

A CASE STUDY:

Global warming: A future threst for the economy of maldives

SUKANTA SARKAR

Asian Journal of Environmental Science, (June, 2011) Vol. 6 No. 1 : 93-95

Correspondence to :

SUKANTA SARKAR

Department of
Economics, Faculty of
Management, Institute
of Chartered Financial
Analysis of India
University,
AGARTALA
(TRIPURA) INDIA
sukantaeco@gmail.com

SUMMARY

In this study an attempt to has been made assess the overall impact of global warming on the economy of Maldives. The results indicate that as Maldives is a lower land country, rising sea level will badly affect the economy of Maldives. Many islands will be shrunk for that reason. Government of Maldives has already taken various initiatives for globalize the issue and want to convince the international leaders about the bad affect of global warming. Thus, the paper suggests that international community will take strict initiatives against the global warming, as it is a global issue and more or less all countries are getting affected by the global warming.

Sarkar, Sukanta (2011). Global warming: A future threst for the economy of maldives. *Asian J. Environ. Sci.*, 6(1): 93-95.

Key words :

Development,
Island, Poverty,
Sea and Tourism

Global warming means increase in the average temperature of earth near-surface air and oceans. Global warming is when the earth heats up (the temperature rises). It happens when greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, and methane) trap heat and light from the sun in the earth's atmosphere, which increases the temperature (Global Warming, 2011). Global warming is now-a-days more concerning matter for the economy of Maldives. The Maldives is an island nation in the Indian Ocean formed by a double chain of twenty-six atolls stretching in a north-south direction off India's Lakshadweep islands, between Minicoy Island and Chagos Archipelago (Maldives, 2011). About 90 islands are developed as tourist resorts and the rest are uninhabited or used for agriculture and other livelihood purposes. This country was among the most severely affected countries hit by the December 26th, 2004 Asian Tsunami. The Maldives has always been a unique nation. Apart from a period of Portuguese domination in the Sixteenth century and carrying the status of a British Protectorate from 1887 to 1965, the archipelago has been an independent archipelago for at least twenty-five centuries. The population of the Maldives currently stands slightly in excess of a quarter of a million. A common language (Dhivehi) and

a religion (Islam) have been two blessings that unite the people into a cohesive and peaceful society.

The main objectives of this paper are (i) to analyze the present economic status of Maldives (ii) to identify the probable impact of global warming on the economy of the Maldives.

The present study is based on secondary sources. Secondary data have been collected through available literature in form of books, journals, reports and websites.

In ancient times the Maldives were renowned for cowry shells, coir rope, dried tuna fish (Maldivian fish), ambergris (Maavaharu) and coco de mer (Tavakkaashi). As of 2007, the Maldives has successfully promoted its natural assets for tourism. Tourism accounts for 28 per cent of the country's GDP and for more than 60 per cent of the Maldives' foreign exchange. Fishing and fish processing is the second largest industry. Fishing sector employs about 11 per cent of the labour force. The fisheries industry, including fish processing, traditionally contributes about 7% of GDP (Haffmann, 2007). Poor soil and scarce arable land have historically limited agriculture to a few subsistence crops, such as coconut, banana, breadfruit, papayas, mangoes, taro, betel,

Received:

February, 2011

Accepted :

March, 2011