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UN climate chief throws weight behind Pachauri

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he would go ahead to complete the Fifth IPCC Assessment Report.

However, Boer admitted that the mistake — that the Himalayan glaciers will melt by 2035 — gave the skeptics an opportunity to question the science of climate change but pointed that there will always be the margins of uncertainty in science. “The scientific community has made clear that other criticisms (regarding Amazon forests and disappearing of ice from mountain peaks) have proved to be unfounded,” the climate chief noted.

Boer maintained that nobody was denying that the Himalayan glaciers were disappearing fast as a result of climate change. “What is happening now is comparable with the Titanic sinking more slowly than expected. But that does not alter the inevitable consequences,

unless rigorous action to reduce green house gas emissions is taken,” he asserted.

Meanwhile, Ramesh said Pachauri has the support of the Government at the highest level as the UN climate change panel’s head.

“The Government backs Pachauri as the chief of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) at the highest level. Past is past,” he said.

Ramesh’s support to Pachauri comes a day before Prime Minister Manmohan Singh inaugurated a global event here organised by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), which is headed by Pachauri.

“The Government supports him (Pachauri) to the hilt,” maintained Ramesh, who had slammed the processes of the UN body over the glaciers melting issue, saying “due diligence was not followed”.