

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 136
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.03.2021

Fatalities and displacement of people due to Climate Change

*136. SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA:

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

- (a) the number of fatalities and people displaced due to climate change triggered events in 2020, State-wise;
- (b) whether any compensation has been provided to the victims;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER
MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to part (a) to (d) of Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 136 due for the reply on 08.03.2021 by SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA regarding Fatalities and displacement of people due to Climate Change.

- (a) There is no established study for India providing a quantified contribution of climate change triggering either fatalities or displacement of people in 2020.

While many studies monitor extreme events in the environment, the science of attribution of these changes particularly to climate change is far more complex and currently an evolving subject. Such extreme events as are observed may arise from a number of causes, including the inherent variability in climatic systems that are common in the biosphere and geosphere. Most studies so far have relied on mathematical modelling of climate change impacts but these are yet to be empirically verified.

Further, according to the IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5 degree C (2018), the social, economic, and environmental factors underlying displacement of people by climate change are complex and varied; therefore, attributing it to the effect of observed climate change or assessing its possible magnitude with any degree of confidence is challenging.

Displacement of people in the aftermath of natural disasters or to pursue livelihoods under more conducive conditions is a well-known phenomenon but there have been no observed instances of displacement within the country in 2020 that are directly attributable in any substantial measure to climate change.

Migration patterns continue to be monitored by Central and State governments in the work of several government departments and through the work of many government and non-government agencies, academics and civil society organisations.

(b) to (d) Do not arise. However, relief, recovery, and rehabilitation are governed *inter alia* by the relevant provisions of the National Disaster Management Act and the guidelines, directives, and orders of the National Disaster Management Authority and the State Disaster Management Authorities. The constitutional, legal and administrative provisions relevant to disaster management and disaster risk reduction adequately address the management of disasters in the country.

The government of India stands committed to combating climate change through its several programs and schemes. This includes implementation of the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC), which comprises missions in specific areas of solar energy, energy efficiency, water, agriculture, Himalayan ecosystem, sustainable habitat, green India, and strategic knowledge on climate change. The NAPCC provides an overarching framework for all climate actions. Thirty-three States /Union Territories have prepared their State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCC) in line with NAPCC taking into account the State's specific issues relating to climate change. These SAPCCs outline sector-specific and cross-sectoral priority actions, including adaptation.
