# Global Climate Risk Index (CRI) 2025

#### 1.Introduction

- The **Global Climate Risk Index (CRI)** is published annually by **Germanwatch**, a Germany-based environmental think tank.
- It assesses the impact of **extreme weather events** (such as storms, floods, and heatwaves) on countries worldwide.
- The ranking reflects both the number of lives lost and economic losses due to climate-related disasters.

### 2. India's Ranking in CRI 2025

- Long-Term CRI (1995-2024): India ranked 9th, showing improvement from 8th last year.
- Annual CRI 2024: India ranked 15th, improving from 10th in the previous year.
- The report indicates progress in India's climate resilience and disaster preparedness, though challenges persist.

## 3. Key Findings of the CRI 2025 Report

- Period covered: 1995-2024 (30 years).
- Extreme weather events in India: Around 430 events recorded.
- Fatalities: Over 80,000 deaths.
- Economic losses: Approximately USD 170 billion.
- Release venue: The report was presented at the UN Climate Summit (COP30) in Belem, Brazil.

#### 4. Global Context

- Between 1995 and 2024, the world experienced:
  - Over 9,700 extreme weather events.
  - Around 832,000 deaths.

- Economic losses exceeding USD 4.5 trillion.
- Most affected countries (long-term):
  - Dominica, Myanmar, and Honduras.
- Most affected in 2024:
  - St Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada, and Chad.
- Nearly 40% of the global population (about 3 billion people) live in the 11 most climate-affected nations, including India and China.

# 5. India's Climate Challenges

India continues to face recurrent and severe weather disasters, including:

- Cyclones: Hudhud (2014), Amphan (2020).
- Floods: Uttarakhand floods (2013), Kerala floods (2018).
- Heatwaves: 1998, 2002, 2003, and 2015.
- Droughts and erratic monsoons affecting agriculture and livelihoods.

These recurring disasters highlight India's **high exposure and vulnerability** to climate variability.

## 6. Reasons for India's Improved Ranking

- Enhanced early warning systems for cyclones and floods.
- Better disaster preparedness and response mechanisms.
- Implementation of climate adaptation and mitigation policies at national and state levels.
- Community-based disaster management and focus on resilient infrastructure.
- Strengthening of **institutional mechanisms** for rapid recovery and risk reduction.

## 7. Major Government Initiatives

• National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) (2008):

 Framework for 8 national missions (e.g., solar energy, sustainable agriculture, water, Himalayan ecosystem).

#### • Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI):

 Launched by India in 2019 to promote climate-resilient infrastructure globally.

#### State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCCs):

Localised strategies aligned with NAPCC goals.

#### National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA):

 Strengthening preparedness, early warning systems, and disaster response capacity.

#### Renewable Energy Expansion:

 Target of 500 GW non-fossil fuel capacity by 2030 and achieving Net Zero by 2070.

### 8. Exam-Oriented Key Facts

Aspect Details

**Report Name**Global Climate Risk Index (CRI) 2025 **Released By**Germanwatch (Germany-based NGO)

Released At COP30, Belem, Brazil India's Rank (Long-Term) 9th (1995–2024)

**India's Rank (2024 Annual)** 15th **Fatalities (India, 1995-2024)** 80,000+

Economic Losses ~USD 170 billion

Most Affected Countries (Long-Term) Dominica, Myanmar, Honduras

Most Affected in 2024 St Vincent & the Grenadines, Grenada, Chad

# 9. Global and Policy Implications

- **Developing nations** remain the most vulnerable to climate change despite contributing the least to emissions.
- Even **industrialised nations** (like the US, France, Italy) appear in the top 30, showing that **no country is immune**.
- Repetitive climate shocks in nations such as India, Haiti, and the Philippines hinder long-term recovery.
- There is a pressing need for climate finance, technology transfer, and capacity-building support to developing countries.

#### 10. The Road Ahead for India

- Continue investing in **climate-resilient infrastructure** and **nature-based solutions**.
- Strengthen local-level adaptation and early warning systems.
- Enhance coordination between national and state agencies for disaster management.
- Promote green financing, renewable energy, and sustainable agriculture.
- Engage actively in **global climate negotiations** to ensure equitable climate finance and technology access.

#### 11. Conclusion

India's improved position in the Global Climate Risk Index 2025 reflects **progress in resilience and policy action**, yet underscores **ongoing vulnerabilities** to climate extremes. Sustained efforts in **mitigation**, **adaptation**, **and sustainable development** are crucial to safeguard livelihoods, ecosystems, and economic stability in the face of a warming planet.

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