

## **Addressing climate change**

### **What is the issue?**

\n\n

Recent scientific community reports has attributed unplanned urbanisation for climate change and natural disturbances.

\n\n

### **What are the findings of recent scientific reports?**

\n\n

\n

- The global temperature since 1860 is observed to have risen by 0.4 centigrade.

\n

- Besides, there have been increases in the ocean temperature by 0.10 centigrade (0-700 metre depth) during 1961-2003.

\n

- The temperature rise is attributed to anthropogenic reasons, resulting from carbon emissions and urbanisation.

\n

- The South Asian Region (SAR) comprising Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka, is more exposed to regional and global climatic threats.

\n

- This will be a greater challenge for sustainable economic development of these countries.

\n

\n\n

### **What are the impacts of climate change?**

\n\n

\n

- 74 per cent of all natural calamities being hydro-meteorological ones, which arise out of the impact of the monsoon and cause maximum damage.

- \n
- It will manifest the increases in the frequency and intensity of floods, tropical cyclones, heat waves and drought.
- \n
- Besides the degradation of ecosystems, reduced availability of food and drinking water, and other impacts on the livelihoods of communities.
- \n
- It creates a shortage of potable water, besides creating health risks due to respiratory and faecal-oral factors, particularly for people in slums.
- \n

\n\n

### **What measures need to be taken?**

\n\n

- \n
- Climatic Smart Urban Planning should be encouraged by way of developing the “climate smart” (a word coined in the IPCC report) infrastructure.
- \n
- It should emphasises combining pro-poor development and climate change adaptation and mitigation.
- \n
- Urban planners need to account for the new demands due to settlements coming up in different geographical locations on account of migration.
- \n
- Policymakers need to shift from the existing paradigm of response only when disasters happen to all facets of disasters.
- \n
- Adopting Multi-Risk Resilient Structural Designs is key for countries of South Asia, besides integrating Climate Change & Urban Adaptation.
- \n

\n\n

\n\n

**Source: Business Standard**

\n