

Q. Climate Vulnerability Index has analyzed 640 districts in India to assess their vulnerability to extreme weather events. Discuss how the various Indian states have fared?

• Council for Energy, Environment and Water, a not-for-profit think tank in India has come up with an assessment of 640 Indian districts taking into account the exposure, sensitivity and adaptivity mechanism. and has prepared a Climate Vulnerability Index (CVI) accordingly.

The assessment holds importance on the backdrop of incessant weather events across the country. The study states that 27 of 35 states and UTs are prone to hydrological and meteorological hazards. Around 480 districts are to experience extreme weather events and nearly half of them are exhibiting a 'swapping trend'.

CVI has ranked 20 states out of which Assam, Andhra Pradesh are the most vulnerable with Karnataka, Bihar, Maharashtra not far behind.

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North-Eastern states are vulnerable to floods while South and central are to droughts.

States like Kerala, West Bengal, Tripura have fared better in the Index thanks to their mitigation strategies and administrative co-operation. It is pertinent to note that 60% of districts have low adaptive capacity to ~~cope~~ the disasters.

Preparing a wholistic action plan including 'Climate Risk Atlas' to map the areas and integrating with restoration of natural ecosystems with the help of CVI-based financial channels can help reduce the Impact of such unprecedented weather events.