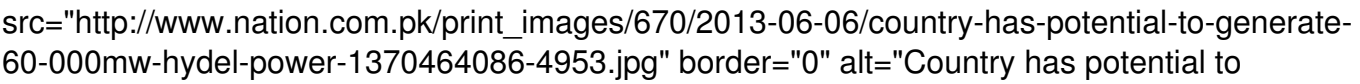


Written by Administrator

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Lahore ♦The country has potential to generate 60,000MW electricity from hydel resources but failing in construction of mega dams is reason behind worst energy crisis, said Wapda Member (water). ♦

Engineer Hasnain Afzal, while talking to reporters after addressing a seminar on ♦Think-Eat ♦Save♦, organised by Pakistan Engineering Congress in connection with World Environment Day here Wednesday, said Pakistan has entered into ♦food insecurity zone♦, hence we needed to focus on building dams for water conservation and power generation. ♦We should also focus on water management apart from raising awareness among the people about water conservation,♦ he said, adding: ♦Media can play an important role in this regard.♦ He said water conservation should be the part of curriculum in schools.

Speaking on the occasion, President Pakistan Engineering Congress Engineer Riaz Ahmad Khan said that we were already touching the water scarcity index as the present per capita availability of water is about 1100 cubic meters against the threshold of 1000 cubic meter per annum. Riaz said that there was a dire need to conserve whatever fresh water resources we have and to adopt most efficient water use practices.

Khan said that Think-Eat ♦Save was an anti food waste and food loss campaign that encourages us to reduce our food print. According to UN Food and Agriculture Organization every year 1.3 billion tones of food was wasted and this was equivalent to the same amount produced in the whole sub-saharan Africa. At the same time, one in every seven people in the world go to bed hungry and more than 20,000 children under the age of five die daily from hunger and malnutrition. He said that fresh water was one of the most burning issues of the world and that 2.5 per cent of the total water was fresh out of which nearly 30 per cent was ground water and 68.6 per cent glaciers, ice caps and only 1.3 per cent surface and fresh water.

♦Over a billion people lack access to safe drinking water and two and a half billion lack access to adequate sanitation services,♦ he held.

Courtesy: ♦Nation