

Importance of Energy and the role of Nuclear Energy in India's Energy Mix

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For the past ten years, cumulative average growth rate for electricity generation in India has been close to 6%. During the year 2016-17, total electricity generation was about 1430 billion kW-hour or TW-hour. It will be more than 1500 TW-hour in 2017-18. Considering rate of economic growth, linkage between economic growth and electricity requirements, increasing urbanisation and current low per capita electricity availability, electricity generation in India is likely to exceed 8000 TW-hour by the middle of this century. Environmental sustainability enjoins on India to generate a significant fraction of the total generation by low-carbon technologies that is nuclear, hydro, solar and wind. Considering that total potential of hydro, solar and wind is only about one-fourth of the projected electricity requirements, nuclear must play a dominant role.

The talk will explain near- and medium-term plans to accelerate growth in installed nuclear capacity, and provide a glimpse of ongoing research and development aimed at directing growth in installed capacity in the long-term.

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