### **Global Warming & Climate Change**

#### Dr. Parveen Kumar

Assistant Professor of Environmental Science

# **Plan of Talk**

- Weather & Climate?
- Why Climate Matters?
- How Climate System Works?
- **Climate Change Is it real?**
- **Causes of Climate Change?** 
  - Natural
  - **Anthropogenic**

- Potential Effects of Climate Change
- **Climate Change & Human Health**
- Australian Bush Fires Case Study
- **Cyclone Amphan Case**
- Building Climate Resilience
- **Climate Response India**
- **Sustainability Path.....**



### Weather & Climate?



WHAT YOU GET

CONDITIONS OF THE ATMOSPHERE OVER A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME

> CAN CHANGE WITHIN MINUTES OR HOURS

> > Sunday

1,1,1,1

Saturday

vs CLIMATE

WHAT YOU EXPECT

HOW THE ATMOSPHERE BEHAVES OVER A LONG PERIOD OF TIME AND SPACE

AVERAGE REGIONAL WEATHER PATTERN OVER DECADES



Weather is what's happening outside your window right now.

# **Why Climate Matters?**

#### Climate controls :

- Evolution of Earth & its ecosystems
- Human habits & habitat
- Progress of civilization
- Climate affects our quality of life food production, energy production and consumption, water availability, environmental diversity.
- **Successful crop production** climate affect all phases of plant growth.
- Weather conditions (rain fall, humidity etc.) control occurrence of **pests** and **diseases**.
- **Flooding** and **storms** show how much weather and climate can affect our lives.
- Design and construction without consideration of likely climate conditions can be very costly and have consequences for human safety.

### **How Climate System Works?**



## **Climate Change – Is it real?**

#### **Climate change?**

Ο

- **CO**, increased by about 35% during industrial era.
  - Global Avg. Earth's Temperature Rise 1°C.
  - Warming Oceans 0.13°C per decade.
  - Shrinking Ice Sheets Greenland and Antarctic.
  - Glacial Retreat Alps, Himalayas, Andes, Rockies, Alaska and Africa.
  - Sea level rise -18 cm during last century. Predicted rise 1 m by 2100.
  - Extreme events Rain, Cyclones, Heat & Cold Waves.
  - **Ocean Acidification** 30% increase since industrial revolution.



### **Causes of Climate Change**

#### **Natural Causes:**

- **Solar Radiation Variability**
- **Earth's Orbit & Tilt variability**
- Plate Tectonics
- **Volcanic Activity** 
  - El Nino Southern Oscillation(ENSO)

#### **Anthropogenic Causes:**

- **Changes in Green House Effect:** 
  - Fossil fuels burning
  - Deforestation
  - □ Waste management
  - Unsustainable farming
- **Changes in Albedo** 
  - Land use change
  - Deforestation
  - Pollution

# **Solar Radiation Variability**

- Sun has powered almost everything on Earth since life began, including its climate.
- Sun follows a natural **11-year cycle** of small ups and downs in intensity but the effect on Earth's climate is small.
- The fluctuations in the solar cycle impacts Earth's global temperature by about **0.1 degree Celsius**, slightly hotter during solar maximum and cooler during solar minimum



# Earth's Orbit & Tilt

- Changes in Earth's orbit and tilt affect the amount of sunlight reaching Earth's surface.
- Milankovitch cycles: cause about 25% wariation in the amount of incoming insolation at Earth's mid-latitudes.
  - Shape of Earth's orbit (Eccentricity).

 $\Box$ 

- Angle Earth's axis is tilted with respect to Earth's orbital plane (**Obliquity**).
- Direction Earth's axis of rotation is pointed (**Precession**).



### **Plate Tectonics & Volcanic Activity**



Glacial deposits at current equator
Fossilized palm trees in Greenland



# El-Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO)

- ENSO is cycle of warm and cold sea surface temperature of tropical central and eastern Pacific Ocean.
  - **El Niño** high air pressure in Western Pacific and low air pressure in Eastern Pacific.

**ENSO cycle** causes global changes in temperature and rainfall.





## **Changes in Green House Effect**

**GHG's** -  $CO_2$ ,  $H_2O$  vapour, and  $CH_4$  absorb energy (Heat) and slowdown heat loss to space – 'Life **Supporting Warmth**'.

2 Infrared radiation (IR) is given off by the Earth... Sunlight passes through the atmosphere and warms the

earth.

3 ... most escapes to outer space, allowing the Earth to cool...

> ... but some infrared radiation is trapped by gases in the air (including CO<sub>2</sub>), keeping the earth warm enough to sustain life.

#### 5 ENHANCED GREENHOUSE EFFECT

Increasing levels of CO<sub>2</sub> increase the amount of heat retained, causing the atmosphere and Earth's surface to heat up.

### HOW GREENHOUSE GASES WARM OUR PLANET



The global warming potential (GWP) of human-generated greenhouse gases is a measure of how much heat each gas traps in the atmosphere, relative to carbon dioxide.



How much each human-caused greenhouse gas contributes to total emissions around the globe.







### **Changes in Albedo**

- Albedo amount of solar radiation (%) reflected from a surface.
  - Earth's albedo 30%, Warms Earth's land, water, and atmosphere.
  - **Cloud cover -** Higher albedo

- Ice/ Snow (Cryosphere) Higher albedo
- **Deforestation -** Higher albedo (less evaporative cooling by Transpiration
- **Reforestation -** Lower albedo
- **Urbanization –** Higher albedo
- **Aerosols** small particles or liquid droplets in the atmosphere that can absorb or reflect sunlight.
- **Carbon Black –** absorb sunlight warming effect
- **Volcanic particles** reflect sunlight cooling effect



#### Potential Effects of Climate Change







#### **110 Killed** (Up & Bihar)

AMPHAN



# **Climate Change & Human Health**

**Climate change** may shift habitats and bring wildlife, crops, livestock, and humans into contact with pathogens to which they have had less exposure and immunity.

**Vector borne diseases** – Dengue & Malaria

**Water borne diseases** - excess rainfall & floods - Diarrhea

What factors are increasing zoonosis emergence? (Diseases transmitted from animals to humans)



https://youtu.be/Pk-PUcXZfa8

#COVID19

environmen programme

### Australian Bush Fires – Case



Climate Change Warnings Went Unheeded, Now Australia Has Lost Billions of Species'

How does loss of such biodiversity impact human beings?

- Loss of 'Endemic' species is a 'Global' loss.
- □ Impacts food production loss of pollinators.
- Seed and spore dispersal.
- Soil health maintenance distribute & enrich nutrients.
- Ground water recharge burrowing organisms.

Loss of such species means it's going to be much harder for ecosystems to recover after the fires.



### **Cyclone Amphan – Case**

Formed	16 May 2020
Dissipated	21 May 2020
Highest winds	3-minute sustained:
	240 km/h (150 mph)
	1-minute sustained:
	260 km/h (160 mph)
Lowest pressure	920 hPa (mbar); 27.17 inHg
Fatalities	128 total
Damage	> \$13.6 billion (2020 USD)
	(Costliest on record in the North
	Indian Ocean)
Areas affected	India (West Bengal, Odisha,
	Andaman Islands),
	Bangladesh, Sri Lanka,
	Bhutan



Amphan near peak intensity over the Bay of Bengal on May 18

# **Building Climate Resilience**



# **Climate Response - India**

India's Climate Goals: Paris agreement (2016)

- □ To propagate a healthy and sustainable way of living.
- □ To adopt climate friendly and cleaner path for economic development.
- □ To create additional carbon sink through forest and tree cover by 2030.
- To adapt to climate change by investment in vulnerable sectors i.e. agriculture, water resources,
   Himalayan region, coastal regions, health and disaster management.
- To mobilize domestic and new funds to implement mitigation and adaptation actions.
- To build framework for quick diffusion of climate technology and collaborative R&D.

India is the world's third largest emitter of greenhouse gases.

Its rapid increase in electricity use in recent decades has been fueled largely by coal. However, it is now quickly expanding its renewable power, particularly solar.

India has ratified the Paris Agreement and pledged a 33-35% reduction in emissions intensity by 2030, compared to 2005 levels.

Emissions

per capita in 2015





### **Energy consumption**

#### by source

India's coal fleet has more than tripled since 2000. Plans for further expansion could have big implications for global emissions.



#### **Paris Agreement**

India has pledged to reduce the emissions intensity of its economy

33-35%

by 2030, compared to 2005 levels.

It also plans for 40% of installed electricity capacity to be renewable or nuclear by 2030.

#### National Action Plan on Climate Change

- 1. National Solar Mission
- 2. National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency
- 3. National Mission on Sustainable Habitat
- 4. National Water Mission
- 5. National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Eco-system
- 6. National Mission for a Green India
- 7. National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture
- 8. National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change

## **Sustainability Path.....**

#### **Reduce emissions**

- **Save energy**
- Put the 3 R's of sustainability into practice
- What about your diet? Eat low-carbon
- Act against forest loss
- Make demands from the government Green products & Renewable energy

Think globally, act locally. Your actions are needed in the fight against climate change.

## G actions preventing climate change



Sustainability for all www.activesustainability.com



https://youtu.be/EtW2rrLHs08

