Research Study Critique 1

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HOW DOES INDIA’S ENERGY SECURITY AFFECT HER NATIONAL SECURITY?

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Thesis

The paper evaluates the subject based on India, which representing “How does India’s energy security affect her national security?”. The overall goal of the study is to provide information regarding to the challenges in meeting its energy needs and providing adequate and varied energy of desired quality to users in a sustainable manner in reasonable costs. The population of India is increasing rapidly, so the question is how to provide energy need of each user. The major challenges to India is to secure her energy are inadequate domestic energy capacity. Now, India is seeking some other options to fulfill her energy needs. Because of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have led to increasing oil prices which have adversely affected the Indian economy. For the security of energy requirement, India applies the new option called Overland transnational energy pipelines. Overland transnational energy pipelines by their very nature incorporate multiple nations (source nations, destination nations and transit nations) and are affected by regional and geo-strategic interests of the nations involved. It provides a great platform to analysis India’s energy need, geo-static interest and its national security. There is some assumption in this study that the Indian economy is growing in the range of 8 % annually. Because of this energy demand is increasing. And the second assumption is India will continue to follow an integrated energy policy to address its energy security issues in both the domestic and international arenas. [[1]](#endnote-1)

Methods

The method which is utilizes by author for this study is twofold method and case study methodology. The first phase of review involved the analysis of India’s energy security requirements and determine if India’s energy security is indeed an element of its national security method. In the second phase of thesis shall examine the effects of India’s energy security on her national security using the case study methodology. The thesis is comparing the 3 cases of projected oil lines, natural gas lines from different sources and transiting through different countries. By using example of Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) gas pipeline, the proposed Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipeline, and the proposed Myanmar-Bangladesh-India (MBI) gas pipeline, we get to know about the energy security conditions and national security of India. To analysis of these three cases they followed assurance of supply, role of Pakistan, role of China and the impact of pipeline project on India’s relationship with the USA these four criteria as variables. [[2]](#endnote-2)

Evidence

Assurance of supply shows the reliability and stability of the source and the feasibility of the supply through transit countries. This factor likely causes of supply disruption and their impact on India’s energy security. Pakistan’s role is also important in this case just because of his geostrategic position. Even the relation between the Pakistan and India also matters. The gas pipeline is travelling through the Pakistan geostrategic area. So, Pakistan also probably stands to gain from the projects in terms of revenues. After that china has the same condition like India in terms of population and need of the energy sources. Myanmar provides the oil resources to china. In the backdrop of the unresolved border disputes between India and China and their increasing competition for limited global energy resources the role of China in India’s energy security is undeniable. So, India has chosen two sources which are currently mired in controversy. Iran is supporting the terrorism and nuclear ambitions have been the subject of intense international scrutiny And Myanmar has a dubious human rights record. Iran and Myanmar share strained relations with the USA. On the other hand, Indo-US relations are also good. Hence these projects have the potential to affect India’s relations with the USA.[[3]](#endnote-3) There are some other options are available to minimize the risk of energy security by just implement the pipeline by using different root through north-eastern region. Both the pipelines provide Pakistan a major economic leverage over India. This could be a great risk in case of future conflicts between the two countries. Despite the risks associated the pipelines provide a tremendous economic platform for improvement of bilateral ties between India and its neighbors (Pakistan, Myanmar). Thus, the opportunity to resolve bilateral issues could outweigh the risks involved.[[4]](#endnote-4)

Evaluation

This article provides significant background information regarding the methodology behind the energy requirement of India and examining whether India’s energy security is an element of its national security. Thereafter the focus shall be on analyzing each of the case studies within the framework of the independent variables identified and assessing their impact on India’s national security. After reading that article we get to know about some of the Dimensions of Energy security like social dimension, foreign policy dimension, Economic dimension, Security dimension, Environmental dimension and Technical dimension.[[5]](#endnote-5) There is a big gap between supply and demand of energy in the countries like India and china. To making a relation with Iran and Myanmar affects the relation between India and USA. But Because of china, India closed the deal with the Myanmar. It is possible that as energy security today is such a massive concern in India, it may well pass from the realm of economics and statecraft into that of military policy. India must develop a long-term strategy to exercise its tools of national power to secure its energy requirements and try to make good relations with the Pakistan and china to complete his energy need. At the same time provide viable diplomatic options to compete with them. India’s domestic and overseas energy infrastructure development implies that its armed forces will have to develop the capacity to protect these assets.[[6]](#endnote-6) Thus, India’s armed forces may have to re-define their role. They may possibly have to operate across a wider area of strategic interest, thus necessitating enhancement of their strategic reach capability. Also India has to try some different resources like NCES and Nuclear energy. India’s energy policy needs to be redefined and globally competitive. Energy security is not only crucial for India’s internal stability and social development; it also has the potential to redefine India’s foreign policy.[[7]](#endnote-7)

References

1. Ajay Kumar Singh, “*How Does India’s Energy Security Affect Her National Security? 2008,(4),* [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. Ajay Kumar Singh, “*How Does India’s Energy Security Affect Her National Security? 2008,(30),* [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
3. Ajay Kumar Singh, “*How Does India’s Energy Security Affect Her National Security? 2008,(32),* [↑](#endnote-ref-3)
4. Ajay Kumar Singh, “*How Does India’s Energy Security Affect Her National Security? 2008,(76),* [↑](#endnote-ref-4)
5. Ajay Kumar Singh, “*How Does India’s Energy Security Affect Her National Security? 2008,(41),* [↑](#endnote-ref-5)
6. Ajay Kumar Singh, “*How Does India’s Energy Security Affect Her National Security? 2008,(79),* [↑](#endnote-ref-6)
7. Ajay Kumar Singh, “*How Does India’s Energy Security Affect Her National Security? 2008,(80)* [↑](#endnote-ref-7)