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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3208
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.07.2019

Adverse Effect on economy due to climate change

3208. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the rapid climate change is adversely affecting the economy of the country, especially the agriculture sector;
(b) if so, the details thereof; and
(c) whether Government has analysed the effects of climate change and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)

(a) & (b) Various studies project possible linkages of global warming with change in frequency and intensity of weather. However, any direct attribution to climate change for losses from extreme weather events has not been indicated. As per the Economic Survey, Government of India of 2017-18, impact of temperature and rainfall is felt on agriculture sector only in extreme; that is, when temperatures are much higher, rainfall significantly lower, and the number of "dry days" greater, than normal, and these impacts are significantly more adverse in unirrigated areas compared to irrigated areas.

(c) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has published a report titled "Climate Change and India: A 4X4 Assessment - A Sectoral and Regional Analysis for 2030". The report provides an assessment of impacts of climate change in 2030 in four key sectors of the Indian economy, namely, agriculture, water, natural ecosystems and biodiversity and human health in four climate sensitive regions of India, viz. the Himalayan region, the Western Ghats, the Coastal region and the North Eastern Region. As part of the National Communications, the Ministry conducted studies on impact of climate change in India which are summarized in the 'Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation' chapters. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under National Innovations on Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA) Project has also carried out studies on the impacts of climate change on agriculture. These studies have indicated variable impact on temperature; precipitation; crops like rice, wheat, coconut, apple, maize and sorghum and livestock productivity in agriculture sector; composition and net primary productivity of forests; and transmission windows for vector borne diseases under different climate change scenarios.

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