

Fossil fuels will supply a third of energy till 2030: Pachauri

Painting a gloomy picture of adverse climate change affecting countries across the globe, a leading energy expert has said that more than one-third of world energy demand would continue to be met by fossil fuels like coal till 2030.

'World energy demand would increase by 45 percent between now and 2030. More than one-third of this would be met by coal, sending global temperatures soaring,' director general of The Energy and Resources Institute, R.K. Pachauri said here Monday.

Addressing a session at the eighth international oil and gas conference Petrotech 2009, he said: 'Energy security issues have to be pursued keeping the climate in mind. We are already witnessing adverse effects of climate change like increased instances of crop failure and flooding of cities like Mumbai.

'But we already have existing technologies which can be effectively used for reducing carbon emissions; we don't have to wait for new technology to come in and then do something about emissions.'

Traditional planners consider renewable energy technologies like wind and solar power far more expensive than coal based thermal power plants.

However, Pachauri said: 'The total cost of adopting such technology is about three percent of global GDP which is not much given that this will in turn create new jobs by starting a new industry (renewable energy).'

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