promote adoption of mechanized straw-mixing technique among at least 20% of farmers in Punjab as an alternative to stubble burning by providing 5,000 Super Seeders under the project **“Provision of Super Seeders on subsidized rates to combat the issue of Smog.”**



CM INITIATIVE

PHASE - I (2024-25 to 2025-26)

5000 Super Seeders (2 Years) **21** Districts

4,491 Delivered **837** allocated along Motorways

PHASE - II (2025-26 to 2027-28)

2025-26

2,000 Super Seeders allocated for first year

2026-27

3,000 Super Seeders allocated for expanded coverage

2027-28

Program completion with target achieved

Awareness Campaign

To create awareness among farmers on climate smart agricultural practices to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Punjab



Outreach Activities

22,187
Volunteer
Committees

2,30,337
Farmers Contacted
Through local
volunteer committees

1,50,375
Warning Notices
To 2024 violators
and registered growers

Mega Gathering
116 Farmers Days
296 Markaz level
gatherings

3,08,707
Farmers Trained
Through 14,330
training programs

75,908
Printed Materials
Distributed

32,429
Village Mosque
Announcements

259
Smog awareness Lectures
In schools and colleges

Enforcement Measures

2370
Fire anomalies
reported

2322
Anomalies attended

1744
Fire evidence
cases

1744
No-fire
evidence/other

2822
Acres Burnt

115
Istighasas
submitted

370
FIRs lodged

2,18,90,000 pkr
Fine imposed

Media Campaign

Social Media

Forum	Uploads	Views
Website	170	
Facebook	170	65,08,620
Twitter	170	24,550
You Tube	104	27,345
Tik Tok	170	2,54,554

Print Media

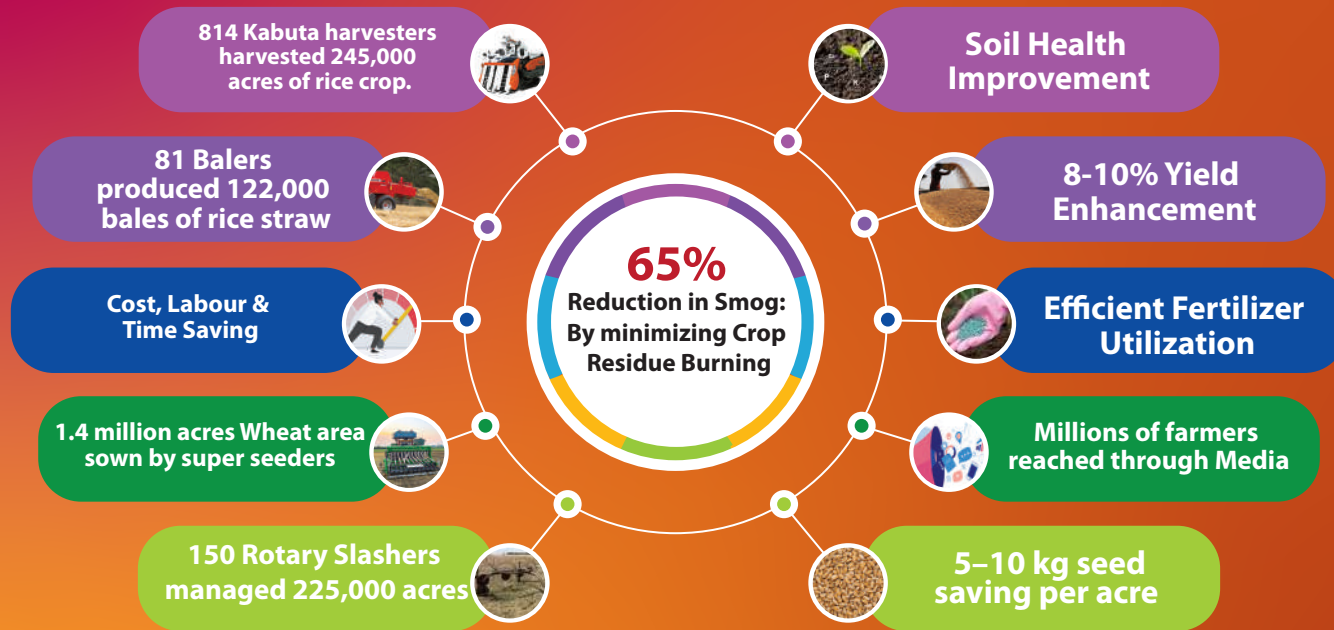
Newspapers/Magazines	Issued	Published / Carried
Press Advertisement	02	28 Insertions
Press Releases	15	133 newspapers
Agri Features	02	13 newspapers
Periodicals	05	05

Electronic Media

TV News Channels/Radio	Released	Onaired / Broadcast
New Package/Report	53	178
TVCS	02	67
TV Tickers	371	1310
Radio Broadcast	25	25



IMPACT



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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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Agricultural Helpline **0800-17000** Daily 08 am - 08 pm

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