



Divecha Centre for Climate Change
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SEMINAR NOTICE

Title: Connecting Crop Productivity, Residue Fires, and Air Quality over Northern India.

Speaker: Dr. Hiren Jethva, Universities Space Research Association, Columbia, Maryland, USA and NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, Maryland, USA.

Date:- 5/02/2021

Time: 5.30 PM – 7.00PM

Venue: Online using MS Teams

Abstract: India's agricultural data indicate a net 25 percent increase in the post-monsoon rice crop production in Punjab during 2002-2016. NASA's A-train satellite sensors detect a consistent increase in the vegetation index and post-harvest agricultural fire activity (net ~60%), leading to a nearly 60% increase in aerosol loading over the populous Indo-Gangetic Plain in northern India. Ground-level particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) downwind in New Delhi shows a concomitant uptrend of a net 60%. The effectiveness of a robust satellite-based relationship between vegetation index-a proxy for crop amounts, and post-harvest fires-a precursor of extreme air pollution events, has been further demonstrated in predicting the seasonal agricultural burning.

ALL ARE WELCOME