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## Fossil Fuels: Natural Gas, Formation and Uses of Natural Gas, Advantages and Disadvantages (For CBSE, ICSE, IAS, NET, NRA 2022)

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### Natural Gas

- It is a colorless and odorless gas that can be easily transferred through pipelines.
- It is clean and non-toxic in nature.
- Under high pressure it is stored as compressed natural gas (CNG) .
- It is also a less polluting and a less expensive fossil fuel.
- One of the most useful and important natural gas is Methane.
- It is a product of decomposed organic matter formed typically from ancient marine microorganisms being deposited over the last 550 million years ago.

### Uses of Natural Gas

- Compressed natural gas is significantly used for generating power.
- CNG is also used in the automobiles as fuels.
- In homes it is used for cooking purpose.
- It is also used as the starting material in fertilizers and chemicals.

### Advantages of Fossil Fuels

- Fossil fuels have become safer over time.
- Through pipelines the transportation of fossil fuels can be done easily.
- These are cost effective and can be found very easily.
- These are available in plenty despite being a finite resource.

### Disadvantages of Fossil Fuels

- The carbon dioxide emitted on burning of fossil fuels is a major greenhouse gas and the primary source of pollution.
- Once used these fossil fuels cannot be reused i.e. they are a non-renewable resource.
- The environment becomes more acidic due to the combustion of fossil fuels.
- The coal miners suffer from the Black Lung Disease.

## **Fossil Fuels Are Non-Renewable**

- They can be found everywhere from the air we breathe to the water in the seas.
- Most of the energy used by humans comes through burning of fossil fuels.
- The fossil fuels are not being regrown with the same rate as their consumption.
- Their demands are increasing and hence it is becoming difficult to replace them.

## **FAQs**

Q1. List some of the benefits of using fossil fuels.

Answer:

Some of the benefits of using fossil fuels are:

- i) They are found in abundance and hence are accessible.
- ii) They also provide a large amount of concentrated energy.
- iii) They can be easily transported through pipes.

Q 2. What are the three major types of fossil fuels?

Answer:

Three major types of fossil fuels are:

- i) Coal
- ii) Petroleum
- iii) Natural gas

Q 3. List out some of the disadvantages of fossil fuels.

Answer: Some of the disadvantages of fossil fuels are:

- i) They emit carbon dioxide a major source of air pollution.
- ii) They cannot be used twice being a non-renewable resource.
- iii) Harvesting of fossil fuels also causes fatal diseases among the people.

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