



## 11<sup>th</sup> WMO Scientific Conference on Weather Modification

3-7 November 2025

Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune

### PRESS RELEASE

The Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune, proudly announces that the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has selected IITM to host the **11th WMO Scientific Conference on Weather Modification**, scheduled to be held from **3 to 7 November 2025** in Pune, India.

The **11th WMO Scientific Conference on Weather Modification** taking place at IITM is a revival of the WMO legacy conference. The last conference took place in 2011. The conference focuses on weather modification, with special emphasis on scientific advances in the field. The main themes of the Conference include observational studies and field campaigns; laboratory facilities and studies relevant to the different weather modification topics; numerical modeling, model intercomparisons, verification and assessment studies; new technological developments in seeding platforms, seeding material and methods of delivery, Data-driven models, AI/ML, and statistical methods as applied to current and previous experiments and projects. The conference also addresses the physical and socio-economic environment aspects, including environmental issues, user requirements, cost-benefit studies, inadvertent weather modification, climate change, and geoengineering.

This year's conference, hosted by **IITM Pune**, will provide a global platform for renowned scientists, subject experts, and young researchers from India and abroad to exchange ideas and insights on cutting-edge developments in the field. The conference will begin and conclude with sessions focused on the fundamentals of cloud physics and designing weather modification projects around the world. Major research and operational projects will be highlighted at this conference.

The conference will feature 16 sessions covering 10 major topics in weather modification. Over 400 participants - including 78 students, 148 Indian scientists, and 150 international delegates - are expected to attend. Keynote and regular lectures by distinguished scientists and experts in the field of cloud physics are planned, along with poster sessions and panel discussions on the challenging topics of weather modification research.

IITM has been at the forefront of research in **cloud physics and weather modification** since its inception. In the recent past, IITM has successfully conducted the Cloud Aerosol Interaction and Precipitation Enhancement Experiment (CAIPEEX) in the country to investigate the rain enhancement through cloud seeding and to document/formulate the guidelines for conducting cloud seeding. The results from this experiment showed a positive impact on the precipitation on the ground from seeding. The WMO recommendations were followed in CAIPEEX to demonstrate and make guidelines for catchment-scale weather modification operations for rain enhancement. Considering the rapid urbanisation and climate change, the aerosol-cloud interaction and impact on precipitation need concerted efforts to detect, understand and bring the science to society. The conference is giving a platform to discuss many facets of the complex and controversial subject. However, the subject is of significant relevance for water security and sustainability.

As a prelude to this 11th WMO conference, a Curtain Raiser Event will be held on 2 November 2025 at the Meghdoot Auditorium, IITM Pune, in the presence of distinguished guests, including Dr. Abdulla Al Mandous, President, World Meteorological Organization, Geneva, Switzerland, Dr. M. Ravichandran, Hon'ble Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Government of India, Dr. M. Mohapatra, DGM IMD, Dr. Suryachandra Rao, Director, IITM, and other dignitaries.

IITM cordially invites the print and electronic media to cover the event on 2 November 2025 including a press brief by the President, WMO, Hon'ble Secretary, MoES, Govt. of India, DGM, IMD and the Director, IITM.

