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Global warming will delay next ice age, say scientists – 6th March 2025

Level 0

The next ice age will be late. An ice age is a long time of freezing weather. It brings a huge increase in ice in the world. The researchers think the next ice age will be in 10,000 years. It could be delayed because of climate change. This could make it "very unlikely" that the next ice age will arrive on time.

A researcher looked at one million years of climate data. He studied how past ice ages happened. He looked at how ice affects the Earth's axis and global temperatures. When the amount of ice does not change, ice ages happen at regular intervals. The researcher said less ice means a longer gap between ice ages.

Level 1

The next ice age will be late. An ice age is a long time of freezing weather. There is a huge increase in the amount of ice in the world. Mountain glaciers become bigger. The researchers are from the UK. They think the next ice age will arrive in 10,000 years. However, that could be delayed because of human activity and climate change. Global warming could make it "very unlikely" that the next ice age will arrive on time.

Melting ice in the North and South Poles will push back the ice age. A researcher studied how past ice ages happened. He looked at one million years of climate data. He found relationships between the Earth's axis, global temperatures, and the amount of ice at the North and South Poles. When the amount of ice is stable, ice ages happen at regular intervals. The researcher said less ice means a longer gap between ice ages.

Level 2

Researchers say the next ice age will be late. An ice age is a long period of freezing temperatures. There is a huge increase in the amount of ice at the North and South Pole. In addition, mountain glaciers become bigger. The researchers are from Cardiff University. They believe the next ice age should arrive in 10,000 years from now. However, the researchers think the next ice age could be delayed because of human activity. A member of the research team said climate change could delay it. She said global warming could make it "very unlikely" that the next freeze will arrive on time.

The scientists said melting ice in the North and South Poles will push back the ice age. Researcher Professor Stephen Barker studied how past ice ages happened. He looked at one million years of climate data. He found relationships between changes in the Earth's axis, global temperatures, and the size of Antarctica and the Arctic. When the amount of ice was stable, ice ages happened at regular intervals. However, Professor Barker said less ice means a longer gap between ice ages. He said Earth's climate is "an interconnected system of complex processes".

Level 3

Researchers say they know when the next ice age will come. Wikipedia says: "An ice age is a long period of reduction in the temperature of Earth's surface and atmosphere, resulting in the presence or expansion of continental and polar ice sheets, and alpine glaciers." The researchers are from Cardiff University in the UK. They predicted that the next ice age should arrive in 10,000 years from now. However, the scientists believe it could be delayed because of human activity. A member of the research team said climate change could delay the next ice age. She said global warming could make it "very unlikely" that the next freeze will arrive on time.

The scientists said melting glaciers in the North and South Poles will push back the next ice age. Lead researcher Professor Stephen Barker studied what caused past ice ages to happen. His team looked at nearly one million years of climate data. They found that there was a relationship between changes in the Earth's axis, global temperatures, and the size of Antarctica and the Arctic. When the amount of ice on the continental ice sheets was stable, ice ages happened at regular intervals. However, Professor Barker said less ice means a longer gap between ice ages. He added: "Earth's climate is an interconnected system of complex processes, all acting together to produce the changes we observe."