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INFRASTRUCTURE

Question 6:

What is the significance of energy? Differentiate between commercial and non-commercial sources of energy.

ANSWER:

Energy is the most important component of economic infrastructure. It is a critical aspect of the development process of a nation. It is essential for industries as no commodity is produced without using energy. Now a days, energy is used even in the agricultural sector. It is needed to operate tube-wells, tractors and thrashers. It is also required in houses for cooking. One cannot even think of a day without electricity and other sources of energy like petrol, LPG, etc. So, we can say that energy is lifeline of the entire production activity.

Commercial energy	Non Commercial energy
i. The sources of energy that are available to the users at some price are referred to as commercial	i. The sources of energy that are usually available freely to the users are referred to as non-commercial energy.
energy. ii. This form of energy is used for	ii. This form of energy is used for domestic consumption.
commercial purposes.	iii. For example, Firewood, agricultural
iii. For example, coal, petroleum, natural gas and electricity.	waste, animal waste (cow dung)

Question 7:

What are the three basic sources of generating power?

ANSWER:

The three basic sources of generating power are thermal, hydro-electric, and nuclear power. The thermal power uses heat energy as its base for the production of electricity.

Hydro-electric power involves production of electricity through the use of kineticforce of falling water. And the nuclear power involves the use of sustained nuclear fission to generate electricity.

The thermal sources, hydro-electric sources and nuclear power accounts for 70%, 28% and 2% of the power generation capacity respectively in India.

Question 8:

What do you mean by transmission and distribution losses? How can they be reduced? ANSWER:

Electric power transmission and distribution losses refer to the losses that occur in transmission between the sources of supply and points of distribution. In other words, the loss of power that arises due to the inherent resistance and transformation inefficiencies in the electrical conductors and distribution transformers respectively are called transmission and distribution losses.

The following measures should be taken to reduce power transmission and distribution losses;

- i. Improved technology of transmission and distribution should be used.
- ii. Electricity distribution network should be privatised. This willinfuse efficiency, thereby, eliminating wastages.
- iii. Theft cases of electricity should be handled strictly by the trustworthy employees. Strict imposition of fines and penalties should be imposed.

Question 9:

What are the various non-commercial sources of energy?

ANSWER:

The sources of energy that are generally available free to the users and that do not have a recognized market are referred to as non-commercial energy. This form of energy is used for domestic and for consumption purposes, for example, Firewood, agricultural waste, animal waste (cow dung), etc. These goods neither command a price nor have established market.

Question 10:

Justify that energy crisis can be overcome with the use of renewable sources of energy.

ANSWER:

When the resources are extracted at more rapid pace than its regeneration, then we say that the carrying capacity of the environment reduces. The environment fails to perform its function of sustaining life and this results in an environmental crisis. These environmental crises are the result of a fall in the carrying and absorptive capacity of the environment. In today's scenario, the rate of consumption of resources is faster than the rate of their production. Consequently, the resources get exhausted quickly. But on the other hand, renewable resources get renewed or replenished quickly. These are unlimited and are not affected by human activities, such as solar and wind energy. Hence, energy crises can be overcome by the increased use of cost-effective technology searching renewable of the resources of energy.