

## State Consultation on Climate Change and adaptation strategies

### Concept Note

The recent scientific results, natural disasters like floods, droughts, storms, etc., their intensity and frequency confirm that climate change is happening.

Effective strategies for adaptation are a high priority as developing countries are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.

Climate change is likely to have an impact in the following ways:

- Substantial die back of tropical forests and grasslands.
- The availability of water in the rivers is expected to decrease.
- Cereal yields are likely to decline.
- A rise in sea level could inundate and erode coastal areas, increase flooding and sea water intrusion. This will affect coastal agriculture, fisheries and aquaculture, fresh water resources, human settlements and tourism.
- All developing countries facing the problems of population and economic growth will be put under even greater stress as a result of these impacts.
- In India, climate change could represent additional pressure on ecological and socio economic systems that are already under stress due to rapid urbanization, industrialization and economic development. With its huge and growing population, a 7500 km. long densely populated and low lying coastline, and an economy that is closely tied to its natural resource base, India is considerably vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

### Initiatives taken so far:

Several measures relating to environmental issues have targeted increasing significantly the capacity of renewable energy installations; improving the air quality in major cities; enhancing afforestation, etc.

### Adaptation strategies:

Adaptation to overcome the vulnerability by various strategies and actions in different sectors is an important component of the response strategy to mitigate the impacts of climate change.