**Energy Resources**

**Energy resources** are the opportunities an area offers to generate electricity based on its natural conditions and circumstances. Energy is extracted from various sources to meet many requirements of human beings in this modern age. Energy is used for lighting / illumination, heating, motive power in automobiles, ships & aero planes, water pumping, refrigeration & air conditioning, cooking, motive power of various appliances /machinery, electronic data storage, etc in all sectors such as agriculture, industrial, commercial and domestic sectors. The value of energy minerals produced in India is more than 85% of all the minerals produced. In addition, India imports large quantity of fossil fuels spending huge chunk of its exports income. These energy minerals are also used as raw material in production of industrial products but the usage as source of energy is many folds. At the same time, it is more important for us to conserve and improve the energy resources.

**How do we improve energy resources in India?**

Improving energy resources is difficult, so we improve the systems using those resources to generate energy or we try to increase the efficiency by cutting down the wastage or using the by product.

Given below are some few effective ways for increasing energy efficiency or resources in India:

**Buying energy efficient products** – Purchasing efficient products is one of simple ways to increase energy efficiency. New electrical appliances such as refrigerators, dryers, washers and other appliances use less energy in comparison to older ones. While purchasing those electrical appliances you should look for those rated with ‘energy star’. Smaller items like light bulbs have more energy efficient options.

**Reduce standby/vampire power –**Many of the appliances which include televisions, lamps as well as the phone chargers can continue consuming energy even when it is in off mode. You should unplug those appliances when not use as this will save energy at the same reduce your electric bill up to 20 percent. You should attach them to a surge protector & turn them off when you are not using it or unplug them completely. This is one effective way to increase energy efficiency.

**Turn down thermostat & reduce heat transfer-**Most of the people turn on heater during months of cold knowing much knowledge that heat produced up to 30 percent is escaping through the windows. To save this energy one can install energy efficient windows to minimize heat transfer. During summer, these windows reduce heat transfer into the house minimizing the need of air conditioning.

**Go solar –**This is one of the great options to increase energy efficiency. One can install solar panels for overall energy grid or just for the water heater. Depending on where you live, wind energy may be a more preferable option.