

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4602

ANSWERED ON:04.05.2012

BEARING OF ECONOMIC GROWTH IN CLIMATE CHANGE

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Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the economic growth has a definite bearing on climate change in future;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the comments/views of the Government thereupon during the last three years;
- (d) whether any public opinion has been sought in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) to (b) The Indian economy has been growing rapidly since 1990s. Such growth has been demanding of energy requirements. India's per capita GHG emissions in the form of CO₂ are among the lowest in the world. India's contributions to the stock of GHG and CO₂ atmospheric emission are miniscule.

(c) India has voluntarily announced a domestic goal of reducing the GHG emission intensity of its GDP by 20-25 per cent of the 2005 level by 2020. By doing so India is expecting to reduce the impact of its growth on climate change. Through the eight National Missions and other steps to conserve energy, we are also expecting to reduce the adverse impact of climate change on sustainable and inclusive development. Economic growth rate of 7- 9 per cent per annum has been achieved with an energy growth of less than 4% per annum. This reduced energy intensity, at the relatively low level of India's per capita GDP, has been made possible by a range of factors, including India's historically low patterns of consumption, enhanced competitiveness, proactive policies to promote energy efficiency, and more recently, initiatives such as the use of the Clean Development Mechanism to accelerate the adoption of clean energy technologies.

(d) to (e) India has adopted the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) under the auspices of the Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change in 2008, which included a process of wide consultations with all key actors, scientific community and civil society, thereby reflecting public opinion broadly. The eight National Missions were derived and form the core of the NAPCC goals in the context of climate change.