

Rajya Vishisht Yojana

Why in News?

Recently, Haryana introduced the **Rajya Vishisht Yojana** to tackle <u>stubble burning</u>, aiming to protect <u>air quality</u> during the harvest season.

Key Points

- Rajya Vishisht Yojana:
 - Haryana's Rajya Vishisht Yojana focuses on reducing stubble burning through incentives and resources for farmers, primarily targeting areas where paddy harvesting leads to stubble residue.
- Subsidies and Resources:
 - The government provides subsidies on equipment for crop residue management, such as <u>Happy Seeders and Super SMS systems</u>, to promote eco-friendly disposal methods.
- Penalties and Rewards:
 - Strict fines for stubble burning violations are enforced, alongside incentives for farmers who comply, aiming to balance punitive and supportive measures.
- Environmental Goals:
 - The initiative aligns with <u>national environmental goals</u> by promoting <u>sustainable</u> <u>agricultural practices</u>, <u>reducing air pollution</u>, and mitigating <u>respiratory health risks</u>.

Alternatives to Stubble Burning

- **PUSA Decomposers:** The <u>decomposers</u> are in the form of capsules made by extracting fungi strains that help the paddy straw to decompose at a much faster rate.
- **Happy Seeder:** It is a tractor-mounted device offering an eco-friendly alternative to stubble burning.
 - It works by cutting and lifting rice straw, simultaneously sowing wheat into the exposed soil and depositing the straw over the sown area as protective mulch.
- Palletisation: Paddy straw, when dried and transformed into pellets, becomes a viable alternative fuel source.
 - When mixed with coal, these pellets can be utilized in thermal power plants and industries, potentially saving coal usage and lowering carbon emissions.

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