डाॅ० जितेन्द्र सिंह

राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार), विज्ञान एवं प्रौधोगिकी मंत्रालय; राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार) पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय; राज्य मंत्री, प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय; राज्य मंत्री कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत एवं पेंशन मंत्रालय; राज्य मंत्री परमाणु ऊर्जा विभाग तथा राज्य मंत्री अंतरिक्ष विभाग भारत सरकार



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MESSAGE

The unprecedented increase in natural hazards in recent years, the retreating of almost all the glaciers world over, and depleting Arctic sea ice are indications of the worsening scenario of global climate change. Antarctica, the storehouse of millions of year-old ice, is reeling under this impact. The warming climate is resulting in a ten-fold increase in the loss of ice shelves around the continent, which provide a much-needed buttress to the continental ice and reduce the latter's slide to the Southern Ocean.

Indian scientists have been working relentlessly in both the Arctic and Antarctic Polar Regions for several decades in tandem with the international community to decipher the complex land-sea-ice interaction in the coupled system. A robust model that establishes the teleconnections between Polar Regions and the Indian Summer Monsoon is underway and will usher in an era of nuanced understanding in monsoon sciences.

The enactment of the Indian Antarctic Act- 2022 and the issuance of the document on Arctic Policy and the Deep Ocean Mission recently demonstrates India's priority for protecting the fragile environment of the Polar Regions and the oceans surrounding it. India has a large pool of scientists engaged in research in various scientific domains in Polar Regions. I am happy to note that several members from various institutes are assembling shortly in New Delhi to discuss the scientific and geopolitical issues about the Arctic and the Antarctic, as also the impact on the Indo-Pacific Region as a consequence of the likelihood of opening the Northern Sea Route.

I wish the Conference great success.

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