Newsletter for An Interdisciplinary Study toward Clean Air, Public Health and Sustainable Agriculture: The Case of Crop Residue Burning in North India

## Message from Professor Rattan Lal of The Ohio State University

We received a message of encouragement from Professor Rattan Lal, one of the advisory board members of the Aakash project and a Japan Prize winner. The members of the project will continue to work hard and never lose their initial enthusiasm in the midst of the spread of COVID-19 infection

Dear Prof. Sachiko Hayashida and Aakash members,

It was my great pleasure to meet you in September 2019 in Kyoto and to discuss your new project. I am very pleased to learn about the excellent work being done and also the progress that you have made in Punjab, India. The interdisciplinary and integrated approach embraced by your group, covering agricultural science, economics, remote sensing, and public health that encompasses universities, research institutes, NGOs, and civic societies, provides an excellent role model for Asia and the world.

I wish you the best during the difficult circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic these past months, and I do hope your group will overcome any challenges facing you through the strong ties built through international collaboration between India and Japan.

I look forward to witnessing the paradigm shift toward a new sustainable era to which you are making a valuable and important contribution. I hope that we may continue our correspondence in the coming year.

Sincerely, Rattan Lal