



SIRC TUTICORIN BRANCH NEWS LETTER

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Thoughts of Chairman



Dear esteemed Members and Students,

May 2009, is a month for Indians to have a clear mindset and proud to be citizens of the world's largest democratic country. It is because India is about to elect its members of the 15th Lok Sabha this month. This is the opportunity given to us to elect persons who are going to lead the nation for the next five years.

It is time for us to think wise. At this time of great economic crisis, our decisions in this election will not only affect us, but also the whole world. As our former president Dr.A.P.J.Abdul Kalam said "The right to vote is a sacred right" which is given to us to make the nation a sacred one. Hence, I request my dear colleagues and my beloved students to compulsorily vote in this election and contribute to the success of our nation.

If we do not vote we are failing in our duties as citizens. Make sure that your names appear in the voters list and you have the voters ID. Also make sure you exercise your vote in favour of development and growth of our country.

India is one of the few countries in the world, which gained independence without violence. So let us take oath to vote against violence. Beware of some political tricks which create crisis among us by using the emotional factors like caste religion etc for the benefit of some selfish politicians.

At this great moment I quote the words of Mark Twain, "India is, the cradle of the human race, the birth place of human speech, the mother of history, the grand mother of legend, and the great grand mother of tradition. Our most valuable and most instructive materials in the history of man are treasured up in India only". The only thing we can do is to pray for better leaders who at least don't violate this treasure. Think and vote for such leaders.



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It is time for new beginnings
and Let us hope for a better tomorrow

It is time for a change

Change begins with

A change in our mindset

A change in our hearts and

When we say that

We can and we will,

Make a difference

Hence, make the difference by changing our constitution into one without corruption, and let our India free from terrorism and violence by using our voting right. It is our duty..

I also wish my dear students all the best for their June, 2009 examinations. I hope you all prepare well for the examination. You may face a hell of a stress. Prepare well. Though stress is a common thing at the time of exams, don't let the stress to overwhelm your confidence and concentration.

Here are the few tips to follow :

- (1) Develop a time table to monitor your progress.
- (2) Allocate adequate time for relaxation.
- (3) Plan your revision and complete it in time.
- (4) Practice by writing answers as you would do in the exams (This will help to remember important points)
- (5) Sleep at your regular time.
- (6) Take foods containing vitamins and proteins.
- (7) Spend time with people who have a positive effect. These will help you to overcome stress.

CAB.Francis Amal George
Chairman

Global Warming - Continued from April'09 Issue

The numbers can be confusing

12% of all CO₂ released into the atmosphere is related to buildings. This figure varies from one source to the next. Some place the percentage of emissions from buildings as high as 33%. What most of these figures do not address is the actual cause of the CO₂ emissions. In newly constructed buildings, production of



materials used in building and energy used during construction are cited as the cause of carbon dioxide emissions. In existing buildings the CO₂ created by the energy upkeep of the building is the root of the emissions quotient. The general comparison is that buildings consume energy in the way that cars burn fuel. But the pollutants created in providing power for heating, air-conditioning, lights and other usage in buildings has already been factored. Honestly this double billing accounting is more the product of auto manufacturers looking to point the blame for global warming away from gas guzzling cars.

The point to remember is that 98% of all CO₂ emissions are related to energy production and 80% of these emissions become greenhouse gases.

Which now mentioned allows us to follow our chain of event's leading to global warming into the next most defined cause... Methane gas. Methane is released into the atmosphere from a dozen major sources. These include natural and man made emissions. Natural release of Methane is primarily from wetlands, (including agriculture) termites, the ocean, and hydrates. Non-organic releases are based from, landfills, livestock, waste treatment, and biomass burning. (More energy production). Almost all of this is offset by the Earth's ability to absorb around 97% of the methane released into the air. But that remaining 3% is a serious problem. The molecular structure of Methane makes it 20 times as powerful a Greenhouse gas than CO₂. So while there is a great deal less Methane to contend with than CO₂, it is still the second largest link in the global warming events chain. Not every Greenhouse gas is as obvious a villain as Methane. The next most potent problem is simple H₂O water. How can water be a cause of global warming? Our atmosphere contains a set parameter of water as vapor. This vapor absorbs and radiates heat as does every molecule in the air. But when the lower atmosphere (troposphere) has excess water vapor that gaseous H₂O is a potent green house gas. Another of the more commonplace greenhouse gases is Nitrous Oxide. NO₂ can make your car go faster, or make you relax at the dentist. It has quite few beneficial uses. But as a greenhouse gas all it manages to accomplish is to be one more ingredient in our atmospheric soup. Cars using

catalytic converters, fertilizer plants, manufacture of nylon, and nitric acid as well as being produced naturally in our oceans and rain forests, produce Nitrous Oxide.

All of the above plus quite a few other greenhouse gases comprise the foundation of global warming. As above and in all discussion of global warming they are cumulatively referred to as greenhouse gases. To understand the importance of these as the start and endpoint of global warming we must digress into a brief explanation of the greenhouse effect.

The Green House Effect

Anyone who has either spent time in a greenhouse for plants or simply get into a car on a hot summer day has personally experienced the green house effect. Heat enters an enclosed area and then reflects back and forth building upon itself. While the ambient temperature outside might be 85 degrees Fahrenheit, inside an automobile the temperature easily zooms upward to 130F. Simply put, the greenhouse effect is what happens when heat is trapped in one way or another and then increases as more heat radiation is added.

This is fine if you are an orchid or other tropical plant. But living things, including people, require set parameters of climate. When we discuss the greenhouse effect as regarding global warming we place the effect into a specific environment. That is the Earth's atmosphere. When



referencing the Earth, our entire planet becomes the interior of an automobile in the heat of summer. The Earth of course does not have a metal roof or a glass dome around it to trap heat and reflect solar radiation back to its surface. Indeed when drawings depict and descriptions explain the greenhouse effect the principle is simplified to imply that this is the case. Actually the greenhouse effect for the Earth is somewhat different.

When solar radiation passes through out atmosphere the molecules that constitute our air absorb it. The majority of solar heat is absorbed by our planet's surface. Different types of surfaces absorb or reflect heat in different ways. A white blanket of snow will reflect much more heat than freshly paved asphalt. Still everything that the sun's rays fall upon either absorbs or reflects heat.

In the case of our snowy Polar Regions that heat is reflected back from the planet. In the case of our cities it is trapped on the surface. From there it radiates outward where living things attempt to adjust to the relative heat or cold. Our planet's original design was for a balance of all the components. Our atmosphere absorbs enough heat to keep us warm but hopefully not bake us. The angle of the sun in areas such as the poles creates an environment suited to North and South Pole inhabitants. The people, creatures and plant life at the Earth's equator have acclimated to their section of the world.

The greenhouse effect occurs planet wide when solar radiation either bounces off of or is radiated forth from the earth and instead of passing through our atmosphere and outward into space, is absorbed by all kinds of extra amounts of and extraneous gases and particles. These gases et al absorb heat and then radiate it outward in all directions, one of those directions, being the surface of the Earth. From there the process repeats itself until we have a global version of a car with the windows rolled up parked in the noonday sun.

In the long term...

Now, the most obvious thought anyone who did not believe in global warming would think is that all of these factors have existed for millions of years and the fluctuations in them, such as amounts of greenhouse gases and changes in the surface of the Earth are too small to drastically effect climate. In the long term, that is, say a length of 100,000 years that is probably true. The Earth as a master clockwork will probably naturally adjust to all of man's device. But mankind may not be around to appreciate the changes as those same changes may exclude mankind from existence.

Global warming as a chain of events

Once again remember we are attempting to define global warming as a chain of events. The first several of these links is an over abundance of solar radiation absorbing gases and other particles floating about in our atmosphere.

The next grouping of events concerns what happens when the small percentage of increased heat on our planet's surface and in our air begins to effect long standing conditions.

Currently the measured effect of global warming as caused by the greenhouse effect on the planet overall is approximately a 1 degree Celsius increase over the last 50 years. This would seem to mean nothing. One asks, "How could one degree more or less effect anyone or anything." In terms of that "anyone", the effect of a one-degree difference in ambient temperature will probably go unnoticed. Our bodies are designed to adjust to a huge range of climatic conditions. No one of us will notice that today it is 71 degrees outside and fifty

