

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3227
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.03.2022

IPCC report on climate change

3227. SHRI VAIKO:
SHRI Y. S. CHOWDHARY:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has released report recently;
- (b) if so, the highlights thereof;
- (c) the details of multiple climate hazards and risks to be faced by the developing countries including India;
- (d) the areas where adaptation to the impacts of climate crisis is possible; and
- (e) remedial measures suggested or to be taken collectively by the international community to meet the challenges, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) to (c) The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), periodically prepares comprehensive Assessment Reports on the state of knowledge on climate change, its causes, potential impacts and response options. These assessments are based on the extant scientific literature available at the time. Scientists from all over the world, including India, contribute to the preparation of IPCC Assessment Reports. The IPCC is currently in its Sixth Assessment cycle and has completed two reports so far, released in August 2021, by Working Group I and in February 2022 by Working Group II.

As per the Working Group I Contribution to the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report titled, "Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis" released in August 2021, global warming of approximately 1.07°C has already occurred in the decade 2010-2019 since preindustrial times (1850-1900). Several other aspects of climate change have been addressed in the report and the expected changes and increase in climate extremes, depending on the scale of future temperature increase.

Further, as per the Working Group II contribution to the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report on 'Climate Change: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability' released in February 2022, global warming, reaching 1.5°C in the near-term, would cause unavoidable increases in multiple climate hazards and present multiple risks to ecosystems and humans. As per the

report, rising temperature increases likelihood of the threat of various climate extremes across South Asia, including heat waves, floods, droughts, impacts on glaciers and threat of sea level rise. But their extent, intensity and frequency will depend on the extent to which global climate mitigation is successfully able to hold the rise of global temperature levels in check.

(d) The Government of India through its various departments/ministries is implementing adaptation focussed programmes/schemes in the key sectors of economy. The Government is implementing the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC), which is the overarching policy framework for climate action in India, covering mitigation, adaptation and generation of strategic knowledge on climate change. It comprises of national missions in the specific areas of solar energy, enhanced energy efficiency, water, agriculture, the Himalayan eco-system, sustainable habitat, green India and strategic knowledge on climate change. Most of these missions are also adaptation focussed. Further, 33 States/Union Territories have prepared State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCCs) consistent with the objectives of NAPCC. The Government is also implementing the National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change to support adaptation measures of States/UTs in areas that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change.

(e) Combating climate change requires globally coordinated efforts and is addressed multilaterally through UNFCCC and its Paris Agreement based on the principles of ‘equity’ and ‘common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities’. The Paris Agreement’s aim is to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change. Countries are implementing climate actions through their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) submitted under the Paris Agreement.

In so far India is concerned, with more than 17% of the global population, it has contributed only about 4% of the global cumulative greenhouse gas emissions between 1850 and 2019. Apart from resolutely addressing climate change domestically, India has launched international coalitions such as International Solar Alliance (ISA) and Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI). Recently, at COP26 in Glasgow, new initiatives under CDRI and ISA, viz, Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (IRIS) and Green Grids Initiative—One Sun One World One Grid (GGI-OSOWOG) were also launched. Along with Sweden, India co-leads the Leadership Group for Industry Transition. (LeadIT) for voluntary low carbon transition of hard to abate sectors.
