

**ENVIRONMENT POLLUTION (PREVENTION & CONTROL) AUTHORITY  
for the National Capital Region**

**Dr. Bhure Lal  
Chairman**

**EPCA-R/2020/L-34  
September 30, 2020**

Dear Madam,

This is further to my letter of September 22, 2020 on the early burning of crop residue in the state and the need for ensuring implementation and enforcement of the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Needless to say, this is an issue of concern and will require urgent and concerted action on your part. Otherwise, it will exacerbate the problem of air pollution in the region and in this time of COVID-19 will add to co-morbidity challenges.

I am sending you our report on this issue, which EPCA has submitted to the Hon'ble Supreme Court for its consideration at the hearing on this matter.

**I am also bringing to your attention the need to ensure that small and marginal farmers have access to the machines, which have been provided to the CHC's at affordable/free rates.**

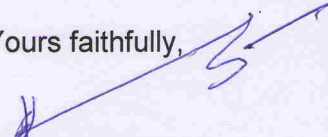
**We understand that Haryana on 24.8.2020 has issued directions that small and marginal farmers will be given preference in the use of these machines in the panchayat run CHCs, through reservation of 70% of the machines for them. While the state government has not prescribed any rates for CHC run by the panchayats, EPCA has been told that when your officials have checked with panchayats, they were told that they are not charging for rental for the equipment.**

However, this leaves the issue very ambiguous and possibly open to misuse. We would urge you that there should be a clear directive on the rate/free use of the machines to small and marginal farmers. The machines have been provided at 80-100 per cent subsidy to the panchayat run CHC's to ensure that farmers, who cannot afford to purchase them, have access. We would also request you to make sure that this decision is given wide publicity so that farmers have information and assurance of this.

**Please inform us of the decision that you will take in this matter at the earliest.**

With regards,

Yours faithfully,

  
**Dr. Bhure Lal  
Chairman, EPCA**

To  
**Smt. Keshni Anand Arora, IAS,  
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Haryana**

Copy to:

1. **Additional Chief Secretary to Govt. Haryana, Environment Department and Climate Change.**
2. **Chairman, Haryana State Pollution Control Board**
3. **Member Secretary, Haryana State Pollution Control Board.**

**Central Pollution Control Board**

Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Near Karkardooma Courts, Shahdara, Delhi 110 032  
Tel/Fax: 22301955 (CPCB), Tel: 43102414 Dr. Bhure Lal, Chairman