

Climate Change Impact on Indian Farms

Climate change is causing frequent and intense natural calamities affecting farming and farmers across the globe. Human-induced climate change is causing detrimental impacts on crops, making them more vulnerable when extreme weather hits. However, farmers who practice natural farming methods seem to be an exception as their crops appear to withstand extreme weather conditions better.

Cyclone Michaung, a storm that brought heavy rainfall across India's southeastern coast, destroying 600,000 acres of crops in Andhra Pradesh state. However, Ratna Raju, a natural farmer who grows paddy, found that the rainwater on his natural farm seeped into the ground in just one day, unlike the flooded fields of his neighboring farmers.

Local and federal government initiatives have resulted in an estimated 700,000 farmers shifting to natural farming in the state, with a goal of inspiring all of its six million farmers to take up natural farming by the end of the decade. The Indian federal government has also allocated funds to promote natural farming and encourages farmers in India to adopt the practice.

However, activists and farmers claim that skepticism about natural farming among political leaders, government bureaucrats and scientists is still high due to trust in the existing chemical-based farming models for maximum productivity. More support, subsidies, and standards need to be in place to encourage farmers to shift to natural farming, advocates say.

Fuertes lluvias y vientos causan estragos en Mumbai, India

Fuertes lluvias acompañadas de vientos violentos azotaron Mumbai, la capital financiera de India, el lunes, dejando al menos ocho personas muertas, arrancando árboles y causando apagones en varias partes de la ciudad, según funcionarios.

Las muertes fueron causadas por un gran cartel publicitario que se derrumbó sobre una multitud de personas que buscaban refugio, dijo un funcionario local.

Más tarde, el lunes, los trabajadores de rescate de la fuerza nacional de desastres de India y los oficiales de policía locales seguían trabajando para ayudar a decenas de personas atrapadas entre los escombros en el suburbio del este de Ghatkopar. En las redes sociales mostraron el cartel balanceándose en la tormenta antes de derrumbarse.

Un testigo, Swapnil Khupte, dijo que cuando la lluvia y el viento empeoraron, él y sus amigos habían buscado refugio en una gasolinera cerca del cartel. Cuando se derrumbó, dijo, muchas de las personas atrapadas bajo él eran mujeres y niños.

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