

***National Essay Writing Competition on***  
**"Agricultural Waste to Wealth"**

for the students of Schools, Colleges and Universities  
in commemoration of 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi ji  
by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India

**Concept Note & Guidelines**

Agricultural waste is defined as the outcome of agricultural production following the different harvesting activities. It includes manure, crop residues and other waste from farms, poultry houses and slaughterhouses, harvest waste, fertilizer run-off from field, pesticides that enter into water, air or soils and salt and silt drained from field. With the introduction of technology in the agricultural processes, waste has become a burden because of its ability to damage and pollute the environment.

The main problems facing rural areas today are agricultural waste, sewage and municipal solid waste. India generates about 350 million tonnes of agricultural waste every year. The type and quantity of agricultural waste in the country vary from village to village because farmers cultivate the most profitable crops suited to their fields and follow affordable practices. Many farmers now view the practice of residue utilization as an extra cost with small returns, and that the best way in to get rid of the residues by dumping, open burning, etc. For example, burning of paddy and wheat straw in the fields generates many hazardous gases which not only cause global warming and threaten human living on the planet. The hazards to the environment of such practices can no longer be ignored.

Though attempts have been made to the utilization of agricultural waste for composting and / or animal fodder, and none of them has been implemented in a sustainable form. Several factors have aggravated problem including the absence of environmental awareness and low level of knowledge and skills affecting the behaviour of farmers in handling agricultural waste.

Attitudes must change to create wealth from agricultural waste and foster the idea of considering crop residues and its utilization as an integral part of agricultural production. There are many new approaches and methods for utilizing crop residues that have become attractive and profitable such as composting, animal fodder and energy production. Several research and development programs are underway in India and other countries to use biomass. On the national level, there are many efforts particularly those of the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. Government of India to find solutions for the problem and avoid environmental degradation. Those efforts must be encouraged, increased and implemented on large scale.

For this, it is important to create awareness on “Agricultural Waste to Wealth” through the application of innovative approaches, technological interventions, safe agricultural practices and business ideas for ensuring scientific handling of agricultural waste to get maximum returns and safeguard the environment.

It is against the above background, the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India wishes to organise an essay writing competition on the subject of “Agricultural Waste to Wealth” for the students of schools, colleges and universities in India. This essay writing competition is aimed to capture the bright and workable ideas from young students on innovative approaches, solutions to the field level problems emanating from agricultural waste, new technologies that provide affordable solutions and models. The event is organised in commemoration of the 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi ji which is falling on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2018.

The winners of the essay writing competition will be awarded with cash prizes (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prizes in three categories in Hindi and English language streams separately) and certificate of appreciation by Shri. Radha Mohan Singh, Hon’ble Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare at a function in New Delhi. The exact date and time will be intimated to the winners. There will be three consolation cash prizes for the prospective contestants for Hindi and English streams separately to encourage their contributions. The consolation prizes will be sent to the winners through post / courier.

The full details of the essay writing competition along with guidelines are given below:

**Subject of the Essay:** “Agricultural Waste to Wealth”

**Who can participate:**

The following three categories of students will participate in the essay writing competition

- **Category I:** School Students of 7-12 Classes
- **Category II:** College Students - Intermediate and UG Courses and equivalent
- **Category III:** University Students – PG and equivalent & Research Scholars from Universities.

**Maximum words:**

- **Category I:** for School Students – 2000 words, in 4 A4 pages single spaced, in 12 point font.

- **Category II:** for College Students – 4000 words, in 8 A4 pages single spaced, in 12 point font.
- **Category III:** for University Students & Scholars – 5000 words, in 10 pages single spaces, in 12 point font.

### Language:

- Hindi and English languages. There will be separate prizes for Hindi language stream essays and English language stream essays.

### How to send essays:

- Contestants in each Category should submit his / her essays to: **The Office of the Director General, National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Rajendranagar, Hyderabad 500030, Telangana on or before 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2018 by post or courier in a sealed envelope.**
- Submission of essays through e-mail will not be accepted.
- Each contestant should indicate his / her Category (Category-I, Category-II and Category-III) & Language Stream on the envelope as follows:
  - National Essay Writing Competition on "Agricultural Waste to Wealth" – Category –I Hindi Language or English Language.
  - National Essay Writing Competition on "Agricultural Waste to Wealth" – Category –II Hindi Language or English Language.
  - National Essay Writing Competition on "Agricultural Waste to Wealth" – Category –III Hindi Language or English Language.
- A Certificate, duly signed by the following competent authorities, declaring that you are a bonafide student of the school / college / university with details of your class, degree and research study and for having written the essay yourself should be produced:

Category	Competent Authority	Details
Category I	School Head Master	The competent authority should mention name, sign and put official stamp certifying the student, his/her class or degree and the essay he /she has written for the competition.
Category II	College Principal	
Category III	Head of the Department / Dean / Research Guide or Supervisor / Director / Registrar	

- Contestants of each Category should authenticate that the essay is originally written by him /her and not copied fully or partially from other sources. A

certificate to this effect should be produced by the contestant on a separate sheet with signature, name, Adhaar number, mobile number, postal address with postal pin code.

- The essay should be legibly typed on A4 size paper as per the maximum words indicated against each Category of contestants.
- MANAGE will provide all the formats (for authentication by the contestant, certificate by the competent authority, guidelines for submission of essay) on its website.

### **Last Date of Submission:**

- Last date for submission of essay for the competition has been extended to **31<sup>st</sup> October, 2018**. Essays received after the last date will not be accepted.

### **Prize Money and Appreciation:**

- There will be 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Prizes in each Category for the winners of the essay writing completion. A consolation prize will also be given to prospective contestant for their contribution.
- The prize money proposed in each Category of both Hindi and English language streams is given below:

<b>Category</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Prize</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Prize</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Prize</b>	<b>Consolation Prize</b>
Category Level -I	Rs. 30,000	Rs. 20,000	Rs. 10,000	Rs. 2000
Category Level -II	Rs. 40,000	Rs. 30,000	Rs. 20,000	Rs. 3000
Category Level -III	Rs. 50,000	Rs. 40,000	Rs. 25,000	Rs. 5000

- A total of 24 prizes will be awarded in Hindi and English language streams.
- The prize money will be awarded to the winners of the competition both in Hindi language stream and English language stream by the Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture at New Delhi through cheques or on-line transfer. The exact date and time will be intimated to the winners.
- Only 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize winners will be called to New Delhi to give away the prizes. The consolation prizes will be sent to the winners through post / courier.
- Along with the prize money, appreciation letters signed by Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture will also be given to the winners through post.
- Travel charges (to and fro II Class Train Ticket) & DA to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize winners only in each category to travel to New Delhi to receive the prize money will be paid.

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**FORMATS**

**Format A & B should be filled-in and signed by the student and the competent authority. Both the duly signed Formats should be sent along with the essay in the same sealed envelope.**

**Format-A**

**Certificate by the Student**

This is to certify that, I ..... S/o or  
D/o..... studying/pursuing.....class /  
degree /post-graduation/research in  
.....school / college / university/  
Institute located in.....Village/Town  
/City.....of.....State have written the essay on the  
subject "Agricultural Waste to Wealth" in Hindi / English on my own. I further certify  
that the essay is original and it has not been published earlier anywhere either in full  
or in parts or copied from any printed or electronic source. The views and ideas  
expressed in the essay are mine and I shall forfeit the prize and liable to any  
disciplinary action if the information is found wrong.

Date:

Signature of the student

Student's Name: .....

Father's / Mother's Name:.....

Address: .....

Town/City.....

Pin code:.....

State:.....

Mobile No:.....

E-mail:.....

**Format-B**  
**Certificate by the Competent Authority**

(Schools- Head Master, Colleges- Principal, University / Institutes- Head of the  
Department / Dean / Research Guide or Supervisor / Director / Registrar)

This is to certify that Mr./ Ms. ....S/o. or  
D/o..... is a bonafied student of this  
..... school  
/ college / university. I herewith certify that he / she has written an essay on the  
subject "Agricultural Waste to Wealth" in Hindi / English language to participate in  
the National Essay Writing Competition being organised by the Department of  
Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers  
Welfare, Government of India. He/she has written the essay on his / her own to the  
best of knowledge and information.

Signature of the  
Competent Authority

Name of the Competent  
Authority

Date:



The Essay along with both the filled-in & duly signed Formats (A&B) should be sent to: **The Office of the Director General, National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Rajendranagar, Hyderabad 500030, Telangana on or before 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2018 by post or courier in a sealed envelope.**