

Conventional and Non-Conventional Energy Sources

Chapter 10: Minerals and Energy Resources · Topic 2

Key Concept

Conventional energy sources, mostly fossil fuels like coal and petroleum, have powered industrialisation but are non-renewable and contribute significantly to pollution and climate change.

Non-conventional (renewable) energy sources, like solar and wind power, are increasingly important as they produce less pollution and are not depleted through use.

India has significant potential for renewable energy, given its abundant sunlight and coastal wind patterns, with growing investment in solar and wind power projects.

Transitioning towards non-conventional energy sources is essential for sustainable development, reducing dependence on limited fossil fuels and addressing environmental concerns like climate change.

Quick Revision Notes

- Conventional energy includes coal, petroleum and natural gas.
- These are fossil fuels, mostly non-renewable.
- Conventional energy contributes to pollution and climate change.
- Non-conventional energy includes solar, wind and hydroelectric power.
- These are renewable and produce less pollution.
- India has strong potential for solar and wind energy.
- Investment in renewable energy is growing in India.
- Transitioning to renewables supports sustainable development.

Practice Questions

- 1 List examples of conventional and non-conventional energy sources.
- 2 Discuss why conventional energy sources cause pollution.
- 3 Research a solar or wind energy project in India.
- 4 Explain why renewable energy is considered sustainable.
- 5 Discuss India's potential for renewable energy.
- 6 Debate why transitioning to renewable energy matters.