



## CROP RESIDUE BURNING: DISCUSSING SOLUTIONS AHEAD OF THE POOR AIR QUALITY SEASON IN THE COUNTRY

As monsoon comes to a close, we once again stare at the issue of crop residue burning, which coincides with the onset of the winter season in the North-Western parts of the country causing blankets of smog across the Indo-Gangetic Plains (IGP). Crop residue or stubble burning has captured the imagination of media and political circles alike, making it one of the central points of mainstream discussions on air quality every winter. Each year, several measures are announced as pollution levels dip; however, these measures are often knee-jerk reactions to the seasonal narrative and lack a long-term vision.

The emissions from stubble burning impact daily life in these regions and has a lasting impact on the health of the citizens. Air pollution due to crop residue burning also affects the farmers and their families, including other crops/plants and livestock. Hence, the farmers, too, are keen to be a part of the solution. It is hence needed more than ever that we hear from experts about the solutions that can be adopted and the best ways to build a comprehensive policy to combat the crop residue issue we face.

While monetary benefits, Happy Seeders and Super Seeders encourage farmers to refrain from burning and look at alternatives, experts raise concerns about the sustainability of these expensive solutions. Crop diversification is a solution often cited to not just tackle the stubble burning problem but also to make agriculture more sustainable. Using crop residue in power plants and making crop waste a commodity with a price, is also recommended by think tanks.

Like these, solutions are available in plenty, but the need of the hour is for those to be holistic with robust short and long-term planning and systematic implementation on the ground. This will require all stakeholders in this multi-dimensional problem to work together, rather than proposing solutions in their silos, towards a solution that works for all.

Considering it is almost that time of the year when the problem sets in and air pollution levels spike, **Climate Trends with Panjab University and Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research** invites you to a session with scientists, policy experts, political representatives and other stakeholders to discuss the probable solutions for stubble burning ahead of the season.

Monday

**October 3** 2022

**9:45 am - 4:30 pm**

**Venue:**

**ICSSR Seminar Hall**

**Panjab University,  
Chandigarh**





# CROP RESIDUE BURNING: SCIENCE FOR SOLUTION & SOCIETY



Department of Environment Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh  
Climate Trends, New Delhi  
Center of Excellence on Climate Change, Air Pollution & Related  
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Panjab University, Chandigarh

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## AGENDA

09:45 - 10:15 am	<b>Registration</b>
10:15 - 10:30 am	<b>Aarti Khosla</b> , Director, Climate Trends
<b>Welcome and Introduction</b>	<b>Dr Suman Mor</b> , Nodal Officer, NKN Chandigarh & Associate Professor, Department of Environment Studies, Panjab University
	<b>Dr Manu Sharma</b> , Professor, Technology Enabling Centre, Panjab University
10:30 - 10:45 am	<b>Climate Trends, Panjab University &amp; PGIMER Team</b>
<b>Setting the Context</b>	
10:45 - 11:10 am	<b>Guest of Honour:</b>
<b>Inaugural Talk</b>	<b>Dr Sudesh Kumar</b> , Scientist G, Center of Innovative and Applied Bioprocessing, India
11:10 - 11:30 am	<b>Tea Break</b>
11:30 am -12:30 pm	
<b>Panel Discussion</b>	<b>Handling the Air Pollution Boundaries</b>
	<b>Mr Arulrajan P</b> , Member Secretary, Chandigarh Pollution Control Committee, Chandigarh
	<b>Mr Gurnam Singh</b> , Regional Director, Central Pollution Control Board
	<b>Mr Karunesh Garg</b> , Member Secretary, Punjab Pollution Control Board,Punjab
	<b>Mr Pradeep Kumar</b> , Haryana State Pollution Control Board, Panchkula
	<b>Dr Adarsh Pal Vig</b> , Chairman, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Punjab
12:30 - 1:00 pm	<b>Dr Ravindra Khaiwal</b> , Professor, PGIMER, Chandigarh
<b>Moderated Q&amp;A</b>	<b>Ms Aarti Khosla</b> , Director, Climate Trends
1:00 - 1:30 pm	<b>Harmeet Singh</b> , Farmer & Founder, Dairy Farmer Association
<b>Success Stories - I</b>	<b>HS Cheema</b> , Cheema Boilers Limited
	<b>Ashish Kumar</b> , Verbio India Pvt Limited
1:30 - 2:30 pm	<b>Lunch</b>
2:30 -3:45 pm	
<b>Panel Discussion</b>	<b>Challenges &amp; Opportunities for the Upcoming Stubble Burning Season</b>
	<b>Dr Nataraja Subash</b> , Principal Scientist, ICAR
	<b>Dr BK Padhi</b> , Assistant Professor, PGIMER, Chandigarh
	<b>Kurinji Selvaraj</b> , Programme Associate, Council for Energy Environment & Water (CEEW)
	<b>Dr MS Bhatti</b> , Professor, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar
	<b>Dr S K Sahoo</b> , Punjab Remote Sensing Centre (PRSC)
	<b>Dr Kamal Vatta</b> , Agricultural Economist, Punjab Agricultural University
	<b>Dr PVM Lakshmi</b> , Professor, PGIMER, Chandigarh
3:45 - 4:30 pm	<b>Dr P.S Yadav, Dr Birender Shankar &amp; Mr Dinesh Redhu</b>
<b>Success Stories - II</b>	<b>Dr Rajbir Kaur, Dr Onkar Singh, Dr Poonam Khanna</b>