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Those who are climate change deniers are stupid: Pope Francis

Pope Francis talks to journalists during a press conference aboard a plane to Rome at the end of his visit to Colombia September 11 (Reuters)

Updated: Sep 11, 2017, 11:22 PM IST, PTI



The pontiff quoted a phrase from the Old Testament that said 'man is stupid, a stubborn and a blind man'

Pope Francis today slammed climate change doubters as "stupid" in the wake of a spate of hurricanes that have thrashed the US, Mexico and the Caribbean.

"Those who deny it (climate change) should go to the scientists and ask them. They are very clear, very precise," the pontiff said today during a press conference on the return leg of a five-day Colombia trip.

"A phrase from the Old Testament comes to mind: 'man is stupid, a stubborn, blind man,'" he added.

Francis said individuals and politicians had a "moral responsibility" to act on advice from scientists, who had clearly outlined what must be done to halt the course of global warming.

"These aren't opinions pulled out of thin air. They are very clear," he said.

"They (world leaders) decide and history will judge those decisions," he added.

The pope has been an ardent supporter of efforts to combat climate change and its consequences to the world's most vulnerable populations, in terms of pollution, disease, wars and migration.

He has regularly criticised politicians in comments seen by many as a swipe at President Donald Trump's decision to pull the United States out of the COP21 Paris Agreement which binds countries to national pledges to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

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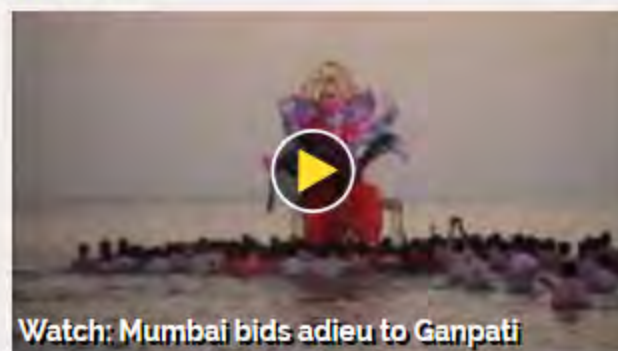


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