

(CURRENT AFFAIRS)

Q.

How can the energy crisis in Pakistan be resolved? (20 marks)

Ans

1)

INTRODUCTION

Pakistan, an energy deficit country, is facing energy shortages. There are numerous causes for these energy crises. These include mis-administration, mismanagement, economic constraints, circular debt and many more. The energy crisis has many implications. They have made the country vulnerable to industrial underdevelopment, increased unemployment, poverty, compromised law and order situation, and expensive energy generation. Therefore, it is necessary to address these energy crisis through comprehensive strategy.

2) BACKGROUND; PAKISTAN; AN ENERGY DEFICIT COUNTRY

Pakistan is facing energy crisis since many years. There have ~~now~~ been many occasions when the country has tolerated serious shortages of electricity, as well as the energy fuels such as gas, oil, and petroleum. The recent reports have shown that the country has electricity shortfall of 6000 Megawatts.

3) CAUSES OF ENERGY CRISES IN PAKISTAN

There are numerous reasons for the prevailing energy crisis in the country. These may include from misadministration to financial constraints, from lack of advanced technology to circular debt. The Finance Division of Pakistan, data from fiscal year 2024 shows that thermal power contributes 45.88% of electricity generation in the country.

which causes the energy crisis as well.

4) IMPLICATIONS OF ENERGY CRISES IN PAKISTAN

The energy crisis have impacted the country's economic, social, and security situations drastically. The industries have been closed due to increased prices of power. This leads to unemployment, poverty and disturbed law and order conditions. The same fact is also reported by the World Bank.

5) RECOMMENDATIONS TO RESOLVE ENERGY CRISES IN THE COUNTRY

5.1) Ensuring effective administration;

The formulation of long term policies which include promoting renewable energy sources and energy efficiency can resolve the issue. Besides, the efficient implementing system is the need of the hour.

5.2) Sustainable development; shifting from non-renewable energy sources to renewable ones;

The energy crisis can be resolved by ensuring sustainable development. It means that the thermal power such as fossil fuels must be replaced by wind, solar, water, and other renewable forms of energy.

5.3) Producing cheaper electricity;

The fossil fuels which are subjected to the price fluctuations should be replaced by the wind, and solar energy. Because these are cheaper sources as also encouraged by National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA).

5.4) Reducing line losses;

Reducing line and transmission losses is another way to resolve energy crisis. This can be done by introducing advanced technologies, and constructing required infrastructure.

5.5) Bringing advanced technologies;

Bringing advanced technologies like smart grid technologies, and advanced solar and wind plants can reduce energy crisis. This assists in reducing line losses and electricity theft.

5.6) Reducing electricity theft;

Another way to address energy crisis is by reducing electricity theft. This can be achieved by introducing smart meters and ensuring and maintaining law and order situation.

5.7) Constructing and Completing ongoing projects;

Energy shortages of the country can also be reduced by completing under construction projects of dams, and power plants. The Naulong dam in Balochistan, an under construction dam, for instance, if constructed will give 4.4 Megawatt electricity.

5.8) By receiving bilateral and international assistance to get access to advanced and modern technologies;
Energy crisis can be reduced by seeking bilateral or international aid. This involves an access to modern technologies, for civil energy generation. India, for example, has received technological assistance from USA by their Nuclear deal.

WAYS TO RESOLVE ENERGY CRISIS OF PAKISTAN

- Ensuring effective administration
- Shifting from non-renewable sources to renewable ones
- Producing cheaper electricity
- Reducing electricity theft
- Decreasing line losses
- Completing on going projects
- Achieving advanced technology

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CONCLUSION

In a nut shell, Pakistan is an energy deficit country since it is facing electricity, gas, and oil's shortages. The causes and impacts include administrative, economic, and social factors. Thus, it has to address these factors through comprehensive approach which resolve major ongoing problems to get rid of these crises.
