LECTURE NOTES

ON

RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES

IV B TECH II Sem

JNTUH - R15

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PRINCIPLES OF SOLAR RADIATION

Renewable energy is generally defined as energy that comes from resources which are naturally replenished on a human timescale such as sunlight, wind, rain, tides, waves and geothermal heat. Renewable energy replaces conventional fuels in four distinct areas: electricity generation, hot water/space heating, motor fuels, and rural (off-grid) energy services. Renewable energy is derived from natural processes that are replenished constantly. In its various forms, it derives directly from the sun, or from heat generated deep within the earth. Included in the definition is electricity and heat generated from solar, wind, ocean, hydropower, biomass, geothermal resources, and biofuels and hydrogen derived from renewable resources.

Introduction

The sun is the source of energy that drives the cycle of life and death on earth. It is also the energy source that gives us warmth and evaporates water and melts snow. The sun is about 150,000,000 km away from the Earth. Due to its immense, but finite size, it has an angular diameter of 0.5 degree (32 minutes), as viewed from Earth. Sun burns continuously via thermonuclear reactions (fusion). Inside the sun, radioactive processes releases energy and convection transfers solar energy to its exterior surface. Despite the extremely high temperatures needed at the core of the sun, to sustain its thermonuclear reactions, the sun has a black body temperature of 5770 K. Consequently, we receive a relatively constant flux density of energy, defined as the Solar Constant. Its mean value is 1366 W m⁻².

The earth receives $1.6 \times 10^{18}$ units of energy from the Sun annually, which is 20,000 times the requirement of mankind on the earth. Some of the solar energy causes evaporation of water, leading to rains and creation of rivers etc. Some of its utilized in photosynthesis which is essential for sustenance of life on earth. Man has tried, from time immemorial, to harness this infinite source of energy, but has been able to tap only a negligibly small fraction of this energy.

When light travels from outer space to earth, solar energy is lost because of following reasons:

1. Scattering: The rays collide with particles present in atmosphere
2. Absorption: Because of water vapor there is absorption
3. Cloud cover: The light rays are diffused because of clouds.
4. Reflection: When the light rays hit the mountains present on the earth surface there is reflection.
5. Climate: Latitude of the location, day (time in the year) also affects the amount of solar energy received by the place and Solar Radiation geometry.
In Solar Radiation geometry the following terms are important:

1. **Horizon** is the horizontal plane that extends from the point where the observer is standing, to infinity, straight through space. Since we're only working with relatively short distances (compared to the Universe), a line extending N-S will be quite sufficient.

2. **Altitude (A)** is the angle of the sun over the horizon. In this problem, we will be working with the sun at noon, so it will either be over the N or S horizon.

3. **Zenith (Z)** is the angle that the sun is from directly overhead, and it is equal to 90 - A. It, too, can be over the S or N horizon, but there is little need to state it.

4. **Declination (D)** is the latitude at which the sun is directly overhead. It is always between 23.5 N and 23.5 S latitude, those occurring on the Solstices.

5. **Latitude (L)** is the location N or S of the equator at which the observer is located. (It is determined by radii from the centre of Earth at different angles to the equator. If such an angle is swept along the surface of the planet, it draws a circle.)

**Instruments for measurement of solar radiation**

A pyranometer is a device used to measure global solar radiation, while a pyrheliometer measures direct radiation. A pyranometer is comprised of a thermopile sensor with a black coating, which absorbs all solar radiation, and a glass dome, which limits the spectral response of the thermopile. A pyrheliometer works similarly, but is designed with a solar tracker to keep the device directly aimed at the sun for the duration of the measurement being taken.

**Solar Radiation data**

Solar radiation data is necessary for calculating cooling load for buildings, prediction of local air temperature and for the estimating power that can be generated from photovoltaic cells. Solar radiation falling on the surface of the earth is measured by instruments called pyranometers. The weather service in most countries has many stations to measure solar radiation using pyranometers. In India pyranometers have been used for a long time.

**ENERGY SCENARIO INTRODUCTION**

Any physical activity in this world, whether carried out by human beings or by nature, is cause due to flow of energy in one form or the other. The word ‘energy’ itself is derived from the Greek word ‘en-ergon’, which means ‘in-work’ or ‘work content’. The work output depends on the energy input.
Energy is one of the major inputs for the economic development of any country. In the case of the developing countries, the energy sector assumes a critical importance in view of the ever-increasing energy needs requiring huge investments to meet them.

Energy can be classified into several types based on the following criteria:

- Primary and Secondary energy
- Commercial and Non-commercial energy
- Renewable and Non-Renewable energy
- Conventional and Non-conventional energy

1.1 Primary and Secondary Energy

Primary energy sources are those that are either found or stored in nature. Common primary energy sources are coal, oil, natural gas, and biomass (such as wood). Other primary energy sources available include nuclear energy from radioactive substances, thermal energy stored in earth's interior, and potential energy due to earth's gravity. The major primary and secondary energy sources are shown in Figure 1.1

Primary energy sources are costly converted in industrial utilities into secondary energy sources; for example coal, oil or gas converted into steam and electricity. Primary energy can also be used directly. Some energy sources have non-energy uses, for example coal or natural gas can be used as a feedstock in fertilizer plants.
1.2 Commercial Energy and Non Commercial Energy

Commercial Energy:

The energy sources that are available in the market for a definite price are known as commercial energy. By far the most important forms of commercial energy are electricity, coal and refined petroleum products. Commercial energy forms the basis of industrial, agricultural, transport and commercial development in the modern world. In the industrialized countries, commercialized fuels are predominant source not only for economic production, but also for many household tasks of general population.

Examples: Electricity, lignite, coal, oil, natural gas etc.

Non-Commercial Energy:

The energy sources that are not available in the commercial market for a price are classified as non-commercial energy. Non-commercial energy sources include fuels such as firewood, cattle dung and agricultural wastes, which are traditionally gathered, and not bought at a price used especially in rural households. These are also called traditional fuels. Non-commercial energy is often ignored in energy accounting.

Example: Firewood, agro waste in rural areas; solar energy for water heating, electricity generation, for drying grain, fish and fruits; animal power for transport, threshing, lifting water for irrigation, crushing sugarcane; wind energy for lifting water and electricity generation.

1.3 Renewable and Non-Renewable Energy

Renewable energy is energy obtained from sources that are essentially inexhaustible. Examples of renewable resources include wind power, solar power, geothermal energy, tidal power and hydroelectric power (See Figure 1.2). The most important feature of renewable energy is that it can be harnessed without the release of harmful pollutants. Non-renewable energy is the conventional fossil fuels such as coal, oil and gas, which are likely to deplete with time.
1.4 Conventional and Non-conventional energy resources:

Conventional Energy

Conventional energy resources which are being traditionally used for many decades and were in common use around oil crisis of 1973 are called conventional energy resources, e.g., fossil fuel, nuclear and hydro resources.

Non-conventional energy

Non-conventional energy resources which are considered for large-scale use after oil crisis of 1973, are called non-conventional energy sources, e.g., solar, wind, biomass, etc.

Energy Consumption and Standard Of Living:

The energy consumption of a nation can be broadly divided into the following areas or sectors depending on energy-related activities. These can be further subdivided into subsectors:

- Domestic sector (houses and offices including commercial buildings)
- Transportation sector
- Agriculture sector
- Industry sector

Consumption of a large amount of energy in a country indicates increased activities in these sectors. This may imply better comforts at home due to use of various appliances, better transport facilities and more agricultural and industrial production. All of this amount to a better quality of life. Therefore, the per capita energy consumption of a country is an index of the standard of living or prosperity i.e.income) of the people of the country.
1.5 Global Primary Energy Reserves

Coal

The proven global coal reserve was estimated to be 9,84,453 million tonnes by end of 2003. The USA had the largest share of the global reserve (25.4%) followed by Russia (15.9%), China (11.6%). India was 4th in the list with 8.6%.

Oil:

The global proven oil reserve was estimated to be 1147 billion barrels by the end of 2003. Saudi Arabia had the largest share of the reserve with almost 23%. (One barrel of oil is approximately 160 liters)

Gas

The global proven gas reserve was estimated to be 176 trillion cubic metres by the end of 2003. The Russian Federation had the largest share of the reserve with almost 27%.


Global Primary Energy Consumption

The global primary energy consumption at the end of 2003 was equivalent to 9741 million tons of oil equivalent (MTones). The Figure 1.3 shows in what proportions the sources mentioned above contributed to this global figure.

Energy distribution between developed and developing Countries

Although 80 percent of the world's population lies in the developing countries (a four-fold population increase in the past 25 years), their energy consumption amounts to only 40 percent of the world total energy consumption. The high standards of living in the developed countries are attributable to high energy consumption levels.

Also the rapid population growth in the developing countries has kept the per capita energy consumption low compared with that of highly industrialized developed countries. The world average energy consumption per person is equivalent to 2.2 tones of coal. In industrialized countries, people use four to five times more than the
world average and nine times more than the average for the developing countries. An American uses 32 times more commercial energy than an Indian.

1.6 Indian Energy Scenario

Coal dominates the energy mix in India, contributing to 55% of the total primary energy production. Over the years, there has been a marked increase in the share of natural gas in primary energy production from 10% in 1994 to 13% in 1999. There has been a decline in the share of oil in primary energy production from 20% to 17% during the same period.

India has huge coal reserves, at least 84,396 million tones of proven recoverable reserves (at the end of 2003). These amounts to almost 8.6% of the world reserves and it may last for about 230 years at the current Reserve to Production (R/P) ratio. In contrast, the world's proven coal reserves are expected to last only for 192 years at the current R/P ratio.

Reserves/Production (R/P) ratio- If the reserves remaining at the end of the year are divided by the production in that year, the result is the length of time that the remaining reserves would last if production were to continue at that level.

India is the fourth largest producer of coal and lignite in the world. Coal production is concentrated in these states (Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Jharkhand, and West Bengal).

Oil Supply

Oil accounts for about 36% of India’s total energy consumption. India today is one of the top ten oil-guzzling nations in the world and will soon overtake Korea as the third largest consumer of oil in Asia after China and Japan. The country's annual crude oil production is peaked at about 32 million tonne as against the current crude oil production by end of 2007 is expected to reach 136 million tonne (MT), of which domestic production will be only 34 MT. India will have to pay an oil bill of roughly $50 billion, assuming a weighted average price of $50 per barrel of crude. In 2003-04, against total export of $64 billion, oil imports accounted for $21 billion. India imports 70% of its crude needs mainly from gulf nations. The majority of India's roughly 5.4 billion barrels in oil reserves are located in the Bombay High, upper Assam, Cambay, Krishna-Godavari. In terms of sector wise petroleum product consumption, transport accounts for 42% followed by domestic and industry with 24% and 24% respectively. India spent more than Rs.1,10,000 crore on oil imports at the end of 2004.

Natural Gas Supply

Natural gas accounts for about 8.9 per cent of energy consumption in the country. The current demand for natural gas is about 96 million cubic metres per day (mcmd) as against availability of 67 mcmd. By 2007, the
demand is expected to be around 200 mcmd. Natural gas reserves are estimated at 660 billion cubic meters.

**Electrical Energy Supply**

The all India installed capacity of electric power generating stations under utilities was 1,12,581 MW as on 31st May 2004, consisting of 28,860 MW- hydro, 77,931 MW- thermal and 2,720 MW- nuclear and 1,869 MW- wind (Ministry of Power).

**Nuclear Power Supply**

Nuclear Power contributes to about 2.4 per cent of electricity generated in India. India has ten nuclear power reactors at five nuclear power stations producing electricity. More nuclear reactors have also been approved for construction.

**Hydro Power Supply**

India is endowed with a vast and viable hydro potential for power generation of which only 15% has been harnessed so far. The share of hydropower in the country's total generated units has steadily decreased and it presently stands at 25% as on 31st May 2004. It is assessed that exploitable potential at 60% load factor is 84,000 MW.

**Final Energy Consumption**

Final energy consumption is the actual energy demand at the user end. This is the difference between primary energy consumption and the losses that takes place in transport, transmission & distribution and refinement. The actual final energy consumption (past and projected) is given in Table1.2.

**Sector Wise Energy Consumption in India**

The major commercial energy consuming sectors in the country are classified as shown in the Figure 1.5. As seen from the figure, industry remains the biggest consumer of commercial energy and its share in the overall consumption is 49%. (Reference year: 1999/2000)
1.7 Energy Needs of Growing Economy

Economic growth is desirable for developing countries, and energy is essential for economic growth. However, the relationship between economic growth and increased energy demand is not always a straightforward linear one. For example, under present conditions, 6% increase in India's Gross Domestic350(109,768),(503,971)

In this context, the ratio of energy demand to GDP is a useful indicator. A high ratio reflects energy independence and a strong influence of energy on GDP growth. The developed countries, by focusing on energy efficiency and lower energy-intensive routes, maintain their energy to GDP ratios at values of less than 1. The ratios for developing countries are much higher.

India's Energy Needs

The plan outlay vis-à-vis share of energy is given in Figure 1.6. As seen from the Figure, 18.0% of the total five-year plan outlay is spent on the energy sector.

![Figure 1.6 Expenditure Towards Energy Sector](image)

Energy Intensity

Energy intensity is energy consumption per unit of GDP. Energy intensity indicates the development stage of the country. India's energy intensity is 3.7 times of Japan, 1.55 times of USA,.47 times of Asia and 1.5 times of World average.

![Figure 1.7 Per Capita Energy Consumption](image)
Coal:
Coal is the predominant energy source for power production in India, generating approximately 70% of total domestic electricity. Energy demand in India is expected to increase over the next 10-15 years; although new oil and gas plants are planned, coal is expected to remain the dominant fuel for power generation. Despite significant increases in total installed capacity during the last decade, the gap between electricity supply and demand continues to increase. The resulting shortfall has had a negative impact on industrial output and economic growth. However, to meet expected future demand, indigenous coal production will have to be greatly expanded. Production currently stands at around 290 Million tonnes per year, but coal demand is expected to more than double by 2010. Indian coal is typically of poor quality and as such requires to be beneficiated to improve the quality; Coal imports will also need to increase dramatically to satisfy industrial and power generation requirements.

Oil

India's demand for petroleum products is likely to rise from 97.7 million tonnes in 2001-02 to around 139.95 million tonnes in 2006-07, according to projections of the Tenth Five-Year Plan. The plan document puts compound annual growth rate (CAGR) at 3.6% during the plan period. Domestic crude oil production is likely to rise marginally from 32.03 million tonnes in 2001-02 to 33.97 million tonnes by the end of the 10th plan period (2006-07). India's self-sufficiency in oil has consistently declined from 60% in the 50s to 30% currently. Same is expected to go down to 8% by 2020. As shown in the figure 1.8, around 92% of India's total oil demand by 2020 has to be met by imports.

Natural Gas

India's natural gas production is likely to rise from 86.56 million cmpd in 2002-03 to 103.08 million cmpd in 2006-07. It is mainly based on the strength of a more than doubling of production by private operators to 38.25 mm cmpd.

Electricity
India currently has a peak demand shortage of around 14% and an energy deficit of 8.4%. Keeping this in view and to maintain a GDP (gross domestic product) growth of 8% to 10%, the Government of India has very prudently set a target of 215,804 MW power generation capacity by March 2012 from the level of 100,010 MW as on March 2001, that is a capacity addition of 115,794 MW in the next 11 years. In the area of nuclear power the objective is to achieve 20,000 MW of nuclear generation capacity by the year 2020.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE 1.3 INDIA’S PERSPECTIVE PLAN FOR POWER FOR ZERO DEFICIT POWER BY 2011/12 (SOURCE TENTH AND ELEVENTH FIVE-YEAR PLAN PROJECTIONS)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Installed capacity as on March 2001</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thermal (Coal) (MW)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gas / LNG / Diesel (MW)</td>
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<td>Nuclear (MW)</td>
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<td>Hydro (MW)</td>
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<td>Total(MW)</td>
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<td>61,157</td>
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<td>25,116</td>
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<td>100,010</td>
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<td><strong>Additional capacity (2001-2012)</strong></td>
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<td>53,333</td>
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<td>20,408</td>
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<td>9380</td>
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<tr>
<td>32,673</td>
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<tr>
<td>115,794</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total capacity as on March 2012</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>114,490 (53.0%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>31,425 (14.6%)</td>
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<td>12,100 (5.6%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>57,789 (26.8%)</td>
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<td>215,804</td>
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**Coal**

Grade wise basic price of coal at the pithead excluding statutory levies for run-of-mine (ROM) coal are fixed by Coal India Ltd from time to time. The pithead price of coal in India compares favorably with price of imported coal. In spite of this, industries still import coal due its higher calorific value and low ash content.

**Oil**

As part of the energy sector reforms, the government has attempted to bring prices for many of the petroleum products (naphtha, furnace oil, LSHS, LDO and bitumen) in line with international prices. The most important achievement has been the linking of diesel prices to international prices and a reduction in subsidy. However, LPG and kerosene, consumed mainly by domestic sectors, continue to be heavily subsidized.

Subsidies and cross-subsidies have resulted in serious distortions in prices, as they do not reflect economic costs in many cases.

**Natural Gas**

The government has been the sole authority for fixing the price of natural gas in the country. It has also been taking decisions on the allocation of gas to various competing consumers. The gas prices varies from Rs 5 to Rs.15 per cubic meter.
Electricity

Electricity tariffs in India are structured in a relatively simple manner. While high tension consumers are charged based on both demand (kVA) and energy (kWh), the low-tension (LT) consumer pays only for the energy consumed (kWh) as per tariff system in most of the electricity boards. The price per kWh varies significantly across States as well as customer segments within a State. Tariffs in India have been modified to consider the time of usage and voltage level of supply. In addition to the base tariffs, some State Electricity Boards have additional recovery from customers in form of fuel surcharges, electricity duties and taxes. For example, for an industrial consumer the demand charges may vary from Rs. 150 to Rs. 300 per kVA, whereas the energy charges may vary anywhere between Rs. 2 to Rs. 5 per kWh. As for the tariff adjustment mechanism, even when some States have regulatory commissions for tariff review, the decisions to effect changes are still political and there is no automatic adjustment mechanism, which can ensure recovery of costs for the electricity boards.

1.8 Energy and Environment

The usage of energy resources in industry leads to environmental damages by polluting the atmosphere.

Few of examples of air pollution are sulphur dioxide (SO₂), nitrous oxide (NOₓ) and carbon monoxide (CO) emissions from boilers and furnaces, Chlorofluoro carbons (CFC) emissions from refrigerants use, etc. In chemical and fertilizers industries, toxic gases are released. Cement plants and power plants spew out particulate matter. Typical inputs, outputs, and emissions for a typical industrial process are shown in Figure.

Air Pollution

A variety of air pollutants have known or suspected harmful effects on human health and the environment. These air pollutants are basically the products of combustion from fossil fuel use. Air pollutants from these sources may not only create problems near to these sources but also can cause problems far away. Air pollutants can travel long distances, chemically react in the atmosphere to produce secondary pollutants such as acid rain or ozone.

Evolutionary Trends in Pollution Problems

both developed and rapidly industrializing countries, the major historic air pollution problem has typically been high levels of smoke and SO₂ arising from the combustion of sulphur-containing fossil fuels such as coal for domestic and industrial purposes.
Smogs resulting from the combined effects of black smoke, sulphate / acid aerosol and fog have been seen in European cities until few decades ago and still occur in many cities in developing world. In developed countries, this problem has significantly reduced over recent decades as a result of changing fuel-use patterns; the increasing use of cleaner fuels such as natural gas, and the implementation of effective smoke and emission control policies.

In both developed and developing countries, the major threat to clean air is now posed by traffic emissions. Petrol- and diesel engine motor vehicles emit a wide variety of pollutants, principally carbon monoxide (CO), oxides of nitrogen (NOx), volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and particulates, which have an increasing impact on urban air quality.

In addition, photochemical reactions resulting from the action of sunlight on NO\textsubscript{2} and VOCs from vehicles leads to the formation of ozone, a secondary long-range pollutant, which impacts in rural areas often far from the original emission site. Acid rain is another long-range pollutant influenced by vehicle NOx emissions.

Industrial and domestic pollutant sources, together with their impact on air quality, tend to be steady-state or improving over time. However, traffic pollution problems are worsening world-wide. The problem may be particularly severe in developing countries with dramatically increasing vehicle population, infrastructural limitations, poor engine/emission control technologies and limited provision for maintenance or vehicle regulation.

The principle pollutants produced by industrial, domestic and traffic sources are sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, particulate matter, carbon monoxide, ozone, hydrocarbons, benzene, 1,3- butadiene, toxic organic micro pollutants, lead and heavy metals. Brief introduction to the principal pollutants are as follows:

**Sulphur dioxide** is a corrosive acid gas, which combines with water vapour in the atmosphere to produce acid rain. Both wet and dry deposition have been implicated in the damage and destruction of vegetation and in the degradation of soils, building materials and watercourses. SO\textsubscript{2} in ambient air is also associated with asthma and chronic bronchitis. The principal source of this gas is power stations and industries burning fossil fuels, which contain sulphur.

![Sulphur Dioxide](image)
**Nitrogen oxides** are formed during high temperature combustion processes from the oxidation of nitrogen in the air or fuel. The principal source of nitrogen oxides - nitric oxide (NO) and nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), collectively known as NOx is road traffic. NO and NO₂ concentrations are greatest in urban areas where traffic is heaviest. Other important sources are power stations and industrial processes.

Nitrogen oxides are released into the atmosphere mainly in the form of NO, which is then readily oxidized to NO₂ by reaction with ozone.

Elevated levels of NOx occur in urban environments under stable meteorological conditions, when the air mass is unable to disperse.

Nitrogen dioxide has a variety of environmental and health impacts. It irritates the respiratory system and may worsen asthma and increase susceptibility to infections. In the presence of sunlight, it reacts with hydrocarbons to produce photochemical pollutants such as ozone.

Nitrogen oxides combine with water vapour to form nitric acid. This nitric acid is in turn removed from the atmosphere by direct deposition to the ground, or transfer to aqueous droplets (e.g. cloud or rainwater), thereby contributing to acid deposition.

**Acidification from SO₂ and NOx**

Acidification of water bodies and soils, and the consequent impact on agriculture, forestry and fisheries are the result of the re-deposition of acidifying compounds resulting principally from the oxidation of primary SO₂ and NO₂ emissions from fossil fuel combustion. Deposition may be by either wet or dry processes, and acid deposition studies often need to examine both of these acidification routes.

Airborne particulate matter varies widely in its physical and chemical composition, source and particle size. PM₁₀ particles (the fraction of particulates in air of very small size (<10 µm)) are of major current concern, as they are small enough to penetrate deep into the lungs and so potentially pose significant health risks. In addition, they may carry surface-absorbed carcinogenic compounds into the lungs. Larger particles, combustion, where transport of hot exhaust vapour into a cooler exhaust pipe can lead to spontaneous nucleation of "carbon" particles before emission. Secondary particles are typically formed when low volatility products are generated in the atmosphere, for example the oxidation of sulphur dioxide to sulphuric acid. The atmospheric lifetime of particulate matter is strongly related...
to particle size, but may be as long as 10 days for particles of about 1mm in diameter.

Concern about the potential health impacts of PM$_{10}$ has increased very rapidly over recent years. Increasingly, attention has been turning towards monitoring of the smaller particle fraction PM$_{2.5}$ capable of penetrating deepest into the lungs, or to even smaller size fractions or total particle numbers.

**Carbon monoxide** (CO) is a toxic gas, which is emitted into the atmosphere as a result of combustion processes, and from oxidation of hydrocarbons and other organic compounds. In urban areas, CO is produced almost entirely (90%) from road traffic emissions. CO at levels found in ambient air may reduce the oxygen-carrying capacity of the blood. It survives in the atmosphere for a period of approximately 1 month and finally gets oxidized to carbon dioxide (CO$_2$).

![Ozone](image)

**Ground-level ozone** (O$_3$), unlike other primary pollutants mentioned above, is not emitted directly into the atmosphere, but is a secondary pollutant produced by reaction between nitrogen dioxide (NO$_2$), hydrocarbons and sunlight. Ozone can irritate the eyes and air passages causing breathing difficulties and may increase susceptibility to infection. It is a highly reactive chemical, capable of attacking surfaces, fabrics and rubber materials. Ozone is also toxic to some crops, vegetation and trees.

Whereas nitrogen dioxide (NO$_2$) participates in the formation of ozone, nitrogen oxide (NO) destroys ozone to form oxygen (O$_2$) and nitrogen dioxide (NO$_2$). For this reason, ozone levels are not as high in urban areas (where high levels of NO are emitted from vehicles) as in rural areas. As the nitrogen oxides and hydrocarbons are transported out of urban areas, the ozone-destroying NO is oxidized to NO$_2$, which participates in ozone formation.
Hydrocarbons:

There are two main groups of hydrocarbons of concern: volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). VOCs are released in vehicle exhaust gases either as unburned fuels or as combustion products, and are also emitted by the evaporation of solvents and motor fuels. Benzene and 1,3-butadiene are of particular concern, as they are known carcinogens. Other VOCs are important because of the role they play in the photochemical formation of ozone in the atmosphere.

Benzene is an aromatic VOC, which is a minor constituent of petrol (about 2% by volume). The main sources of benzene in the atmosphere are the distribution and combustion of petrol. Of these, combustion by petrol vehicles is the single biggest source (70% of total emissions)

whilst the refining, distribution and evaporation of petrol from vehicles accounts for approximately a further 10% of total emissions. Benzene is emitted in vehicle exhaust not only as unburnt fuel but also as a product of the decomposition of other aromatic compounds. Benzene is a known human carcinogen.

1,3-butadiene, like benzene, is a VOC emitted into the atmosphere principally from fuel combustion of petrol and diesel vehicles. Unlike benzene, however, it is not a constituent of the fuel but is produced by the combustion of olefins. 1,3-butadiene is also an important chemical in certain industrial processes, particularly the manufacture of synthetic rubber. It is handled in bulk at a small number of industrial locations. Other than in the vicinity of such locations, the dominant source of 1,3-butadiene in the atmosphere are the motor vehicles. 1,3 Butadiene is also a known, potent, human carcinogen.

TOMPs (Toxic Organic Micro pollutants) are produced by the incomplete combustion of fuels. They comprise a complex range of chemicals some of which, although they are emitted in very small quantities, are highly toxic or and carcinogenic. Compounds in this category include:

- PAHs (PolyAromatic Hydrocarbons)
- PCBs (PolyChlorinated Biphenyls)
• Dioxins
• Furans

Heavy Metals and Lead

Particulate metals in air result from activities such as fossil fuel combustion (including vehicles), metal processing industries and waste incineration. There are currently no emission standards for metals other than lead. Lead is a cumulative poison to the central nervous system, particularly detrimental to the mental development of children.

Lead is the most widely used non-ferrous metal and has a large number of industrial applications. Its single largest industrial use worldwide is in the manufacture of batteries and it is also used in paints, glazes, alloys, radiation shielding, tank lining and piping.

As tetraethyl lead, it has been used for many years as an additive in petrol; with the increasing use of unleaded petrol, however, emissions and concentrations in air have reduced steadily in recent years.

Climatic Change

Human activities, particularly the combustion of fossil fuels, have made the blanket of greenhouse gases (water vapour, carbon dioxide, methane, ozone etc.) around the earth thicker. The resulting increase in global temperature is altering the complex web of systems that allow life to thrive on earth such as rainfall, wind patterns, ocean currents and distribution of plant and animal species. *Greenhouse Effect and the Carbon*
Cycle

Life on earth is made possible by energy from the sun, which arrives mainly in the form of visible light. About 30 percent of the sunlight is scattered back into space by outer atmosphere and the balance 70 percent reaches the earth's surface, which reflects it in form of infrared radiation. The escape of slow moving infrared radiation is delayed by the green house gases. A thicker blanket of greenhouse gases traps more infrared radiation and increase the earth's temperature (Refer Figure 1.11).

Greenhouse gases makeup only 1 percent of the atmosphere, but they act as a blanket around the earth, or like a glass roof of a greenhouse and keep the earth 30 degrees warmer than it would be otherwise - without greenhouse gases, earth would be too cold to live. Human activities that are responsible for making the greenhouse layer thicker are emissions of carbon dioxide from the combustion of coal, oil and natural gas; by additional methane and nitrous oxide from farming activities and changes in land use; and by several man made gases that have a long life in the atmosphere.

The increase in greenhouse gases is happening at an alarming rate. If greenhouse gases emissions continue to grow at current rates, it is almost certain that the atmospheric levels of carbon dioxide will increase twice or thrice from pre-industrial levels during the 21st century.

Even a small increase in earth's temperature will be accompanied by changes in climate- such as cloud cover, precipitation, wind patterns and duration of seasons. In an already highly crowded and stressed earth, millions of people depend on weather patterns, such as monsoon rains, to continue as they have in the past. Even minimum changes will be disruptive and difficult.

Carbon dioxide is responsible for 60 percent of the "enhanced greenhouse effect". Humans are burning coal, oil and natural gas at a rate that is much faster than the rate at which these fossil fuels were created. This is releasing the carbon stored in the fuels into the atmosphere and upsetting the carbon cycle (a precise balanced system by which carbon is exchanged between the air, the oceans and land vegetation taking place over millions of years). Currently, carbon dioxide levels in the atmospheric are rising by over 10 percent every 20 years.

Current Evidence of Climatic Change

Cyclones, storm, hurricanes are occurring more frequently and floods and draughts are more intense than before. This increase in extreme weather events cannot be explained away as random events.

This trend toward more powerful storms and hotter, longer dry periods is predicted by computer models. Warmer temperatures mean greater evaporation, and a warmer atmosphere is able to hold more moisture and hence there is more water aloft that can fall as precipitation. Similarly, dry regions are prone to lose still more moisture if the weather is hotter and hence this leads to more severe droughts and desertification.
Future Effects

Even the minimum predicted shifts in climate for the 21st century are likely to be significant and disruptive. Predictions of future climatic changes are wide-ranging. The global temperature may climb from 1.4 to 5.8 degrees C; the sea level may rise from 9 to 88 cm. Thus, increases in sea level this century are expected to range from significant to catastrophic. This uncertainty reflects the complexity, interrelatedness, and sensitivity of the natural systems that make up the climate.

Severe Storms and Flooding

The minimum warming forecast for the next 100 years is more than twice the 0.6 degree C increase that has occurred since 1900 and that earlier increase is already having marked consequences. Extreme weather events, as predicted by computer models, are striking more often and can be expected to intensify and become still more frequent. A future of more severe storms and floods along the world's increasingly crowded coastlines is likely.

Food Shortages

Although regional and local effects may differ widely, a general reduction is expected in potential crop yields in most tropical and sub-tropical regions. Mid-continental areas such as the United States' "grain belt" and vast areas of Asia are likely to become dry. Sub-Saharan Africa where dry land agriculture relies solely on rain, the yields would decrease dramatically even with minimum increase in temperature. Such changes could cause disruptions in food supply in a world is already afflicted with food shortages and famines.

Dwindling Freshwater supply

Salt-water intrusion from rising sea levels will reduce the quality and quantity of freshwater supplies. This is a major concern, since billions of people on earth already lack access to fresh-water. Higher ocean levels already are contaminating underground water sources in many parts of the world.

Loss of Biodiversity

Most of the world's endangered species (some 25 per cent of mammals and 12 per cent of birds) may become extinct over the next few decades as warmer conditions alter the forests, wetlands, and rangelands they depend on, and human development blocks them from migrating else where.
Increased Diseases

Higher temperatures are expected to expand the range of some dangerous "vector-borne" diseases, such as malaria, which already kills 1 million people annually, most of them children.

A World Under Stress

Ongoing environmentally damaging activities such as overgrazing, deforestation, and denuded agricultural soils means that nature will be more vulnerable than previously to changes in climate.

Similarly, the world's vast human population, much of it poor, is vulnerable to climate stress. Millions live in dangerous places such as floodplains or in slums around the big cities of the developing world. Often there is nowhere else for population to move. In the distant past, man and his ancestors migrated in response to changes in habitat. There will be much less room for migration in future.

Global warming almost certainly will be unfair. The industrialized countries of North America and Western Europe, and other countries such as Japan, are responsible for the vast amount of past and current greenhouse-gas emissions. These emissions are incurred for the high standards of living enjoyed by the people in those countries.

Yet those to suffer most from climate change will be in the developing world. They have fewer resources for coping with storms, with floods, with droughts, with disease outbreaks, and with disruptions to food and water supplies. They are eager for economic development themselves, but may find that this already difficult process has become more difficult because of climate change. The poorer nations of the world have done almost nothing to cause global warming yet is most exposed to its effects.

Acid Rain

Acid rain is caused by release of SO\(_2\) and NO\(_x\) from combustion of fossil fuels, which then mix
with water vapor in atmosphere to form sulphuric and nitric acids respectively (Refer Figure 1.12).

The effects of acid rain are as follows:

- Acidification of lakes, streams, and soils
- Direct and indirect effects (release of metals, For example: Aluminum which washes away plant nutrients)
- Killing of wildlife (trees, crops, aquatic plants, and animals)
- Decay of building materials and paints, statues, and sculptures
- Health problems (respiratory, burning- skin and eyes)

1.9 Energy Security

The basic aim of energy security for a nation is to reduce its dependency on the imported energy sources for its economic growth.

India will continue to experience an energy supply shortfall throughout the forecast period. This gap has widened since 1985, when the country became a net importer of coal. India has been unable to raise its oil production substantially in the 1990s. Rising oil demand of close to 10 percent per year has led to sizable oil import bills. In addition, the government subsidizes refined oil product prices, thus compounding the overall monetary loss to the government.

Imports of oil and coal have been increasing at rates of 7% and 16% per annum respectively during the period 1991-99. The dependence on energy imports is projected to increase in the future. Estimates indicate that oil imports will meet 75% of total oil consumption requirements and coal imports will meet 22% of total coal consumption.

As per requirements in 2006. The imports of gas and LNG (liquefied natural gas) are likely to increase in the coming years. This energy import dependence implies vulnerability to external price shocks and supply fluctuations, which threaten the energy security of the country.

Increasing dependence on oil imports means reliance on imports from the Middle East, a region susceptible to disturbances and consequent disruptions of oil supplies. This calls for diversification of sources of oil imports. The need to deal with oil price fluctuations also necessitates measures to be taken to reduce the oil dependence of the economy, possibly through fiscal measures to reduce demand, and by developing alternatives to oil, such as natural gas and renewable energy.

Some of the strategies that can be used to meet future challenges to their energy security are

- Building stockpiles
- Diversification of energy supply sources
• Increased capacity of fuel switching
• Demand restraint,
• Development of renewable energy sources.
• Energy efficiency
  • Sustainable development

Although all these options are feasible, their implementation will take time. Also, for countries like India, reliance on stockpiles would tend to be slow because of resource constraints. Besides, the market is not sophisticated enough or the monitoring agencies experienced enough to predict the supply situation in time to take necessary action. Insufficient storage capacity is another cause for worry and needs to be augmented, if India has to increase its energy stock pile.

However, out of all these options, the simplest and the most easily attainable is reducing demand through persistent energy conservation efforts.

1.10 Energy Conservation and its Importance

Coal and other fossil fuels, which have taken three million years to form, are likely to deplete soon. In the last two hundred years, we have consumed 60% of all resources. For sustainable development, we need to adopt energy efficiency measures.

Today, 85% of primary energy comes from non-renewable, and fossil sources (coal, oil, etc.). These reserves are continually diminishing with increasing consumption and will not exist for future generations (see Figure 1.13).

What is Energy Conservation?

Energy Conservation and Energy Efficiency are separate, but related concepts. Energy conservation is achieved when growth of energy consumption is reduced, measured in physical terms. Energy Conservation can, therefore, be the result of several processes or developments, such as productivity increase or technological progress. On the other hand Energy efficiency is achieved when energy intensity in a specific product, process or area of production or consumption is reduced without affecting output, consumption or comfort levels. Promotion of energy efficiency will contribute to energy conservation and is therefore an integral part of energy conservation promotional policies.

Fig 1.13  
Fig 1.14
Energy efficiency is often viewed as a resource option like coal, oil or natural gas. It provides additional economic value by preserving the resource base and reducing pollution. For example, replacing traditional light bulbs with Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs) means you will use only 1/4th of the energy to light a room. Pollution levels also reduce by the same amount (refer Figure 1.14).

Nature sets some basic limits on how efficiently energy can be used, but in most cases our products and manufacturing processes are still a long way from operating at this theoretical limit. Very simply, energy efficiency means using less energy to perform the same function. Although, energy efficiency has been in practice ever since the first oil crisis in 1973, it has today assumed even more importance because of being the most cost-effective and reliable means of mitigating the global climatic change.

Recognition of that potential has led to high expectations for the control of future CO₂ emissions through even more energy efficiency improvements than have occurred in the past. The industrial sector accounts for some 41 per cent of global primary energy demand and approximately the same share of CO₂ emissions.

1.11 Energy Strategy for the Future

The energy strategy for the future could be classified into immediate, medium-term and long-term strategy. The various components of these strategies are listed below:

Immediate-term strategy:

- Rationalizing the tariff structure of various energy products.
- Optimum utilization of existing assets
- Efficiency in production systems and reduction in distribution losses, including those in traditional energy sources.
- Promoting R&D, transfer and use of technologies and practices for environmentally sound energy systems, including new and renewable energy sources.

Medium-term strategy:

Demand management through greater conservation of energy, optimum fuel mix, structural changes in the economy, an appropriate model mix in the transport sector, i.e. greater dependence on rail than on road for the movement of goods and passengers and a shift away from private modes to public modes for passenger transport; changes in design of different products to reduce the material intensity of those products, recycling, etc.

- There is need to shift to less energy-intensive modes of transport. This would include measures to improve the transport infrastructure viz. roads, better design of vehicles, use of
compressed natural gas (CNG) and synthetic fuel, etc. Similarly, better urban planning would also reduce the demand for energy use in the transport sector.

There is need to move away from non-renewable to renewable energy sources viz. solar, wind, biomass energy, etc.

Long-term strategy:

• Reduction of natural gas flaring
• Improving energy infrastructure
• Building new refineries
• Creation of urban gas transmission and distribution network
• Maximizing efficiency of rail transport of coal production.
• Building new coal and gas fired power stations.

Enhancing energy efficiency. Improving energy efficiency in accordance with national, socio-economic, and environmental priorities

Promoting of energy efficiency and emission standards

Labeling programs for products and adoption of energy efficient technologies in large industries

Deregulation and privatization of energy sector

• Reducing cross subsidies on oil products and electricity tariffs
• Decontrolling coal prices and making natural gas prices competitive
• Privatization of oil, coal and power sectors for improved efficiency. Investment legislation to attract foreign investments.
• Streamlining approval process for attracting private sector participation in power generation, transmission and distribution.

**Solar Energy**

**Introduction:**

Solar energy is an important, clean, cheap and abundantly available renewable energy. It is received on Earth in cyclic, intermittent and dilute form with very low power density 0 to 1 kW/m2. Solar energy received on the ground level is affected by atmospheric clarity, degree of latitude, etc. For design purpose, the variation of available solar power, the optimum tilt angle of solar flat plate collectors, the location and orientation of the heliostats should be calculated.
Units of solar power and solar energy:

In SI units, energy is expressed in Joule. Other units are angley and Calorie where

\[
1 \text{ angley} = 1 \text{ Cal/cm}^2\text{.day} \\
1 \text{ Cal} = 4.186 \text{ J}
\]

For solar energy calculations, the energy is measured as an hourly or monthly or yearly average and is expressed in terms of kJ/m²/day or kJ/m²/hour. Solar power is expressed in terms of W/m² or kW/m².

Essential subsystems in a solar energy plant:

1. **Solar collector or concentrator**: It receives solar rays and collects the energy. It may be of following types:
   a) Flat plate type without focusing 
   b) Parabolic trough type with line focusing 
   c) Paraboloid dish with central focusing 
   d) Fresnel lens with centre focusing 
   e) Heliostats with centre receiver focusing

2. **Energy transport medium**: Substances such as water/steam, liquid metal or gas are used to transport the thermal energy from the collector to the heat exchanger or thermal storage. In solar PV systems energy transport occurs in electrical form.

3. **Energy storage**: Solar energy is not available continuously. So we need an energy storage medium for maintaining power supply during nights or cloudy periods. There are three major types of energy storage: a) Thermal energy storage; b) Battery storage; c) Pumped storage hydro-electric plant.

4. **Energy conversion plant**: Thermal energy collected by solar collectors is used for producing steam, hot water, etc. Solar energy converted to thermal energy is fed to steam-thermal or gas-thermal power plant.

5. **Power conditioning, control and protection system**: Load requirements of electrical energy vary with time. The energy supply has certain specifications like voltage, current, frequency, power etc.

The power conditioning unit performs several functions such as control, regulation, conditioning, protection, automation, etc.
6. **Alternative or standby power supply**: The backup may be obtained as power from electrical network or standby diesel generator.

**Energy from the sun:**

The sun radiates about $3.8 \times 10^{26}$ W of power in all the directions. Out of this about $1.7 \times 10^{17}$ W is received by earth. The average solar radiation outside the earth’s atmosphere is $1.35$ kW/m$^2$ varying from $1.43$ kW/m$^2$ (in January) to $1.33$ kW/m$^2$ (in July).

Solar thermal energy (STE) is a form of energy and a technology for harnessing solar energy to generate thermal energy or electrical energy for use in industry, and in the residential and commercial sectors. The first installation of solar thermal energy equipment occurred in the Sahara Desert approximately in 1910 when a steam engine was run on steam produced by sunlight. Because liquid fuel engines were developed and found more convenient, the Sahara project was abandoned, only to be revisited several decades later.

Solar thermal collectors are classified by the United States Energy Information Administration as low-, medium-, or high-temperature collectors. Low-temperature collectors are flat plates generally used to heat swimming pools. Medium-temperature collectors are also usually flat plates but are used for heating water or air for residential and commercial use. High-temperature collectors concentrate sunlight using mirrors or lenses and are generally used for fulfilling heat requirements up to $300$ deg C / $20$ bar pressure in industries, and for electric power production. However, there is a term that used for both the applications. Concentrated Solar Thermal (CST) for fulfilling heat requirements in industries and Concentrated Solar Power (CSP) when the heat collected is used for power generation. CST and CSP are not replaceable in terms of application.

The 377 MW Ivanpah Solar Power Facility is the largest solar power plant in the world, located in the Mojave Desert of California. Other large solar thermal plants include the SEGS installation (354 MW), also in the Mojave, as well as the
Solnova Solar Power Station (150 MW), the Andasol solar power station (150 MW), and Extresol Solar Power ion (100 MW), all in Spain.

The first three units of Solnova in the foreground, with the two towers of the PS10 and PS20 solar power stations in the background.

A solar thermal collector system gathers the heat from the solar radiation and gives it to the heat transport fluid. The heat-transport fluid receives the heat from the collector and delivers it to the thermal storage tank, boiler steam generator, heat exchanger etc. Thermal storage system stores heat for a few hours. The heat is released during cloudy hours and at night. Thermal-electric conversion system receives thermal energy and drives steam turbine generator or gas turbine generator. The electrical energy is supplied to the electrical load or to the AC grid. Applications of solar thermal energy systems range from simple solar cooker of 1 kW rating to complex solar central receiver thermal power plant of 200 MW rating.
SOLAR ENERGY COLLECTION, SOLAR ENERGY STORAGE AND APPLICATIONS

SOLAR COLLECTORS

Solar thermal energy is the most readily available source of energy. The Solar energy is most important kind of non-conventional source of energy which has been used since ancient times, but in a most primitive manner. The abundant solar energy available is suitable for harnessing for a number of applications. The application of solar thermal energy system ranges from solar cooker of 1 kw to power plant of 200MW. These systems are grouped into low temperature (<150°C), medium temperature (150-300°C) applications.

Solar Collectors

Solar collectors are used to collect the solar energy and convert the incident radiations into thermal energy by absorbing them. This heat is extracted by flowing fluid (air or water or mixture with antifreeze) in the tube of the collector for further utilization in different applications. The collectors are classified as:

- Non concentrating collectors
- Concentrating (focusing) collectors

Non Concentrating Collectors

In these collectors the area of collector to intercept the solar radiation is equal to the absorber plate and has concentration ratio of 1. Flat Plate Collectors (Glaze Type) Flat plate collector is most important part of any solar thermal energy system. It is simplest in design and both direct and diffuse radiations are absorbed by collector and converted into useful heat. These collectors are suitable for heating to temperature below 100°C. The main advantages of flat plate collectors are:

- It utilizes the both the beam as well as diffuse radiation for heating.
- Requires less maintenance.

Disadvantages

- Large heat losses by conduction and radiation because of large area.
- No tracking of sun.
- Low water temperature is achieved.

The constructional details of flat plate collector is given below

1. Insulated Box: The rectangular box is made of thin G.I sheet and is insulated from sides nd bottom using glass or mineral wool of thickness 5 to 8 cm to reduce losses from conduction to back and side wall. The box is tilted at due south and a tilt angle depends on the latitude of location. The face area of the collector box is kept between 1 to 2 m².

   Transparent Cover: This allows solar energy to pass through and reduces the convective heat losses from the absorber plate through air space. The transparent tampered glass cover is placed on top of rectangular
box to trap the solar energy and sealed by rubber gaskets to prevent the leakage of hot air. It is made of plastic/glass but glass is most favourable because of its transmittance and low surface degradation. However with development of improved quality of plastics, the degradation quality has been improved. The plastics are available at low cost, light in weight and can be used to make tubes, plates and cover but are suitable for low temperature application 70-120°C with single cover plate or up to 150°C using double cover plate. The thickness of glass cover 3 to 4 mm is commonly used and 1 to 2 covers with spacing 1.5 to 3 cm are generally used between plates. The temperature of glass cover is lower than the absorber plate and is a good absorber of thermal energy and reduces convective and radiative losses of sky.

(a) Absorber Plate: It intercepts and absorbs the solar energy. The absorber plate is made of copper, aluminum or steel and is in the thickness of 1 to 2 mm. It is the most important part of collector along with the tubes products passing the liquid or air to be heated. The plate absorbs the maximum solar radiation incident on it through glazing (cover plate) and transfers the heat to the tubes in contact with minimum heat losses to atmosphere. The plate is black painted and provided with selective material coating to increase its absorption and reduce the emission. The absorber plate has high absorption (80-95%) and low transmission/reflection.

(b) Tubes: The plate is attached to a series of parallel tubes or one serpentine tube through which water or other liquid passes. The tubes are made of copper, aluminum or steel in the diameter 1 to 1.5 cm and are brazed, soldered on top/bottom of the absorber water equally in all the tubes and collect it back from the other end. The header pipe is made of same material as tube and of larger diameter. Now-a-days the tubes are made of plastic but they have low thermal conductivity and higher coefficient of expansion than metals.

Copper and aluminum are likely to get corroded with saline liquids and steel tubes with inhibitors are used at such places.

Removal of Heat: These systems are best suited to applications that require low temperatures. Once the heat is absorbed on the absorber plate it must be removed fast and delivered to the place of storage for further use. As the liquid circulates through the tubes, it absorbs the heat from absorber plate of the collectors. The heated liquid moves slowly and the losses from collector will increase because of rise of high temperature of collector and will lower the efficiency. Flat-plate solar collectors are less efficient in cold weather than in warm weather. Factors affecting the Performance of Flat Plate Collector.

The different factors affecting the performance of system are:

- **Incident Solar Radiation:** The efficiency of collector is directly related with solar radiation falling on it and increases with rise in temperature.

- **Number of Cover Plate:** The increase in number of cover plate reduces the internal convective heat losses but also prevents the transmission of radiation inside the collector. More than two cover plate should not be used to optimize the system.

- **Spacing:** The more space between the absorber and cover plate the less internal heat losses. The collector efficiency will be increased. However on the other hand, increase in space between them provides the shading by side wall in the morning and evening and reduces the absorbed solar flux by 2-
3% of system. The spacing between absorber and cover plate is kept 2-3 cm to balance the problem.

Collector Tilt: The flat plate collectors do not track the sun and should be tilted at angle of latitude of the location for an average better performance. However with changing declination angle with seasons the optimum tilt angle is kept Φ ± 15°.

The collector is placed with south facing at northern hemisphere to receive maximum radiation oughout the day.

Selective Surface: Some materials like nickel black (α = 0.89, ε = 0.15) and black chrome (α = 0.87, ε = 0.088), copper oxide (α = 0.89, ε = 0.17) etc. are applied chemically on the surface of absorber in a thin layer of thickness 0.1 μm. These chemicals have high degree of absorption (α) to short wave radiation (< 4 μm) and low emission (ε) of long wave radiations (> 4 μm). The higher absorption of solar energy increase the temperature of absorber plate and working fluid. The top losses reduce and the efficiency of the collector increases. The selective surface should be able to withstand high temperature of 300-400°C, cost less, should not oxidize and be corrosive resistant. The property of material should not change with time.

Inlet Temperature: With increase in inlet temperature of working fluid the losses increase to ambient. The high temperature fluid absorbed the less heat from absorber plate because of low temperature difference and increases the top loss coefficient. Therefore, the efficiency of collector get reduced with rise in inlet temperature.

Dust on cover Plate: The efficiency of collector decreases with dust particles on the cover plate because the transmission radiation decreases by 1%. Frequent cleaning is required to get the maximum efficiency of collector.

**Concentrating Collectors**

Concentrating collector is a device to collect solar energy with high intensity of solar radiation on the energy absorbing surface. Such collectors use optical system in the form of reflectors or refractors.

These collectors are used for medium (100-300°C) and high-temperature (above 300°C) applications such as steam production for the generation of electricity. The high temperature is achieved at absorber because of reflecting arrangement provided for concentrating the radiation at required location using mirrors and lenses.

These collectors are best suited to places having more number of clear days in a year.

The area of the absorber is kept less than the aperture through which the radiation passes, to concentrate the solar flux. These collectors require tracking to follow the sun because of optical system. The tracking rate depends on the degree of concentration ratio and needs frequent adjustment for system having high concentration ratio. The efficiency of these collectors lies between 50-70%. The collectors need more maintenance than FPC because of its optical system. The concentrating collectors are classified on the basis of reflector used; concentration ratio and tracking method adopted.

**FPC with Reflectors**

The mirrors are placed as reflecting surface to concentrate more radiations on FPC absorber. The fluid temperature is higher by 30°C than achieved in FPC. These collections utilize direct and diffuse radiation.
Lens Focusing Type

The fresnel lenses are used to concentrate the radiation at its focus. The lower side of lenses is grooved so that radiation concentrates on a focus line.

Compound Parabolic Collectors

These collectors are line focusing type. The compound parabolic collectors have two parabolic surfaces to concentrate the solar radiation to the absorber placed at bottom.

These collectors have high concentration ratio and concentrator is moving to track the sun.

Cylindrical Parabolic Collectors

The troughs concentrate sunlight onto a receiver tube, placed along the focal line of the trough. The temperature at the absorber tube is obtained at nearly 400° C. The absorber in these collectors is moving to receive the reflected radiations by reflector, while the concentrators (trough) remains fixed. Because of its parabolic shape, it can focus the sun at 30 to 100 times its normal intensity (concentration ratio) on a receiver. The heat transfer medium carries the heat at one central place for further utilization.

Parabolic Dish Collector

The collectors have mirror-like reflectors and an absorber at the focal point. These collectors are point focusing type. The concentrating ratio of these collectors is 100 and temperature of the receiver can reach up to 2000° C. These collectors have higher efficiency for converting solar energy to electricity in the small-power plant. In some systems, a heat engine, such as a Stirling engine, is connected to the receiver to generate electricity.

Center Receiver Type (Solar Power Tower)

These collectors are used to collect the large solar energy at one point. This system uses 100-10000 of flat tracking mirror scaled heliostats to reflect the solar energy to central receiver mounted on tower. The energy can be concentrated as much as 1,500 times than that of the energy coming in, from the sun. The losses of energy from the system are minimized as solar energy is being directly transferred by reflection from the heliostats to a single receiver where the sun’s rays heat a fluid to produce steam.

Advantages of concentrating collector over flat collector

The size of the absorber can be reduced that gives high concentration ratio.

- Thermal losses are less than FPC. However small losses occur in the concentrating collector because of its optical system as well as by reflection, absorption by mirrors and lenses The efficiency increases at high temperatures.

- In these collectors the area intercepting the solar radiation is greater than the absorber area.

These collectors are used for high-temperature applications.

- Reflectors can cost less per unit area than flat plate collectors.
- Focusing or concentrating systems can be used for electric power generation when not used for
• Little or no anti freeze is required to protect the absorber in a concentrator system whereas the entire solar energy collection surface requires anti freeze protection in a flat plate collector

Disadvantages

• Out of the beam and diffuse solar radiation components, only beam component is collected in case of focusing collectors because diffuse component cannot be reflected and is thus lost.

• In some stationary reflecting systems it is necessary to have a small absorber to track the sun image; in others the reflector may have to be adjustable more than one position if year round operation is desired; in other words costly orienting systems have to be used to track the sun.

• Additional requirements of maintenance particular to retain the quality of reflecting surface against dirt, weather, oxidation etc.

• Non–uniform flux on the absorber whereas flux in flat-plate collectors in uniform.

• Additional optical losses such as reflectance loss and the intercept loss, so they introduce additional factors in energy balances.

Solar Air Heaters

Air stream is heated by the back side of the collector plate in flat plate collector. Fins attached to the plate increase the contact surface. The back side of the collector is heavily insulated with mineral wool or some other material. If the size of collector is large, a blower is used to draw air into the collector and transmit the hot air to dryer.

The most favorable orientation of a collector for heating only is facing due south at an inclination angle to the horizontal equal to the latitude plus 150. The use of air as the heat transport fluid eliminates both freezing and corrosion problems and small air leaks are of less concern than water leaks

Disadvantages:

• Need of handling larger volumes of air than liquids due to low density of air as working substance. Thermal capacity of the air is low.

• They have relatively high fluid circulation costs (especially if the rock heat storage unit is not carefully designed)

• They have relatively large volumes of storage (roughly three times as much volume as for water heat-storage)

• They have a higher noise level.

• The system has difficulty of adding conventional absorption air-conditioners to air systems

• The space is required for ducting.
Types of Air Heaters

Non porous absorber in which air stream does not flow through the absorber plate

Porous absorber that includes slit and expanded material, transpired honey comb and over lapped glass plate

Non-porous absorber plate type collectors: A non-porous absorber may be cooled by the air stream flowing over both sides of the plate. In most of the designs, the air flows behind the absorbing surface. Air flow above the upper surface increases the convection losses from the cover plate and therefore is not recommended if the air inlet temperature rise at the collector are large.

Transmission of the solar radiation through the transparent cover system and its absorption is identical to that of a liquid type flat-plate collector. To improve collection efficiency selective coating may be applied provided there is no much cost. Due to low heat transfer rates, efficiencies are lower than liquid solar heaters under the same radiation intensity and temperature conditions. Performance of air heaters is improved by:

- Roughening the rear of the plate to promote turbulence and improve the convective heat transfer coefficient
- Adding fins to increase heat transfer surface. Usually turbulence is also increased which enhances the convective heat transfer. Absorption of solar radiation is improved due to surface radioactive characteristics and the geometry of the corrugations, which help in trapping the reflected radiation.

2. Collectors with porous absorbers: The main drawback of the non-porous absorber plate is the necessity of absorbing all incoming radiation over the projected area from a thin layer over the surface, which is in the order of a few microns. Unless selective coatings are used, radiative losses from the absorber plate are excessive, therefore, the collection efficiency cannot be improved. Too many surfaces and too much restriction to air flow will require a larger fan and a larger amount of energy to push the air through. The energy required for this cancels out saving from using solar energy, particularly if fan is electrical and if the amount of energy which is burned at the power plant to produce the electrical energy is included.

3. The solar air heating utilizing a transpired honey comb is also favorable since the flow cross section is much higher. Crushed glass layers can be used to absorb solar radiation and heat the air. A porous bed with layers of broken bottles can be readily used for agricultural drying purposes with minimum expenditure. The overlapped glass plate air heater can be considered as a form of porous matrix, although overall flow direction is along the absorber plates instead of being across the matrix.

Applications of Solar air heaters

- Heating buildings.
- Drying agricultural produce and lumber.
- Heating green houses.
- Air conditioning building utilizing desiccant beds or an absorption refrigeration process.
- Heat sources for a heat engine such as a Brayton or Stirling cycle.
**Flat plate collector:**

Flat plate collector absorbs both beam and diffuse components of radiant energy. The absorber plate is a specially treated blackened metal surface. Sun rays striking the absorber plate are absorbed causing rise of temperature of transport fluid. Thermal insulation behind the absorber plate and transparent cover sheets (glass or plastic) prevent loss of heat to surroundings.

Applications of flat plate collector:

- Solar water heating systems for residence, hotels, industry.
- Desalination plant for obtaining drinking water from sea water.
- Solar cookers for domestic cooking.
- Drying applications.
- Residence heating.
- Losses in flat plate collector:

**Shadow effect:** Shadows of some of the neighbor panel fall on the surface of the collector where the angle of elevation of the sun is less than 15° (sun-rise and sunset). Shadow factor is less than 0.1 during morning and evening. The effective hours of solar collectors are between 9AM and 5PM.

Surface of the collector receiving light Total surface of the collection

1. **Cosine loss factor:** For maximum power collection, the surface of collector should receive the sun rays perpendicularly. If the angle between the perpendicular to the collector surface and the direction of sun rays is θ, then the area of solar beam intercepted by the collector surface is proportional to cosθ.

2. **Reflective loss factor:** The collector glass surface and the reflector surface collect dust, dirt, moisture etc. The reflector surface gets rusted, deformed and loses the shine. Hence, the efficiency of the collector is reduced significantly with passage of time.

Maintenance of flat plate collector:

- Daily cleaning
- Seasonal maintenance (cleaning, touch-up paint)
- Yearly overhaul (change of seals, cleaning after dismantling)
Parabolic trough collector:

Parabolic trough with line focusing reflecting surface provides concentration ratios from 30 to 50. Hence, temperature as high as 300°C can be attained. Light is focused on a central line of the parabolic trough. The pipe located along the centre line absorbs the heat and the working fluid is circulated through the pipe.

Paraboloid dish collectors:

The beam radiation is reflected by paraboloid dish surface. The point focus is obtained with CR (above 1000) and temperatures around 1000°C.

Based on the temperature:

- Low temperature collector
- Medium temperature collector
- High temperature collector

Unglazed solar collectors are primarily used to pre-heat make-up ventilation air in commercial, industrial and institutional buildings with a high ventilation load. They turn building walls or sections of walls into low cost, high performance, unglazed solar collectors. Heat conducts from the absorber surface to the thermal boundary layer of air 1 mm thick on the outside of the absorber and to air that passes behind the absorber. The boundary layer of air is drawn into a nearby perforation before the heat can escape by convection to the outside air. The heated air is then drawn from behind the absorber plate into the building’s ventilation system.

A Trombe wall is a passive solar heating and ventilation system consisting of an air channel sandwiched between a window and a sun-facing thermal mass. During the ventilation cycle, sunlight stores heat in the thermal mass and warms the air channel causing circulation through vents at the top and bottom of the wall. During the heating cycle the Trombe wall radiates stored heat.

Solar roof ponds are unique solar heating and cooling systems developed by Harold Hay in the 1960s. A basic system consists of a roof-mounted water bladder with a movable insulating cover. This system can control heat exchange between interior and exterior environments by covering and uncovering the bladder between night and day. When heating is a concern the bladder is uncovered during the day allowing sunlight to warm the water bladder and store heat for evening use. When cooling is a concern the covered bladder draws heat from the building's interior during the day and is uncovered at night to radiate heat to the cooler atmosphere.

Solar space heating with solar air heat collectors is more popular in the USA and Canada than heating with solar liquid collectors since most buildings already have a ventilation system for heating and cooling. The two main types of solar air panels are glazed and unglazed.
Solar drying

Solar thermal energy can be useful for drying wood for construction and wood fuels such as wood chips for combustion. Solar is also used for food products such as fruits, grains, and fish. Crop drying by solar means is environmentally friendly as well as cost effective while improving the quality. The less money it takes to make a product, the less it can be sold for, pleasing both the buyers and the sellers. Technologies in solar drying include ultra low cost pumped transpired plate air collectors based on black fabrics. Solar thermal energy is helpful in the process of drying products such as wood chips and other forms of biomass by raising the temperature while allowing air to pass through and get rid of the moisture.

Cooking

Solar cookers use sunlight for cooking, drying and pasteurization. Solar cooking offsets fuel costs, reduces demand for fuel or firewood, and improves air quality by reducing or removing a source of smoke. The simplest type of solar cooker is the box cooker.
UNIT - III
WINDENERGY, BIO-MASS

The wind wheel, like the water wheel, has been used by man for a long time for grinding corn and pumping water. Ancient seamen used wind power to sail their ships. With the development of the fossil Characteristics of Wind Power

Wind as a source of energy is plentiful, inexhaustible and pollution free but it has the disadvantage that the degree and period of its availability are uncertain. Also, movement of large volumes of air is required, to produce even a moderate amount of power. As a result, the wind power must be used as and when it is available, in contrast to conventional methods where energy can be drawn upon when required. Wind power, therefore, is regarded as a means of saving fuel, by injection of power into an electrical grid, or run wind power plant in conjunction with a pumped storage plant. The power that can be theoretically obtained from the wind, is proportional to the cube of its velocity and thus high wind velocities are most important. The power developed using this law, in atmospheric condition where the density of air is 1.2014 kg/cu metre, is given as Power developed = $13.14 \times 10^{-6} A V^3$ KW

A wind turbine is the popular name for a device that converts kinetic energy from the wind into electrical power.

**Betz Law**

Betz's law calculates the maximum power that can be extracted from the wind, independent of the design of a wind turbine in open flow. It was published in 1919, by the German physicist Albert Betz. The law is derived from the principles of conservation of mass and momentum of the air stream flowing through an idealized actuator disk that extracts energy from the wind stream. According to Betz's law, no turbine can capture more than $16/27$ (59.3%) of the kinetic energy in wind. The factor $16/27$ (0.593) is known as Betz's coefficient. Practical utility-scale wind turbines achieve at peak 75% to 80% of the Betz limit

**Classification of WEC system**

Several types of wind wheels have been used but the advantage of propeller rotating about a horizontal shaft, in a plane perpendicular to the direction of the wind make it the most likely type to realise economic generation on a large scale. A propeller consisting of two or three blades (with an aerofoil section) and capable of running at the high speeds is likely to be the most efficient. Present technology has been able to build systems with 60 m long blades, on towers as high as 305 m. A large tower system, to support many small rotor-generator units, can also be built.

**Horizontal-axis wind turbines (HAWT)** have the main rotor shaft and electrical generator at the top of a tower, and must be pointed into the wind. Small turbines are pointed by a simple wind vane, while large turbines generally use a wind sensor coupled with a servo motor. Most have a gearbox, which turns the slow rotation of the blades into a quicker rotation that is more suitable to drive an electrical generator.
Vertical-axis wind turbines (VAWTs) are a type of wind turbine where the main rotor shaft is set traverse, not necessarily vertical, to the wind and the main components are located at the base of the turbine. This arrangement allows the generator and gearbox to be located close to the ground, facilitating service and repair. Wind pressure rotates the wind vanes or propellers attached to a shaft. The revolving shaft rotates the rotor of a generator, through a mechanism of gears couplings etc. Thus, electricity is generated.

The wind power plants can be operated in combination with steam or hydro power station, which will lead to saving in fuel and increase in firm capacity, respectively of these plants.

Wind energy can prove to be a potential source of energy for solving the energy problem. It can certainly go a long way to supply pollution-free energy to millions of people, living in the villages all over the world.

The economic viability of wind mills is better in situations where conventional transmission costs are extremely high (because of inaccessibility and small load) or where continuous availability of supply is not essential so that only a limited amount of storage on standby power need be provided.

**BIO-MASS**

Biomass is biological material derived from living, or recently living organisms. It most often refers to plants or plant-derived materials which are specifically called lignocelluloses biomass. As an energy source, biomass can either be used directly via combustion to produce heat, or indirectly after converting it to various forms of biofuel. Conversion of biomass to biofuel can be achieved by different methods which are broadly classified into: thermal, chemical, and biochemical methods.

Biogas is produced as landfill gas (LFG), which is produced by the breakdown of biodegradable waste inside a landfill due to chemical reactions and microbes, or as digested gas, produced inside an anaerobic digester. A biogas plant is the name often given to an anaerobic digester that treats farm wastes or energy crops. It can be produced using anaerobic digesters (air-tight tanks with different configurations). These plants can be fed with energy crops such as maize silage or biodegradable wastes including sewage sludge and food waste. During the process, the microorganisms transform biomass waste into biogas (mainly methane and carbon dioxide) and digestate. The biogas is a renewable energy that can be used for heating, electricity, and many other operations that use a reciprocating internal combustion engine. Other internal combustion engines such as gas turbines are suitable for the conversion of biogas into both electricity and heat. The digestate is the remaining organic matter that was not transformed into biogas. It can be used as an agricultural fertiliser.

Biogas is characterized based on its chemical composition and the physical characteristics which result from it. It is primarily a mixture of methane (CH4) and inert carbonic gas (CO2). However, the name “biogas”
gathers a large variety of gases resulting from specific treatment processes, starting from various organic waste - industries, animal or domestic origin waste etc.

**Biomass conversion technologies**

**Thermal conversion** processes use heat as the dominant mechanism to convert biomass into another chemical form. Energy created by burning biomass (fuel wood) is particularly suited for countries where the fuel wood grows more rapidly, e.g. tropical countries.

**Biochemical conversion**

As biomass is a natural material, many highly efficient biochemical processes have developed in nature to break down the molecules of which biomass is composed, and many of these biochemical conversion processes can be harnessed. Biochemical conversion makes use of the enzymes of bacteria and other microorganisms to break down biomass. In most cases, microorganisms are used to perform the conversion process: anaerobic digestion, fermentation, and composting.

**Anaerobic digestion** is a collection of processes by which microorganisms break down biodegradable material in the absence of oxygen.

**Fermentation** is a metabolic process that converts sugar to acids, gases, and/or alcohol. It occurs in yeast and bacteria.

**Pyrolysis**: Pyrolysis is a thermochemical decomposition of organic material at elevated temperatures in the absence of oxygen (or any halogen). It involves the simultaneous change of chemical composition and physical phase, and is irreversible. The word is coined from the Greek-derived elements pyro "fire".

**Types of Biogas Plants**

A total of seven different types of biogas plant have been officially recognized by the MNES.

1. The floating-drum plant with a cylindrical digester (KVIC model),

2. The fixed-dome plant with a brick reinforced, moulded dome (Janata model),

3. The floating-drum plant with a hemisphere digester (Pragati model),

4. The fixed-dome plant with a hemisphere digester (Deenbandhu model),

5. The floating-drum plant made of angular steel and plastic foil (Ganesh model).
6. The floating-drum plant made of pre-fabricated reinforced concrete compound units.

7. The floating-drum plant made of fibre-glass reinforced polyester.
Many geothermal power plants are operating throughout the world. The earth’s interior is made of a hot fluid called “magma”. The outer crust of the earth has an average thickness of 32 Km and below that, is the magma. The average increase in temperature with depth of the earth is 1°C for every 35 to 40 metre depth. At a depth of 3 to 4 Kms, water boils up and at a depth of about 15 Kms, the temperature is, in the range of 1000°C to 1200°C. If the magma finds its way through the weak spots of the earth’s crust, it results into a volcano. At times, due to certain reasons the surface water penetrates into the crust, where it turns into steam, due to intense heat, and comes out in the form of springs or geysers. Moreover, the molten magma also contains water, which it releases in the form of steam, which could be utilized for electric power generation.

**Classes of geo-thermal region**

1. **Hyper thermal**
   
   a) Temp gradient > 800°C
   
   b) Usually Tectonic Plate Boundaries

2. **Semi-thermal**
   
   a) Temp gradient ~ 40°C km⁻¹ to 80°C km⁻¹
   
   b) Associated with anomalies away from plate boundaries.

**Categories of geo-thermal region**

**Hydro thermal convective systems**

1. Vapour Dominated or Dry Steam fields
2. Liquid dominated system or wet steam fields
3. Hot Water fields
4. Geo pressure sources
5. Petr thermal or hot dry rocks (hdr)
6. Magma sources
7. Volcanoes

Hydro thermal Convective systems are best resources for geo-thermal
Ocean energy refers to the energy carried by ocean waves, tides, salinity, and ocean temperature differences. The movement of water in the world’s oceans creates a vast store of kinetic energy, or energy in motion. This energy can be harnessed to generate electricity to power homes, transport and industries.

Ocean thermal energy conversion (OTEC)

OTEC uses the temperature difference between cooler deep and warmer shallow or surface ocean waters to run a heat engine and produce useful work, usually in the form of electricity. OTEC is a base load electricity generation system. Systems may be either closed-cycle or open-cycle. Closed-cycle engines use working fluids that are typically thought of as refrigerants such as ammonia or R-134a. These fluids have low boiling points, and are therefore suitable for powering the system’s generator to generate electricity. The most commonly used heat cycle for OTEC to date is the Rankine cycle using a low-pressure turbine. Open-cycle engines use vapour from the seawater itself as the working fluid.

Tidal power

Tides are caused by the combined gravitational forces of Sun and Moon on the waters of the revolving Earth. When the gravitational forces due to the Sun and the Moon add together, tides of maximum range, called spring tides, are obtained. On the other hand, when the two forces oppose each other, tides of minimum range, called neap tides, are obtained. In one year there are approximately 705 full tidal cycles.

It has been suggested, that for harnessing tidal power effectively the most practicable method is the basin system. Here a portion of the sea is enclosed behind a dam or dams and water is allowed to run through turbines, as the tide subsides. The power available from a given head of water varies as the square of the head and since the head varies with the tidal range, the power available at different sites from tidal energy shows very wide variation. Various tidal basin systems have, therefore, been evolved, in order to overcome this wide variation in availability of tidal power.

Single Basin System

The simplest scheme for developing tidal power is the single basin arrangement, in which a single basin of constant area is provided with sluices (gates), large enough to admit the tide, so that the loss of head is small. The level of water in the basin is the same as that of the tide outside. When the tides are high, water is stored in the basin and sluice gates are closed. When the tides are falling,
sluices are opened to allow water to go through the turbine to generate power. A head of water is obviously required for the turbine to generate water. This continues to generate power till the level of the falling tides coincides with the level of the next rising tide.

The major disadvantage of this single basin scheme is that it gives intermittent supply of power, varying considerably over the period of operation. It is for this reason that the tidal power has not been developed on a large scale. Also with this scheme, only about 50 per cent of tidal energy is available.

**Two Basin Systems**

An improvement over the single basin system is the two-basin system. In this system, a constant and continuous output is maintained by suitable adjustment of the turbine valves to suit the head under which these turbines are operating.

A two-basin system regulates power output of an individual tide but it cannot take care of the great difference in outputs between spring and neap tides. This system, therefore, provides a partial solution to the problem, of getting a steady output of power from a tidal scheme.

This disadvantage can be overcome by the joint operation of tidal power and pumped storage plant. During the period when the tidal power plant is producing more energy than required, the pumped storage plant utilizes the surplus power for pumping water to the upper reservoir. When the output of the tidal power plant is low, the pumped storage plant generates electric power and feeds it to the system. This arrangement, even though technically feasible, is much more expensive, as it calls for higher installed capacity for meeting a load.

This basic principle of joint operation of tidal power with steam plant, is also possible when it is connected to a grid. In this case, whenever tidal power is available, the output of the steam plant will be reduced by that extent which leads to saving in fuel and reduced wear and tear of steam plant. This operation requires the capacity of steam power plant to be equal to that of tidal power plant and makes the overall cost of power obtained from such a combined scheme very high. In the system the two basins close to each other, operate alternatively. One basin generates power when the tide is rising (basin getting filled up) and the other basin generates power while the tide is falling (basin getting emptied). The two basins may have a common power house or may have separate power house for each basin. In both the cases, the power can be generated continuously. The system could be thought of as a combination of two single basin systems, in which one is generating power during tiding cycle, and the other is generating power during emptying.
Double Basin System

This scheme consists of two basins, at different elevation connected through turbine. The sluices in the high and low level basin communicate with sea water directly. The high level basin sluices are called the inlet sluices and the low level as outlet sluices. The basic operation of the scheme is as follows.

Turbines for Tidal Power

Tidal power plants operate using a rapidly varying head of water and, therefore, their turbines must have high efficiency at varying head. The Kaplan type of water turbine operates quite favourably under these conditions. The propeller type of turbine is also suitable because the angle of the blades can be altered to obtain maximum efficiency while water is falling.

WAVE POWER

Another source of non-conventional energy generation is the wave power. The major problem with the wave power is that it is not concentrated at a place. If means could be developed for collecting the energy in the wave, spread over a large surface area, and concentrating it into a relatively small volume, the prospects, would be considerably improved.

It has been observed that a typical wave measures 2 to 3 metres in height throughout the year. The energy per square metre of wave surface area is given as 1/2 ga2 where g is density of sea water, g is acceleration due to gravity and a is the amplitude of the wave. In the Atlantic, the wave period T is around 9s, and the average velocity of propagation of wave is 14 m/s. It has been observed that a power flow of around 70 KW for every metre of wave front, can be obtained. This is a considerable amount of power, especially when we think of the availability of this power throughout the year. If the length of the coast line is, say 1200 Km, the power available is around 84 GW.

Small hydro is the development of hydroelectric power on a scale serving a small community or industrial plant. The definition of a small hydro project varies, but a generating capacity of up to 10 megawatts (MW) is generally accepted as the upper limit, which aligns to the concept of distributed generation. Hydroelectric power is the generation of electric power from the movement of water. A hydroelectric facility requires a dependable flow of water and a reasonable height of fall of water, called the head. In a typical installation, water is fed from a reservoir through a channel or pipe into a turbine. The pressure of the flowing water on the turbine blades causes the shaft to rotate. The rotating shaft is connected to an electrical generator which converts the motion of the shaft into electrical energy. Small hydro is often developed using existing dams or through development of new
dams whose primary purpose is river and lake water-level control, or irrigation. Small hydro schemes may use tidal energy or propeller-type turbines immersed in flowing water to extract energy. Tidal schemes may require water storage or electrical energy storage to level out the intermittent (although exactly predictable) flow of power.

Since small hydro projects usually have minimal environmental and licensing procedures, and since the equipment is usually in serial production, standardized and simplified, and since the civil works construction is also small, small hydro projects may be developed very rapidly. The physically small size of equipment makes it easier to transport to remote areas without good road or rail access. Small hydro can be further subdivided into mini hydro, usually defined as less than 1,000 kilowatts (kW), and micro hydro which is less than 100 kW. Micro hydro is usually the application of hydroelectric power sized for smaller communities’ Micro-hydro installations can also provide multiple uses
DIRECT ENERGY CONVERSION

It is the method of transformation of one type of energy into another without passing through the intermediate stage such as steam, generators etc. Most of these energy converters, sometimes called static energy-conversion devices, use electrons as their “working fluid” in place of the vapour or gas employed by such dynamic heat engines as the external-combustion and internal-combustion engines mentioned above. In recent years, direct energy-conversion devices have received much attention because of the necessity to develop more efficient ways of transforming available forms of primary energy into electric power. Direct energy-conversion devices are of interest for providing electric power in spacecraft because of their reliability and their lack of moving parts. As have solar cells, fuel cells, and thermoelectric generators, thermionic power converters have received considerable attention for space applications. Thermionic generators are designed to convert thermal energy directly into electricity.

Direct Energy Conversion devices like thermionic and thermoelectric converters are heat engines the heat engine operates between two reservoirs to and from which heat can be transferred. We put heat into the system from the hot reservoir and heat is expelled in to the cold reservoir.

The Carnot cycle

The Carnot cycle is a theoretical thermodynamic cycle proposed by Nicolas Léonard Sadi Carnot. It can be shown that it is the most efficient cycle for converting a given amount of thermal energy into work, or conversely, creating a temperature difference (e.g. refrigeration) by doing a given amount of work.

Every single thermodynamic system exists in a particular state. When a system is taken through a series of different states and finally returned to its initial state, a thermodynamic cycle is said to have occurred. In the process of going through this cycle, the system may perform work on its surroundings, thereby acting as a heat engine. A system undergoing a Carnot cycle is called a Carnot heat engine, although such a "perfect" engine is only a theoretical limit and cannot be built in practice.

The Carnot cycle when acting as a heat engine consists of the following steps:

1. Reversible isothermal expansion of the gas at the "hot" temperature, $T_1$ (isothermal heat addition or absorption). During this step the gas is allowed to expand and it does work on the surroundings. The temperature of the gas does not change during the process, and thus the expansion is isothermal. The gas expansion is propelled by absorption of heat energy $Q_1$ and of entropy $\Delta S=Q_1/T_1$ from the high temperature reservoir.

2. Isentropic (reversible adiabatic) expansion of the gas (isentropic work output). For this step the mechanisms of the engine are assumed to be thermally insulated, thus they neither gain nor lose heat.
The gas continues to expand, doing work on the surroundings, and losing an equivalent amount of internal energy. The gas expansion causes it to cool to the "cold" temperature, $T_2$. The entropy remains unchanged.

3. Reversible isothermal compression of the gas at the "cold" temperature, $T_2$. (isothermal heat rejection)
Now the surroundings do work on the gas, causing an amount of heat energy $Q_2$ and of entropy $\Delta S = Q_2/T_2$ to flow out of the gas to the low temperature reservoir. (This is the same amount of entropy absorbed in step 1, as can be seen from the Clausius inequality.)

4. Isentropic compression of the gas (isentropic work input). Once again the mechanisms of the engine are assumed to be thermally insulated. During this step, the surroundings do work on the gas, increasing its internal energy and compressing it, causing the temperature to rise to $T_1$. The entropy remains unchanged. At this point the gas is in the same state as at the start of step 1.

**Principles of DEC**

Converts the heat energy into electrical energy based on the principles of Seebeck effect. Later, in 1834, French scientist, Peltier and in 1851, Thomson (later Lord Kelvin) described the thermal effects on conductors.

**Seebeck effect**
When the junctions are produced in two different metals are maintained at different the circuit. This is known as Seebeck effect.

**Peltier effect**
Whenever current passes through the circuit of two dissimilar conductors, depending on the current direction, either heat is absorbed or released at the junction of the two conductors. This is known as Peltier effect.

**Thomson effect**
Heat is absorbed or produced when current flows in material with a certain temperature gradient. The heat is proportional to both the electric current and the temperature gradient. This is known as Thomson effect.

**Thermoelectric effect**
The thermoelectric effect, is the direct conversion of heat differentials to electric voltage and vice versa the good thermoelectric materials should possess large Seebeck coefficients, high electrical conductivity and low thermal conductivity.