

Do you think generation of nuclear energy is good enough to handle existing climate change crisis. Critically analyse.

The electricity generation post pandemic is increasing. The evergreen trade-off between electricity generation and emissions continue. At this juncture, the nuclear energy has a mixed bag of opportunities.

Nuclear Vs Fossil Fuels

Comparing with conventional fossil fuels, nuclear energy does not emit any pollutants. Yet nuclear energy forms only 10% in world energy basket and 2%.

in India -

Relentless generation of power is possible with nuclear without any dependence on coal. France produces 70% of its energy from nuclear. India too has commissioned its 5th unit at Koodankulam.

Nuclear Vs Renewables

The cost /unit of electricity is more than 3 times from nuclear and less than 2 times from solar.

Also, CO_2 emissions are rampant during the construction of nuclear projects quicker than safety requirements. It is also four times expensive than wind or solar and takes fifteen times longer to construct.

Most of the nuclear plants operate open fuel cycle power plants, which increases the risk of radioactive emissions. They coolant discharge from nuclear plants create thermal shocks to water ecosystems.

way forward

With temperatures rising, the importance of nuclear power plants is gently fading in comparison to renewables. It is essential to achieve SDG -13 climate action without compromising energy needs.