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MEDIA RELEASE
COMMONWEALTH ACADEMIES OF SCIENCE CONSENSUS STATEMENT
ON CLIMATE CHANGE

GLOBAL RELEASE: 12 March, 2018.

The Indian National Science Academy has joined science leaders from around the globe to call on the Commonwealth Heads of Government to use the best available science to guide action on climate change.

The call is part of a Consensus Statement on [Climate Change](#), launched today by 21 national academies and societies of science from around the Commonwealth, ahead of next month's Commonwealth summit in the United Kingdom.

The consensus statement, which represents the consensus views of tens of thousands of scientists, is the first time that the scientists and academia of Commonwealth nations have come together to urge their Governments to take further action to achieve net-zero greenhouse gases emissions during the second half of the 21st Century.

Prof. Ajay K Sood, President of the Indian National Science Academy said that the greenhouse gas emission reduction commitments agreed to by 160 parties in the 2015 Paris Agreement are only the first step in a long journey. "Even if all the country commitments from the Paris Agreement are met, the latest data shows that by the end of the century the global climate is likely to be 3°C above pre-industrial levels. This is substantially higher than the Paris target to limit warming to less than 2°C, and would have profound impacts affecting billions of people throughout the world".

Sustainability is one of the key themes to be discussed by Commonwealth leaders at the 2018 Commonwealth summit, with a particular focus on the resilience of developing and vulnerable countries to climate change. Recognising different capacities, challenges and priorities, the approaches of each nation will not be the same. But, they must be informed by the best available scientific evidence, monitoring and evaluation.

The Indian National Science Academy stands ready and pledges to assist the Indian Government, and indeed broader Commonwealth efforts, by providing sound scientific advice on issues relating to climate change. It will also assist in formulation a serious, mission mode action plan, based on its own experience and scientific expertise.

The Commonwealth Science Academies Consensus Statement on Climate Change, including the list of signatories by country, can be found [here](#). A video on the Consensus Statement can be viewed [here](#).

Professor Ajay K Sood, President, Indian National Science Academy

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