

CLIMATE CHANGE/ENVIRONMENT

Large parts of Russia's Far East could become habitable by the late 21st century due to climate change, a new study by researchers from Krasnoyarsk Federal Research Centre, Russia and the National Institute of Aerospace, US has found.

- The experts applied the two scenarios of mild and extreme climate change to find their effects on three climate indices that are important for human livelihood and well-being ecological landscape potential. (ELP), winter severity and permafrost coverage.
- The researchers found that the ELP for human sustainability would improve in more than 15% of the area, which could allow for a five-fold increase in the capacity of the territory to sustain human populations in the event of mild climate change.
- In the event of extreme climate change, simulations showed that by the 2080s, the Far East "would have a milder climate, with less permafrost coverage". "Previous human migrations have been associated with climate change," said Elena Parfenova, from the Krasnoyarsk center.



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Government of India has exuded confidence that the renewable energy target of 175 gigawatt (GW) by 2022 would be achieved. The minister in charge of power and new and renewable energy ministry, Raj Kumar Singh said that 80 GW of renewable energy has been established while another 24 GW is under installation.

"The overall renewable energy established capacity has reached 80,000 MW level. 24,000 MW is under installation. For 42,000 MW, bids are at different stages. So, the total is 1,46,000 MW and the target is for 1,75,000 MW (175 GW)," he said. "We will achieve the target," Singh emphasized. Speaking about his priorities, he said the top priority will remain to achieve the targets set by the government. The government has set an ambitious target of installing 175 GW of renewable energy capacity by 2022, which includes 100 GW from solar, 60 GW from wind, 10 GW from bio-power and 5 GW from small hydro-power. Various research reports, however, have cautioned that India is unlikely to meet the energy targets for wind and solar power. India is likely to install 54-7 GW of wind capacity by 2022 against the 60 GW target set by the government, Fitch Solutions Macro Research has said in a report. The agency said, it remains cautious on India meeting its ambitious 2022 targets for wind power capacity growth as land acquisition issues and grid bottlenecks would lead to delays in project implementation in the sector.