

# ‘Change lifestyle to avert adverse climate changes’

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PATNA: The principal secretary of state environment, forest and climate change Dipak Kumar Singh said, on Wednesday, the people would have to change their lifestyle and develop environment-friendly habits if the world is to be saved from the adverse impacts of climate change.

Addressing an online discussion on ‘impact of climate change in the context of India in general and Bihar in particular’ organized by the Bihar State Pollution Control Board in association with World Resources Institute-India, Environmental Planning and Coordination Organisation-Madhya Pradesh, department of environment, forest and climate change-Bihar, Shakti Foundation, Climate Trends and United Nations Environment Programme, Singh said we should not only minimize our dependence on carbon and fossil fuels but also take steps for checking ever-increasing consumerism. “A product which earlier used to last up to 20 years is now changed in just five to six years,” he said.

The discussion was organised following the submission of the sixth evaluation report on climate change by the Inter Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) on February 28 this year. The report has revealed that if immediate steps were not taken to stop carbon emission, global temperature would increase considerably and consequently several countries of the world would have to bear the grunt. There would be such changes on the earth which would become unbearable for the living creatures.

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The report points out that a temperature of 31 degrees Celsius measured by dry and wet bulb (hygrometer) may prove highly dangerous for a common man. Even though it seldom exceeds 31 degrees in India, if the present rising trend of carbon emission continues, it may go up to 35 degrees, endangering human lives. “The report must be analysed in depth and necessary steps should be taken to make the planet habitable,” Singh said, adding that people’s participation in all such efforts is a must.

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Bihar State Pollution Control Board chairman Ashok Kumar Ghosh said the sixth evaluation report of the IPCC is an eye-opener for all the policy makers and planners and it bears great significance even for a state like Bihar.