

Climate Revolution Initiative
Press Statement on INCCA Climate Change Report

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Manu Sharma, +91 9811 576 772, manu@climaterevolution.net

www.climaterevolution.net

Climate Change Report Vindicates IPCC

Gurgaon, Nov 17, 2010 -- On several occasions last year, Environment Minister Jairam Ramesh spoke of Indian science versus western science as if the laws of physics and chemistry changed as one crossed borders. The media went along with the minister and represented predictions of climate impacts made by Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) as overhyped and exaggerated.

In March this year, Ramesh went as far as writing a letter to the council reviewing IPCC suggesting that contrary scientific opinion must be included in IPCC reports implying that there was active suppression of contrary scientific opinion within the panel.

Therefore it came as no surprise when the Ministry of Environment and Forests formed Indian Network for Climate Change Assessment (INCCA) last year, bringing together over 220 scientists from across the country ostensibly to temper the supposedly exaggerated claims of IPCC with sound Indian science.

It must have come as a setback to the ministry when INCCA compiled its report, released this week, indicating results mostly in line with IPCC predictions and sometimes even go beyond them. The report notes that India's temperature on average will rise to 2 degree C by 2030s itself rather than 2050s as IPCC had predicted for South Asian region.

The report also indicates greater incidence of extreme rainfall, more intense cyclones, decreasing agricultural productivity, rising sea levels, forests more vulnerable to fires and higher human mortality from diseases due to higher temperatures. Almost every single prediction made by the INCCA report is in line with those made by the IPCC.

#####

About Climate Revolution

Climate Revolution Initiative is a public awareness campaign that can potentially transform the social and political climate on climate change in India and be replicated in any part of the world. The ambitious initiative aims to educate and mobilise the public to force the governments to change. It uses Right to Information (RTI) act and media disclosures as key tools to bring about shift in public consciousness about the threat of climate change and about government's unsustainable developmental pathway. Climate Revolution Initiative is led by Manu Sharma, an activist and renewable energy expert. Full details about its RTI Initiative, including scanned replies from various govt. authorities, are available on www.climaterevolution.net/rti