

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1488
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24/12/2018

Fatalities due to extreme weather events

1488. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that India, accounted for the second highest fatalities, after Puerto Rico in 2017, due to extreme weather events, as per German watch, an independent organisation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a study presented by Indian scientists at the COP 24 Climate, Conference at Katowice, Poland, put Assam and Mizoram among the most vulnerable Himalayan States; and
- (d) if so, steps taken by Government to reduce carbon emissions to keep India safe?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(Dr. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) and (b) The Global Climate Risk Index 2019, published by Germanwatch in December 2018, puts India at fourteenth rank in terms of Climate Risk Index for 2017, twenty ninth rank in terms of fatalities per lakh of inhabitants, and second rank in terms of fatalities in 2017. The ranking is based on information collated by MunichRe, a re-insurance company on weather related events— storms, floods and temperature extremes only and it is not based on government reports.

(c) A study conducted by a group of scientists from Indian Institute of Science and Indian Institutes of Technology, indicates vulnerability of all States in the Himalayan region to climate change, while the states of Assam and Mizoram are reported to be more vulnerable.

(d) In order to address the issues of climate change, Government of India is implementing the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) which includes eight national missions being implemented by various Ministries in specific areas of Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem, Solar Energy, Enhanced Energy Efficiency, Sustainable Habitat, Water, Green India, Sustainable Agriculture and Strategic knowledge for Climate Change. Thirty two States and Union Territories have prepared their State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCC) consistent with objectives of NAPCC to address state specific concerns.

As per the first biennial update report submitted to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, India has achieved 12% reduction in emission intensity of its GDP between 2005 and 2010 and is on course to achieve the voluntary pre 2020 goal of reducing emission intensity of GDP by 20-25% from 2005 levels by 2020.
