

Chapter 15

Energy Sources

Read out some sources of energy :

1. **Oil** is the most important source of energy. Almost 40 per cent of the world's energy supply comes from it. Most of it is found in the middle East and has to be taken by tankers or pipelines to places where it is used around the world.



2. **Coal** is the world's second most important source of energy. It is a fossil fuel and is made from plants that lived and died in swamps 300 million years ago. Its reserves in the world will last about another 187 years.



3. **Natural Gas** is the third main source of energy which comes from the gas that occurs naturally beneath the Earth's surface. It is collected and taken to where it is needed by pipelines.



4. **Nuclear Power** is the fourth most important source of energy in the world. Mostly it is used to produce electricity for public use. First power station to produce this energy was opened in Calder Hall, United Kingdom in 1956.



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5 As a power source, flowing water has been in use since the middle ages. **Hydropower** is the leading source of renewable energy. It uses water flowing through turbines in dams to produce electricity. It is less costly than mining fossil fuels like coal.



6 For thousands of years, **Wind Energy** has been in use to push sailing boats and turn windmills. Windmills are also used to produce electricity.



7 **Solar Energy** has become very popular now-a-days. Scientists have been working hard to improve its technology. The Sun is the main source of this energy because solar radiation is used to produce electricity using photovoltaic cells.



Think Fast

1. What is made up of plants that lived and died in swamps 300 million years ago called?
   (a) Oil ☐ (b) Water ☐ (c) Coal ☐ (d) Petrol ☐
2. Which energy is associated with photovoltaic cells ?
   (a) Solar ☐ (b) Wind ☐ (c) Hydro ☐ (d) Coal ☐
3. Which energy has been in use to push sailing boats and turn windmills?
   (a) Tidal ☐ (b) Solar ☐ (c) Hydro ☐ (d) Wind ☐
4. Which of the following is the third main source of energy?
   (a) Hydropower ☐ (b) Coal ☐ (c) Natural gas ☐ (d) Solar ☐
5. What is the energy obtained from waves and marine currents called ?
   (a) Wind ☐ (b) Tidal ☐ (c) Solar ☐ (d) Hydropower ☐

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