PAK STUDIES ASSIGNMENT

Assignment 1 and 2

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Natural Resources in Pakistan

Pakistan is rich in diverse natural resources. Pakistan has an abundance of natural resources. Nature has blessed the country with many types of fossil fuels which if utilized properly can reshape the country and put the country on a path to prosperity. However, political instability, corruption and lack of law and order in the country has prevented full use of such resources. Following are some of the details of natural resources of Pakistan which are needed to be utilized for the economic boom in the country

Important Natural Resources of Pakistan

The important natural resources of Pakistan are described as under:

- Soil
- Water
- Forests
- Minerals and Power/Energy Resources
- Oil & Natural Gas
- Coal

Mining in Pakistan

Mining is an important industry in Pakistan. Pakistan has deposits of several minerals including coal, copper, gold, chromite, mineral salt, bauxite and several other minerals. There are also a variety of precious and semi-precious minerals that are also mined. These include peridot, aquamarine, topaz, ruby, emerald, rare-earth minerals bastnaesite and xenotime, sphene, tourmaline, and many varieties and types of quartz. The Pakistan Mineral Development Corporation is the responsible authority for the support and development of the mining industry. Gemstones Corporation of Pakistan looks after the interests of stake holders in gemstone mining and polishing as an official entity. Baluchistan province is the richest in mineral resources available in Pakistan. While recently Sindh discovered coal deposits in Thar. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is rich in gems. Most of the mineral gems found in Pakistan exist here. Apart from oil, gas and some mineral used in nuclear energy purposes which comes directly under federal control mining of other minerals is provincial issue. Currently around 52 minerals, are mined and processed in Pakistan.

Power Resource Minerals

1. Coal
2. Natural Gas
3. Crude Oil etc.

COAL:

Coal was first discovered across Pakistan and the rest of South Asia in the 1880s and was used by the British-owned railway companies under colonial rule. Later, post-colonial Pakistan had used coal to fule its industry from independence to the discovery of the Baluchistan's Sui gas field in 1952 and the Toot oilfield in 1964.

There are reportedly 1000s of small coal mines in the Duki district, most of it used in brick kilns and other factories such as textile and cement. The mine owners are private individuals, rather than corporations, and more than half the workers are from Afghanistan. These mines have long histories of unsafe work conditions. There are an additional 50 small coal mines operating in the Musakhael district. The Thar mine is a new project with massive resources first discovered in the 1990s.[1]

Environmentalists are now concerned that Pakistan has recently discovered 1 low and 4 low to medium quality coal seams in the Punjab and plans to re-flue its economically important cement industry with it after their oil fields have run dry due to heavy over use. Low sulfur coal was recently reported to have been found at the Baluchistan near Quetta as well. There are reports that a low-sulfur deposit has been found near Islamabad.

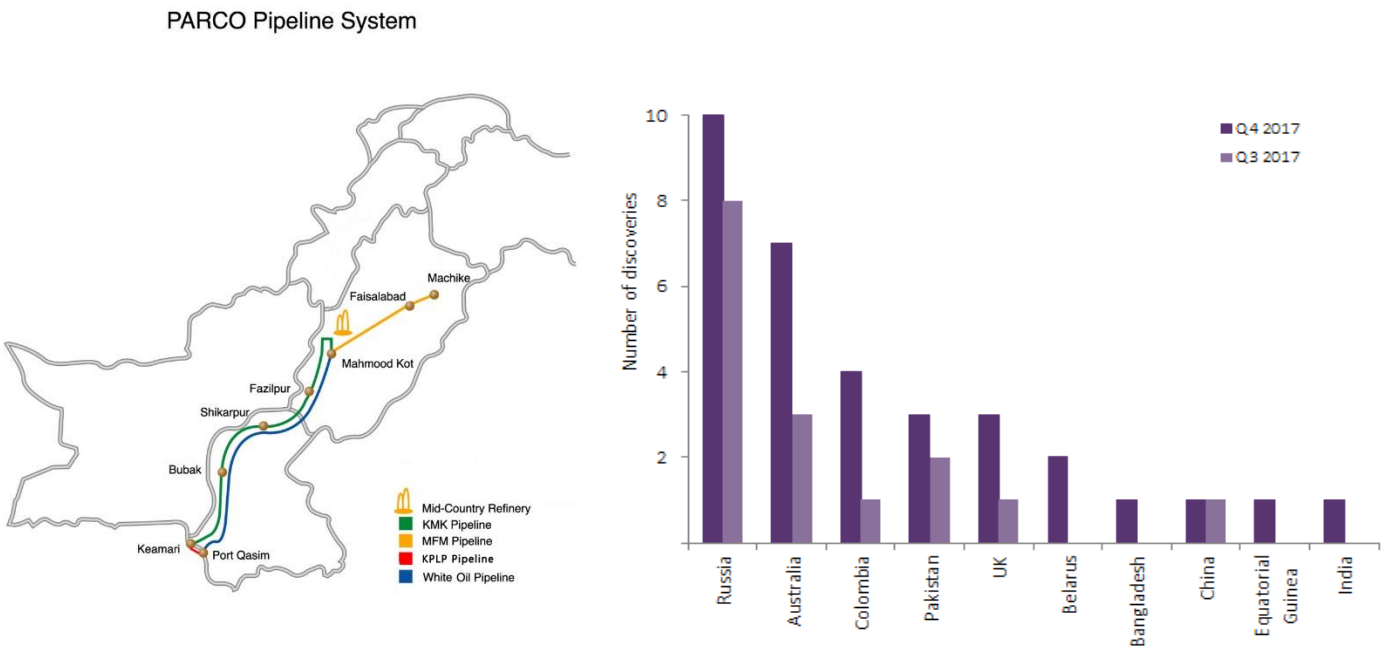
Sindh's Thar desert and Neyveli (in Pakistan) lignite mines will also be expanded soon for industrial usage. Special measures are being employed to reduce the resulting fly ash, carbon footprint and sulphur fume emission problems after it's burnt.

Places

The biggest mines of coal is Salt Ranges in Kohistan in the region of Makarwat in Punjab. In these regions coal is also found in Dundot and Pudh. Like Makarwal some mines are such whose tunnels are about nine miles long. In the province of Balochistan many reservoirs are found at other places. Coalmines are in Sharg, Hoset, Hernai, Sar, Dagari, Sheeren Aab, Bolan, Aab and Mush. Processing plant is also set in Shargh. In the lower regions of Sindh mines of Jhimpir and Lakhra are important. Government is in search of more mines.

Mineral Oil:

Minerals oil is very important in modern age. It is used in factories, industries and transport. Motorcars, tractors, train truck etc depending upon this oil. It is also used in homes. Average production of oil in Pakistan cannot meet its needs. We are getting 10% oil for our needs and the rest of the oil is imported on which we spend a large amount of foreign exchange. Experts say that at certain we can get oil from the sea. For this purpose we started digging in 1985 at the coast of our sea in Karachi. At certain other places are digging our earth. If we succeed we shall satisfy our need of oil from our our resources.



The Above picture shows the number of discovery in recent times by countries in the world and the parco pipeline

Places

We are getting oil from Khor, Bhullian, Tut, Kot Sarug, Miyal, Dherznund (District Attock), Kazian (District Rawalpindi), Dhodak (District Dera Ghazi Khan), Kursal (District Jhelum), and Khushkhali (District Badeen). The oil obtained from Attock, Jhelum and Chakwal districts is refined in Morgah Refinery near Rawalpindi. Refinery means the industry where crude oil is refined for different purposes

Natural Gas:

Natural gas is an important discovery. We meet 35% of our need of energy from this gas. This gas is brought in Lahore, Karachi, Faisalabad, Gujranwala, Sialkot, Peshawar and other cities by means of pipelines. This gas is used in Industries and also in our homes as fuel. Fine type of fertilizer is prepared in Multan by using this gas. This gas is also used in manufacturing Rayon thread and Chemical materials.

One of its form is used to power automobiles known as CNG (Compressed Natural Gas)

Places

The reservoirs of natural gas are in Sui, Uch, Zin, Kherpur, Muzrani, Hindi, Kundkot, Sarung, Dhodak, Peerkoh and Dhullian

Climatic Regions of Pakistan

Climate is the weather condition of a region over the years. Climate is the permanent routine of a geographical region and takes over thousands of years to change. Climate includes the average temperature, frequency of rain, air pressure, humidity, the sunlight it receives, its height from the ground, etc. It varies from one geographical region to another.

Allah Almighty has bestowed Pakistan with a great variance in geographical regions ranging from coastal areas at sea level to the highest mountain ranges in the world. From the plains of Sindh and Punjab to the valleys of KPK and Gilgit Baltistan, from Azad Kashmir to Baluchistan, Pakistan has a variety of climatic regions.

Pakistan experiences 5 season a year including summers, winters, autumn, spring and Monsoon. In summers, the sun is hotter in the plain areas of Pakistan. This season mainly continues from April to July. The temperature may reach above 50 degrees in this season. In winters the weather is cold and temperature may fall below 0 degrees in highland of Pakistan while the plane regions may experience temperature from 2 degrees to 20 degrees in winters. The hot and dry spring season stretches from March to May. Flowers bloom and trees are full with leaves. Hailstorms are expected in spring as well. The Autumn falls in October on plains and even sooner on the highlands. This is the best time for tourists to visit across the country. The rainy season of Monsoon starts in june and ends in September. This season occurs in the whole country except western Baluchistan, Frontier area of KPK (Ex-FATA), Chitral and Gilgit Baltistan.

Pakistan can be divided into following climatic regions:

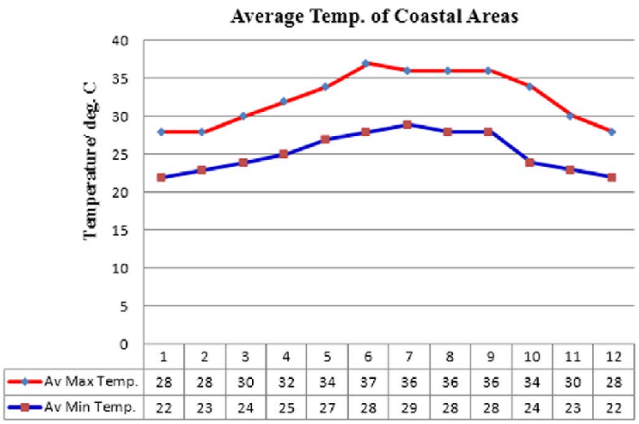
- Marine Tropical Coast Land
- Arid and Semi-Arid Sub-Tropical continental Low Land
- Sub-Tropical Continental Plateau
- Arid Sub-Tropical Continental High Land

The details of each are discussed below;

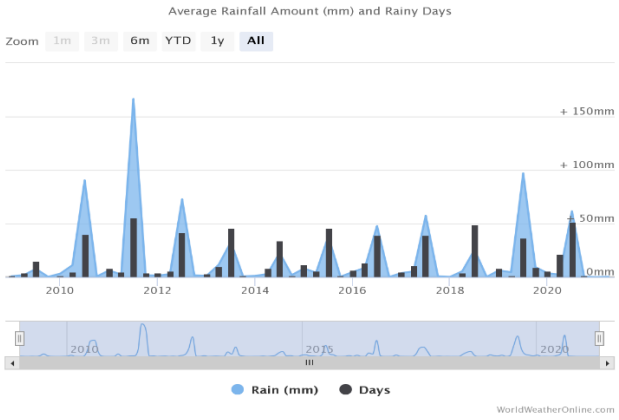
Marine Tropical Coast Land:

The region stretches across the Arabian Sea. The region covers the plain areas of Pakistan at sea level near Arabian Sea. The region receives steady sea breezes throughout the summer and the average temperature of this region may reach up to 36 degrees and the lowest is 20 degrees. The average humidity of the region is more than 70% due to the proximity of the Arabian Sea. The region receives 6 to 7 inches of rain annually. This region comprises of Makran

Coast, Lasbela, Lower Sindh, Tarparker, Central Hyderabad and western parts of Karachi. The graphs below show the climatic condition of the area.

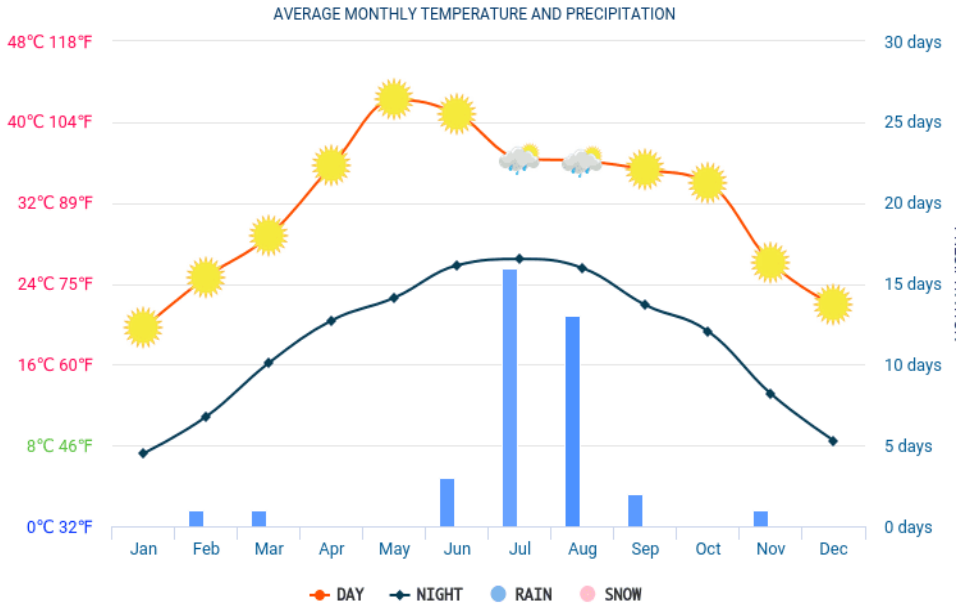


	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Av Max Temp.	28	28	30	32	34	37	36	36	36	34	30	28
Av Min Temp.	22	23	24	25	27	28	29	28	28	24	23	22



Arid and Semi-Arid Sub-Tropical Continental Low Land:

This region is mainly hot region. The region experiences a number of variations in the temperature conditions. The area is cold in winters and hot in summer. The temperature may reach 46 degrees Celsius in the summer and lesser to 2 degree Celsius in winters. The western areas of it, like Cholistan, receive average rainfall of 9 to 10 inches annually while the cities near predominant areas, like Lahore and Sialkot, receive around 29-32 inches of annual rainfall. Monsoon rains usually begin from the mid of June The average humidity may reach 40%. The region includes Kohistan, Kauhi, Mid and Upper Sindh, South and west Punjab, Western Bahawalpur, Nara, Sialkot, Thal, Faisalabad, Sahiwal, Lahore, Bannu, Peshawar, Shekhupura and Cholistan. The graph below shows the climate conditions of the region.



Sub-Tropical Continental Plateau:

This region includes the northwestern part of Baluchistan province and North of Punjab. It borders the western parts of Azad Kashmir and the southern part of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Here winters are cold, the areas may experience the temperature as low as 4 degrees in Punjab and sub-zero temperatures in North Baluchistan. In summer temperature goes higher and may reach 38 to 48 degrees, but due to poor rainfall, these have turned in to arid desert. In these areas the annual rainfall is less than 10 inches annually, but in some of the places of these areas have the lowest rainfall e.g. Nokundi (Western Baluchistan) has only 1.95 inches of rainfall annually, and rain often comes during the months of January and February.

Arid Sub-Tropical Continental High Land:

This region comprises of the mountain areas in the Northern and western part of Indus Plain (upper plain in Punjab and lower Plain in Sindh). These regions are mostly cold and windy. The temperature falls below zero degrees and the areas experience snowfall several months a year. The summer season is also cooler than plane areas. North-eastern mountain areas receive a lot of rainfall throughout the year but mainly during summer. The North-Eastern side of this region is short of rainfall, usually 3-5 inches annually. These are drier highlands. The highland region comprises of Murree, Haraza division, Naran, Quetta division, Kohat, Wazeeristan, some parts of Azad Kashmir, Syachin, Karakoram Ranges, Hindu kush, Himalyas, Abbotabad and Gilgit Baltistan, etc.