



Extreme Weather and Human Casualty

Why in News?

As per the preliminary reports of the [Indian Meteorological Department \(IMD\)](#), **Madhya Pradesh has reported the highest number of casualties** due to extreme weather events in 2023.

Key Points

- Witnessing over **2,376 casualties** due to extreme weather events, the year 2023 was the warmest on record since 1901 as per the IMD.
- The annual mean **land surface air temperature** averaging over India during 2023 was 0.65 degree Celsius above the long-term average (1981-2010 period), making it the second warmest year on record since 1901.
- Globally, the year **2023 was the "warmest year on record"** with the global mean temperature around $1.40 (\pm 0.12)$ degree Celsius above the pre-industrial level (1850 - 1900 average) till October.
 - **Final figures will be released later by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO)** considering the global average temperatures of November and December.
- The significant rise in global temperatures, as well as in India, could be attributed to [El-Nino conditions](#) (warming of sea surface temperatures in the central and eastern tropical Pacific Ocean that impacts monsoon negatively).
 - The WMO has already identified that **the warming El Nino event is likely to "contribute to the heat in 2024"**.
- **Thunderstorms and lightning**, put together, were the **biggest killers** in the country followed by [floods](#) and heavy rain.

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