

GURU NANAK NATIONAL COLLEGE, DORAHA

INSTITUTIONAL DISTINCTIVENESS

(2018 – 2019)

Extension Cell of GNN College, Doraha strives to make Samrala, Doraha and Sahnewal blocks burn free

The extension cell of Guru Nanak National College Doraha chalked out a plan of spreading awareness among the farmers regarding environment conservation and crop residue management. For the realization of this plan, the cell, in collaboration with the Department of Sociology, initially conducted a survey in the month of September in the year 2018 of 61 villages of Doraha, Samrala, Macchiwara, Sahnewal, Khanna, Payal blocks including villages such as Aloona, Arraichan, Begowal, Bowani, Barmalipur, Bilaspur, Bilga, Bhorla, Bagli, Burj, Bhamaddi, Chak, Cheema, Dharmkot, Dhamot, Doraha, Dhande, Gidri, Gurditpura, Ghangam, Harnampura, Jalajan, Jandali, Jugiana, Jaspalon, Kotla, Kaddon, Kubba, Kanech, Katani, Kishangarh, Khanna, Koomkalan, Kotli, Kohara, Karaur, Katana Sahib, Kot Panaich, Landa, Lopon, Lal Kalan, Mehndipur, Umaidpur, Mehdoodan, Machhiwara, Majara, Majhail Kalan, Neelon, Payal, Pangli, Paddi, Pama, Ranian, Rajgarh, Rampur, Sahnewal, Satnam Nagar, Sanghe and Sherpur Kalan.

The major inference drawn from the study was that 86% of the respondent farmers were still resorting to stubble burning. The basic reason for following this course of action was primarily being attributed to either the non-availability of farm machinery or its high cost. Another reason was the high rental availability of this machinery. As many as 56% of the respondents knew that stubble burning leads to health hazards like burning sensation in the eyes, nose, throat etc. and may cause asthma and other related diseases. The study revealed that the farmers were well versed with the use of crop residue management i.e in the form of fodder (42.5%), as Bio-gas plant (13.5%), in Cardboard making (20.6%) and in increasing the productive capacity of farms (35.4%). The study revealed that 53.5% of the respondent farmers were aware that the SMOG, which engulfed the region, last year, was very harmful for human beings and it lead to accidents (30.3%). Another 16% of the respondents seemed to be oblivious of its deadly consequences and responded that it carried no harmful effect. As many as 48.3% of farmers responded that they hardly took any kind of help from government or non-governmental organizations for farm machinery. Other 32.5% of them however tried to approach such organizations for machinery but found it dearer. A

total of 92.5% of the respondents were prepared to say a final no to stubble burning if provided adequate financial aid or machinery at cheaper rates.

On the basis of this study, the extension cell then thought of providing a practical solution to the problem being faced by farmers and with the help of which they may be able fight with the menace of stubble burning. It was decided that apart from organizing rallies, *nukkad nataks*, extension lectures by experts in the villages; the cell shall first and foremost try and address the farmers' demand of machinery. For the realization of this plan, we initially identified 4 villages i. e Sultanpur, Lopen, Mehdoodan and Khaira of Samrala block to make them burn free during wheat sowing season-2018. Two happy seeders were issued by GST Commissionerate Ludhiana through KVK Samrala to our College to make the farmers well versed with the latest techniques of sowing by providing them adequate demonstration of the same. The cell succeeded in making the villages burn free and provided demonstration on 204 acres of land with happy seeders in Sultanpur, Lopen, Mehdoodan and Khaira and additional three villages including Chak, Balala and Pangalian.