

1) Given that the significant effects of climate change are becoming increasingly evident in today's world, do you think action for climate change stands a better chance of resonating with the millennial generation? I know you are from Calcutta, which is in great danger as a city below sea level; do you think we require personal experience of something before we are drawn to take action?

A. I don't think the millennial generation can be blamed for the lack of movement on climate change. It is their elders who have failed to confront the issue. Kolkata is indeed in a very vulnerable position, but experience shows that this need not necessarily lead to either awareness or action.

2) Will action for climate change always be limited to an extent by the fact that it is largely dependent on government policies? Given the current political climate, is climate change being overshadowed in the public consciousness?

A. It is certainly true that climate change hardly figures in the public consciousness in India, even for those who have suffered directly.

3) Why do you think that climate change does not receive more attention in modern literature - why are more writers not focusing on this issue of such vital importance?

A. These are exactly the questions I've tried to address in 'The Great Derangement'.

4) How capable is modern society of being able to "manage" the earth's resources?

A. Modern society has proved to be disastrously profligate with the earth's resources. Whether it can change is a moot question.

5) You must be invited to a lot of literary festivals, did *Mountain Echoes* resonate with you particularly given the setting of Bhutan, the country's efforts to retain its ecology and the relevance of this to your most recent book *The Great Derangement: Climate Change and the Unthinkable*?

A. I have never visited Bhutan so this is an excellent opportunity.

6) How do you think that cultural festivals such as *Mountain Echoes* can support your call to action for issues such as climate change? With whom are you most looking forward to debating and sharing ideas?

A. My book is not so much a call to action as an attempt to address the challenges that climate change poses to contemporary art and literature. I look forward to discussing my ideas with others who are interested in these questions.