

Disaster Highlights

PM will Promote Disaster Resilient Infrastructure in India

At the United Nations (UN) Climate Action Summit 2019, held in New York City, on September 23, 2019, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi announced a global Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI). The partnership of the national governments, UN agencies, multilateral development banks, financing mechanisms, private sector, and knowledge institutions will promote the resilience of new and existing infrastructure systems to climate and disaster risks, thereby ensuring sustainable development. CDRI envisions enabling a measurable reduction in infrastructure losses from disasters, including extreme climate events that are developed in consultation with more than 35 countries. CDRI thus aims to promote the objectives of the Sustainable Development Goals, while also working at the intersection of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Paris Climate Agreement.

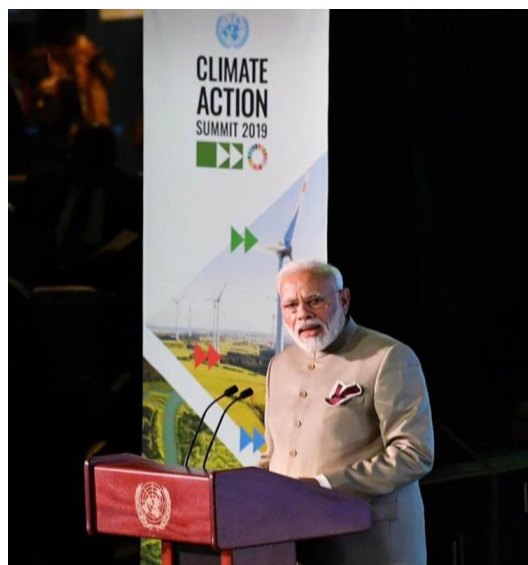


Photo credit: UN.org

Source : <https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/un-climate-summit-2019.shtml>

The Decade of Exceptional Climate and Weather Events: 2010-2019

According to World Metrological Organisation (WMO), 2010-2019 is the warmest decade, and the global average temperature recorded in 2019 (January- October) was about 1.1 degrees Celsius above the pre-industrial period i.e. (1850-1900). With the highest global average temperature, this decade also experienced the highest rate of sea-level rise i.e. 5mm/year between 2014 to 2019. According to the World Glacier Monitoring Service (WGMS), between 2015 to 2018, the average specific mass change of glacier is around 908 mm water equivalent per year.

Source : <https://public.wmo.int/en/media/press-release/2019-concludes-decade-of-exceptional-global-heat-and-high-impact-weather>

RISAT-2BR1 : Launch of the most Capable Surveillance Satellite of India

RISAT-2BR1 is a synthetic-aperture radar imaging earth observation satellite, provides services in the field of Agriculture, Forestry, and Disaster Management. The spatial resolution of the satellite is 0.35 meters, which means it can identify an object on the ground which is separated by just 35 cm. The RISAT-2BR1 is the first all-weather earth observation satellites launched by ISRO of its series. Before the RISAT series, all the observation satellite of India primarily relied on optical and spectral sensors which were vulnerable to cloud cover.



Photo Credit : ISRO

Source : <https://www.isro.gov.in/Spacecraft/risat-2br1>

COVID-19 Lockdown Causes Air Purification

According to The Weather Channel, a 21-day lockdown in India helped in improving the air quality status of many most polluted cities. Drastic reduction in vehicular emission, dust from industries, and transportation were found major contributors to it. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) reported a 71 percent decline in the nitrogen dioxide in metro cities like Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, and Bangalore. The lockdown certainly played an important role, but other factors too influenced the air quality level. Heavy rains in the western and northern regions of India have played an important role in the dropping of air pollution levels.



Photo Credit : Awar Nazir/Sajjad Hussain/AFP via Getty Images

Source : [sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0048969720325699](https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0048969720325699)