

## Concept Note on New Radio Serial.....

### VIGYAN PRASAR New Radio Serial (2018-2019) Climate Change & Global Warming (52 Episodes)

*Taken as a whole, the range of published evidence indicates that the net damage costs of climate change are likely to be significant and to increase over time. - Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*

1. Climate change is now a reality. The fact has been supported by a plethora of literature published in the last decade. Some of the observable effects on the environment are already visible. A few of them are glaciers have shrunk, ice on rivers and lakes is breaking up earlier, loss of sea ice, accelerated sea level rise and shifting of plant and animal species, and trees are flowering earlier and certain region of the world are experiencing extreme weather condition in the form of more intense heat waves and frequent occurrences of cyclones etc.. These are some of the changes which have been predicted by the scientists in the past have become a reality now. The scientific community across the globe is confident that the global temperature will continue to rise for decades to come, mainly due to the emission of Green House Gasses (GHS) produced as a result of anthropogenic activities.

As per the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), (A United Nations body, founded in 1988, which evaluates climate change) forecasts a temperature rise of 2.5 to 10 degrees Fahrenheit over the next century that is generally known as Global Warming (GW). However, the IPCC is of the view the extent to which the climate change will effect will vary over the time with the ability and the preparedness of different societal and environmental system to mitigate or adapt to change. It is also predicted by IPCC that increases in global mean temperature of less than 1 to 3 degrees Celsius above 1990 levels will produce beneficial impacts in some regions and harmful ones in others. In short, as stated by IPCC, "Taken as a whole," "the range of published evidence indicates that the net damage costs of climate change are likely to be significant and to increase over time."

Global Warming (GW) is a measure of climate change, and is a rise in the average global temperatures." Climate change is caused by natural factors such as solar variability and human factors such as emission of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere and consequently ozone depletion. The greenhouse gasses (GHGs) include carbon dioxide, hydrofluorocarbons, and perfluorocarbons. These gases sit in the earth's atmosphere and prevent the sun's radiation from going back into space. The heat builds up as it does in a greenhouse. Though there is some naturally occurring gas which likes water vapours, which also cause the greenhouse effect.

According to IPCC-AR4, the emission of three major GHGs. (Carbon Dioxide, Methane and Nitrous Oxide) since 1750 have had a greater commutative effect on the atmosphere than the aggregate including both anthropogenic and non-anthropogenic –emission of last 10000 years. Between 1995 and 2005 the level of carbon dioxide alone increased by 20 %. This is in

spite of the Kyoto protocol, which required emission reduction by the industrialized countries.

Today the resultant climate change and global warming are causing a range of adverse impact on earth's ecosystem and the bio-sphere, including human beings. These impacts can be classified into two categories. The first category consists of the actual physical change in the earth climate's system primarily due to global warming. That includes irregular rainfall, stronger storms, recurring droughts, intense heat wave and other extreme weather phenomena, huge forest fire, species extinction/migration, reduced agriculture productivity etc. The second category includes sets of impact originating from the action that has been taken in the name of mitigating climate change, i.e., large-scale agro fuel and energy plantation in the name of green fuel, the introduction of genetically modified plants/crops, more big dams for carbon-free power generation.

One of the important highlight regarding the impact of the climate change, (as per the IPCC-AR4), that the developing countries like India are likely to be highly vulnerable to climate change due to both projected magnitude and lack of coping ability. Climate change is likely to have a severe impact on the natural ecosystem as well as on traditional socio-economic system in India as more than 750 million people of India are directly or indirectly depend on the climate-sensitive sector like agriculture, forest, eco-system based services, fisheries and other natural resources.

The international community has responded so well to this threat which is posing a danger to the survival of humanity on this planet earth. As a result a series of negotiations and convention, an intuitional framework has emerged to address the challenges of climate change. Though, the difference of opinion regarding its implementation persists between the developed and developing countries.

India being a developing economy is facing a dual challenge of sustaining its rapid economic growth with the high demand for energy while dealing with the global threat of Climate change. Emanating from GHG emission resulted due to intensive industrial growth and high consumption lifestyle. However, India is unique as far as its development path is a concern as it is based on its unique resource endowment and its indigenous model of growth and development. Recognizing major threat because of projected changes in climate at the global level, India has engaged quite actively at several international and regional fora and providing leadership to other developing countries to espouse their cause at several multinational negotiations including UNFCCC to establish an effective, cooperative and equitable global approach to deal with the consequences of climate change. This is with guiding principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities enshrined in UNFCCC.

The National Action Plan on Climate Change is the document to show its commitment to the cause of Climate Change. The NAPCC hinges on the development and use of technologies.

The appropriate mechanisms are being developed to deal with the challenge of Climate Change on several fronts simultaneously. India's main focus is on promoting understanding of Climate Change, Adaptation, Mitigation, Energy Efficiency and Natural Resource Conservation. The eight National mission of India is at the core of the NAPCC representing multipronged, long-term and integrated strategies for achieving key goals in the context of climate change.

Considering the current relevancy of the theme which is aligned with national agenda and the objectives of VP of science communication and popularization, it is proposed to produce a 52-episode radio serial of Climate Change. The objective, thrust area, target group and other details will be as follows:-

**2. Objectives of the proposed radio serial are:-**

- a) Create awareness about the challenges of climate change to engage and ensure participation of people in mitigation and adaptive measure to ensure the success of the all eight national mission.
- b) Highlight the science and scientific thinking facets of the climate change in simple and understandable manner.
- c) Optimize on the reach radio provide.
- d) Importantly bring several prominent subject experts, technologists and the planners to speak about the depth and spread of implication of climate change and the inevitable role we as a common citizen have to play to achieve the intended goals.
- e) VP will derive the best to play out of its experience through the radio by engagement with experts and dedicated listeners groups in addition to large nationwide reach it can achieve; as in the past.

**3. Target group/groups:**

Citizens, civil society awareness facilitators, and managers.

**4. Proposed thrust areas for the serial episodes**

- a) Understanding the science of Climate Change & Global Warming.
- b) The natural and anthropogenic factors responsible for climate change.
- c) The impact of climate change
- d) Preparedness of the global community to address the challenges of Climate Change.
- e) Norms, Conventions, and Institutions to Cope With Climate Change
- f) India and Climate Change
- g) Institutional Framework in India
- h) VIII. Mitigation and adaptation

**5. Special Features of Radio Serial**

- a. Produce 52 standalone thematic episodes

- b. Each episode of 27 minutes
- c. Docu – drama/feature format.
- d. Produce in 19 Indian Languages simultaneously.
- e. Broadcast from 117 stations of All India Radio simultaneously
- f. Audio Programmes made available for sale after broadcast

#### **6. Tentative Structure of the Episode**

- i. Emphasis on Science of Climate change
- ii. Preparedness to face the challenge
- iii. Global and Indian initiatives
- iv. Important multilateral negotiations and convention.
- v. Mitigation and adaptive measures
- vi. Success stories
- vii. Application of technologies
- viii. Do and Don't
- ix. One focused message in each episode

B.K.Tyagi