

State of Global Climate Report 2020

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In news

As per the state of Global climate report, the year 2020 is among the warmest years on record

Key findings of the report

- The World Meteorological Organization's (WMO) provisional report states that year 2020 is expected to go down as one of the warmest in history with global temperatures about 1.2°C above the pre-industrial (1850-1900) level
- The report also says 2011-20 will be the warmest decade on record, with the warmest six years all coming since 2015. The warmest year on record is 2016, followed closely by 2020.
- Secretary of WMO says that there is at least a one in five chance of global temperatures temporarily exceeding the pre-industrial level by 1.5°C by 2024.
- WMO's provisional report is based on data findings between January-October 2020. A final report will be released in March.
- As per the report, the past six years, 2015 to 2020, are set to make up all six of the hottest years since modern records began in 1850
- It also adds that temperature averages across the last five years, and across the last 10-year period, "are also the warmest on record
- the WMO said that oceans, which have absorbed 93% of heat captured by greenhouse gases since the 1970s, registered record heat levels
- The data in the report showed that more than 80% of the ocean experienced a marine heatwave at some time during

this year, with marine ecosystems already suffering from more acidic waters as a consequence of carbon dioxide absorption.

- The report estimates that there is at least a 20% chance that global average temperatures will temporarily increase by more than 1.5 degrees Celsius by 2024, from 1850 to 1900 levels, the UN agency estimated.
- In the 2015 Paris Agreement, countries pledged to take action to cut greenhouse gas emissions in order to keep global warming below 2°C and ideally close to 1.5°C by the end of this century