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Research Article

RESOURCE – AN INEVITABLE SOURCE OF LIFE

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ABSTRACT

Resources play a vital role in our lives. There is no life without resources. All living creatures are depending upon the renewable and non-renewable resources in their day-to-day lives. Though the renewable resources are available in plenty, human beings tend to use the non renewable energy resources. This is due to the easy accessibility and availability. Though the resources are the gift of God to humans, people don't know the importance of the gift which is given by God and it is not utilized in a proper manner. These non renewable resources should be utilized carefully and judiciously. This paper discusses the petroleum energy (non-renewable) and the solar energy (renewable) in detail.

INTRODUCTION

Energy sources can be classified as conventional and non conventional sources. There are different types of energy, like wind energy, solar energy, geothermal energy, tidal energy, biomass energy, nuclear energy coal, petroleum and so on. Petroleum is a non renewable resource but if it is used continuously, it will be exhausted very soon. It can't be renewed again and again. If we use solar energy, it can be used in free of cost because now a days solar energy is available in plenty and moreover we can get it free of cost. In the current paper we discuss the solar energy from renewable energy sources and petroleum energy from the non-renewable energy sources.

NON RENEWABLE SOURCE OF ENERGY

The non renewable source of energy is the energy which cannot be reused once it is exhausted. As it can't be replenished, these resources should be used judiciously. So instead of using such kind of energy, it is better to use renewable source of energy, preferably solar energy as it is available in abundance and none can own it. e.g. coal and fossil fuels which is discussed in this paper.

FOSSIL FUELS (PETROLEUM PRODUCTS)

This is the most familiar source of energy used by each and every one of us in our daily lives. These are formed as a result of compression of dead and decayed plant and plant material over a very long period of years. The very important aspect of this energy is that it has plenty of useful carbon content which can be converted to energy. Excessive use of this energy leads to the shortage of it in the near future. As a result we can see a tremendous increase in the price of fuels mainly petrol and diesel.

DISADVANTAGES OF CONVENTIONAL ENERGY

- Consuming these excessively will drain the resource table which cannot be recharged.
- It produces carbon dioxide and is not ecofriendly.
- It leads to global warming.
- It leads to the increase in the temperature of the earth's crust.
- The rise in sea level is a major cause.

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RENEWABLE ENERGY

This is the everlasting, evergreen and will never deplete how much ever we use as it is found enormous in nature. This is also known as non-conventional energy as the name itself suggests, it is not used traditionally or conventionally used over the years. These energy resources will be replenished or renewed and can be reused without any limit. e.g. solar energy.

We considered solar energy in this paper because this is the ultimate source of energy available in plenty. Steps are taken to minimize the cost of the solar panels (photovoltaic panels) and increase the efficiency to use it in automobile industry. Government of India is encouraging people to use this energy and giving many subsidy schemes to the citizens.

Solar energy

As all we know solar energy is the energy harnessed from the sun's rays by the technique of photovoltaic (solar cells). Harnessing of solar energy will not cause any harm to the environment and mankind and so it is eco-friendly. The countries present in the equator and tropical region like in the case of India which receives a large amount of solar rays throughout the year this energy can be tapped and can be used in a useful way. the United Nations Development Programme in its 2000 world energy assessment found that the annual potential of solar energy was 1575-49837 EJ which is several times larger Though there are few disadvantages in the utilization of solar energy it is the only useful source for this large nation. The largest solar plant of India is located in Madhapur in Gujrat. The largest solar plant in the world is located in Mojave Desert in California, which covers 1000 acres. According to than total world energy consumption i.e., 559.8 EJ in 2012. Our earth receives 174 Petawatts of solar rays atmosphere. About 30% is reflected back to space and the rest is absorbed by oceans, clouds and land masses. This enormous magnitude of available solar energy makes it a highly appealing source of energy. According to an article published in the newspaper "Dinamalar" dated 31st march 2017, the temperature of Chennai is increasing gradually day by day. As of now they are able to generate 1,300 megawatt electricity till March 29 (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solar_energy).

According to the data given by Dinamalar on 31st March;

Date	Megawatt
March 25	1,450
March 26	1,422
March 27	1,498
March 28	1,336
March 29	1,329

If they are able to generate this much in onset of summer itself, gradually the sun is becoming very strong due to global warming. Therefore it is expected to increase in the forthcoming months. It is predicted that this will help the needs of the people to some extent.

Merits of solar energy

- It is available in temperate regions like India in abundance and free of cost and accepted ecologically and this is the ideal source of energy in very rural areas for horticulture agricultural farms.
- It has high efficiency and has an annual efficiency of 99% and can be immediately converted to electrical energy whenever required.
- It is a very reliable source of energy moreover they are maintenance free once they are installed.
- It is designed to work even in worst weather condition by employing molten salt as storage method and stabilizes global energy prices for a country.
- As earth receives approximately 1.366 watts of direct solar radiation per square meter, this can be readily used as a power source.

CONCLUSION

As solar energy is available in abundance and easily accessible in countries like India, we need to utilize it in a useful way and minimize the use of conventional energy. More over generation of electricity has come down in recent times and the demand has risen, so this is the best source of energy for mankind. Hence, time has come to switch over to non-conventional energy (solar energy) sources.

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