

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1865
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.12.2018

Impact of Climate Change

1865. SHRIMATI P.K. SREEMATHI TEACHER:
SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:

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

- (a) whether due to climate change vulnerability to extreme weather events has increased in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the draft of India's Second Biennial Update Report (BUR) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) states that in a period of four years, over 5,800 people and thousands of animals in India have lost their lives to "extremes of temperature, rainfall and tropical cyclones";
- (d) if so, the details of human and animal loss occurred due to different events of climate change in the country, State/UTwise; and
- (e) the details of the broader policy interventions at present and in operation by the Government in tandem with international protocols to tackle climate change issues?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) As per India Meteorological Department, some recent studies suggest an increasing frequency and intensity of extremes in rainfall during the past 40-50 years. The assessments by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the Government using regional climate models indicate that extreme rainfall events are likely to be more frequent in India in future. However, there attribution to global warming is yet to be established.

Heat wave occurrence zones over the years are found to be over the same area of such prevalence in the past, however, frequency of severe heat waves has increased in recent years. Many areas of the country (North, North-West, Central and North-East Peninsula) have experienced more heat wave days on an average per season. The past decade was the warmest decade for the country as well as for the globe.

(c) & (d) India submitted its first Biennial Update Report (BUR) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) on 22nd January, 2016. As per the report, India witnessed many instances of extremes of temperature, rainfall and tropical cyclones in recent years resulting in enhanced exposure to multi-hazard vulnerability with adverse impacts on ecosystems, natural resources and socio-economic profile. India's second BUR has not been submitted to the UNFCCC.

(e) India is a Party to the UNFCCC, its Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement. India is meeting its commitments under the aforesaid instruments. Through eight missions, being implemented by various Ministries, under the National Action Plan on Climate Change, the Government is addressing climate change concerns in the area of solar energy, energy efficiency, sustainable habitat, water, Himalayan ecosystem, Green India, sustainable agriculture and strategic knowledge for climate change.
