

## ECONOMIC GROWTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION IN INDIA

*Dr. Pushpanjali Arya*

<sup>1</sup>Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Government Degree College, Barkot (Uttarkashi) Uttarakhand, India

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### **ABSTRACT**

*Today, the urge for economic development has become essential both in developed and developing economies. Developed economies undertake developmental programmes to maintain their rate of economic growth so as to enjoy still higher standards of living and avoid risk of cyclical fluctuations while developing economies emphasize on economic development not only for solving their basic problems of poverty, unemployment, ignorance, backwardness, low productivity etc. but also to touch the level of economic progress which has already been achieved by the rich countries. If economic development is the cause then economic growth is the result. Economic progress in any form is becoming the cause of slow death of environment. Human survival depends upon his harmony with nature. There exists a close relationship between man and nature. In the past man's closeness with nature kept the nature protected but in recent times man is more attracted by the materialistic world and has neglected nature. Economic growth seems to be the main driver of environmental degradation. Economic activities and zest for quick development are threatening the very survival of mankind on the earth. The rapid population growth and economic development in country are degrading the environment through the uncontrolled growth of urbanization and industrialization, expansion and intensification of agriculture and the destruction of natural habitats. This paper aims to explore the relationship between the economic growth and the pressure on nature from the environmental perspective. This paper seeks to study the adverse effects of economic growth on the environment. The study is based on secondary data.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Economic Growth, Environmental Degradation, Natural Resources, Economic Activities, Urbanization, Industrialization.*