

# Energy crisis: problems and solutions

## Introduction

In recent years, Pakistan has been grappling with a severe energy crisis. In 2023, the country faced a shortfall of 7,000 MW with a demand of 28,000 MW and supply of only 21,000 MW. Similarly, during 2021-2022, the shortfall was around 6,000 MW, leading to 14-18 hours of load shedding in rural areas and 6-8 hours in urban areas. The issue has been exacerbated by factors such as industrialization, urbanization and overpopulation. The problems in Pakistan's energy sector are multifaceted including outdated power generation plants, insufficient substantial investment in energy sector, reliance on indigenous resources, dependence on expensive hydro carbon, long term and costly agreements with IPPs. All these challenges requires immediate attention and long term planning to get rid of this issue.