

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4213

ANSWERED ON:16.12.2009

INDIA'S RANK IN ECONOMIC FREEDOM OF WORLD

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India ranked 86th in the 'Economic Freedom of the World-2009 Annual Report' released recently by the Centre for Civil Society, down from its last year rank of 77;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons given in the report for down ranking of India;
- (c) the reaction of the Government in this regard; and
- (d) the corrective measures taken by the Government to improve its ranking in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V.NARAYANASAMY)

(a) to (c): Yes Madam. India in 2007 ranked 86th in the index for Economic Freedom calculated by Economic Freedom Network in the "Economic Freedom of the World-2009 Annual Report" prepared in collaboration with Centre for Civil Society (CCS). This is the estimate of an independent research institute using their own norms and weights in the calculation of the Index.

(d): The Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-2012) aims at achieving an accelerated growth in the economy which is also more inclusive and yields broad based benefits and ensures equality of opportunity for all. The commitment of the Plan towards inclusiveness is reflected in the monitorable targets relating to Education, Health, Income & Poverty, Women & Children environment and infrastructure, etc. Both Central and State Governments have initiated a number of programmes to achieve equitable and inclusive growth. In addition, there are specially targeted anti-poverty programmes for the poor and disadvantaged groups. Improving delivery and governance are also receiving attention of the Government. These measures would interalia go a long way in attaining 'Economic Freedom' from an Indian perspective.