

State of Climate in Asia 2024 Report

Source: IE

The <u>World Meteorological Organization (WMO)</u> released the <u>State of Climate in Asia</u> 2024 report that revealed **Asia** warmed nearly **twice as fast** as the **global average** in **2024**, marking its **hottest** or **second-hottest year on record**.

Key Findings:

- Unprecedented warming: Asia's 2024 temperature was 1.04°C above the 1991-2020 average, with warming rates doubling since 1961-1990.
- Heatwaves: In India, extreme <u>heat waves</u> claimed over 450 lives, pushed temperatures to 45-50°C, and, along with storms, caused around 1,300 deaths due to lightning.
 - Marine heatwaves impacted around 15 million sq km, particularly the northern Indian Ocean and seas near Japan, China.
- Tropical Cyclones: In Asia, 29 tropical cyclones struck in 2024, with the deadliest being <u>Cyclone Yagi</u> (Philippines, Vietnam, Hong Kong, Macau, China, Laos, Thailand, and Myanmar)
 - The Indian subcontinent was hit by Cyclones Remal, Fengal, Dana and Asna.
- Glacial Retreat: Glaciers continued to lose mass, as 23 out of 24 glaciers in High Mountain
 Asia (Himalayas, Pamir Mountains, Karakoram, and Hindu Kush) showed decline,
 with Urumqi Glacier No. 1 (Tian Shan) recording its highest melt since 1959.
- WMO, headquartered in Geneva, is an intergovernmental body with 193 Member States and Territories, including India.
 - It evolved from the International Meteorological Organization (IMO), founded after the 1873 Vienna Congress.

Read More: State of the Global Climate 2023: WMO

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