

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 240
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.02.2026

Impact of Climate Change

240. THIRUD M KATHIR ANAND:
DR. T SUMATHY ALIAS THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN:

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

- (a) whether it is fact that the cumulative effect of green-house gases disrupts climatic systems, resulting in more frequent and severe weather events, rising sea levels, and widespread ecological impacts in turn, has a direct effect on food production, housing, economy, health, society and politics, if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (b) whether it is true that the women in the country especially the rural areas bear the heavy burden of ill effects of climate change and if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) & (b) As per the Synthesis Report of the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), human activities, principally through emissions of greenhouse gases, have unequivocally caused global warming, with global surface temperature reaching 1.1°C above 1850-1900 level in the decade of 2011-2020. The Working Group II in its contribution to the Sixth Assessment Report of the IPCC, dealing with Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability, has reported that worldwide climate change is increasingly affecting marine, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems and ecosystem services, water and food security, settlements and infrastructure, health and well-being, and economies and culture, especially through compound stresses and events.

The Third National Communication (TNC) submitted to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2023 has reported that India is experiencing full range of climate change impacts, ranging from floods and droughts to heatwaves and glacier melt. The impacts of climate change are observed in various sectors including biodiversity; forests; agriculture; water resources; coastal and marine ecosystems; human health; gender; urban and infrastructure. The TNC also notes that climate change and climate-induced disasters disproportionately affect socio-economically vulnerable groups, including women, particularly in rural areas, through impacts on livelihoods, access to basic services, health, water, energy, and living conditions.

India's climate actions across various sectors are embedded in various programmes and schemes. The National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) provides the overarching framework for all climate actions and comprises missions in specific areas of solar energy, enhanced energy efficiency, sustainable habitat, water, sustaining Himalayan ecosystems, Green India, sustainable agriculture, human health and strategic knowledge for climate change. All these Missions are institutionalized and implemented by their respective Nodal Ministries/Departments. Further, thirty-four States/Union Territories (UTs) have prepared their State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCC) in line with NAPCC taking into account the State specific issues relating to climate change. The responsibility of the implementation of the SAPCCs rest with the respective States.

In addition, there are various schemes, programmes and initiatives which contribute towards reducing the impacts of climate change on rural women such as *Pradhan Mantri Ujjawala Yojana*, *Nal Se Jal, Jal Jeevan Mission* and *Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana*, among others.
