

## Save Fuel Today for a Safe Tomorrow

Dr. Narendra Kumar Sharma, Dr. Ranveer Singh  
Govt Lohia College, Churu, Rajasthan  
S.K. Govt. College, Sikar

Little drops of water, Little grains of sand, Make a mighty ocean, And a pleasant land Small steps towards fuel conservation can make an enormous change in the present bleak situation. Let's all come together and ponder over this grim and pertinent problem which our goddess earth is facing due to thoughtless and reckless consumption of fuel. It is not a problem of the Blacks or the Whites, or the East or the West; it is a problem which pertains to all of us all over the globe, and therefore, we should all make our best efforts to alleviate it which is no less than a cancer and is spreading quite fast as a result of misuse or reckless use of the fossil fuel. It will not be an exaggeration to say that fuel is as important to us as are food and water to sustain our lives. Yes, we cannot imagine our lives without fuel, it is absolutely indispensable for us, and therefore, it would be very unwise of us as not to think or adopt measures to save it. Needless to say, we are dependent on fuel for almost everything right from cooking our food to driving our vehicles. Imagine how restless and helpless we feel when we run short of LPG gas while preparing our morning breakfast or our car stops abruptly on the way while going to our school or to our office as a result of lack of fuel. Certainly, what is important and indispensable for us must be used quite judiciously, or say, economically. Moreover, we do not have sufficient fuel mines, and therefore, we have to import it from the gulf countries at a very high rate which causes a great burden on the exchequer. Yet another important reason towards fuel conservation is that it is an exhaustible source of energy, that is to say that fuel mines are non-renewable, over-consumption leads to exhaustion and they cannot be reproduced. Since we have been using or misusing this exhaustible source of energy for almost a century or so, it is high time that we saved it. As human beings and as responsible inhabitants of the earth, it is our collective responsibility to save fuel and to protect the goddess earth from pollution and global warming.

We all know that residual of fuel get mixed with air and contaminate our atmosphere and this causes several diseases related with air pollution. Even water and sound pollution are equally harmful for us. Too many vehicles almost round the clock are responsible for the air and the sound pollution. We have had enough of all kinds of pollutions, and we have caused enough harm to our beloved planet, now let us all take small but firm steps towards fuel conservation lest it should be too late. Yes, lest it should be too late. A number of government and non-government organisations all over the globe are doing nice and great job of making the people aware of saving fuel and hence saving the earth. Most of us know the significance of fuel conservation yet we do not pay any heed to it or do not take it very seriously. Some of us are either selfish and do not bother about saving fuel or think that small steps taken by an individual or a few cannot bring about any change in fuel conservation. This is an absolutely fallacious thinking. The maxim, 'the earlier the better' holds good in the context of fuel conservation. If we do not do anything about fuel conservation immediately, no wonder our future generation would label us as callous, selfish and indifferent creatures. Working towards fuel conservation is just not a task anymore; it is a religious duty to accomplish this colossal task jointly. If 'strength lies in unity' so does success lies in unity. And so the saying goes: 'united we stand and divided we fall'. Therefore, it is time we commenced taking the following small steps to attain the desired objectives.

1. Let's try to make minimum use of our private vehicles, at least for small distances, and instead cycling and walking should be encouraged. These are not only good for health but also for keeping our planet pollution free.
2. For long distances, public transports like buses, trains or trams should be preferred, and if extremely

necessary, car-pooling should be encouraged by the daily commuters or the office-goers. Car-pooling not only saves fuel but it also reduces traffic problems and pollution. Car-pooling also helps in creating friendship and strengthening bonds among the daily-commuters.

3. Driving vehicle at a medium and uniform speed is not only safe but it also helps in saving fuel. Very low or very high speed leads to wastage of fuel and even untoward accidents.

4. Keeping proper air pressure in tires also helps in saving fuel and maintaining the engine.

5. Air filters should be regularly cleaned and even changed from time to time because regular cleaning/changing results in better gas mileage, reduced emissions, improved acceleration, prolonged engine life and overall improved drivability, and thus, in proper operation of a car.

6. Using CNG vehicle instead of petrol and diesel is advisable because it is cheaper, easily accessible and even its production is easier.

7. Switching the ignition off at the traffic lights also helps in saving fuel and preventing air and noise pollution.

8. Driving the vehicles on the 'Eco-mode' also saves fuel considerably. Regular service of the vehicles not only helps in the maintenance but also in giving good mileage hence less consumption of fuel.

9. Using AC all the time in cars not only pollutes the environment but also leads to wastage of fuel. Therefore, we should habituate ourselves to reduce its usage to the minimum. Air-conditioners produce chloro fluoro carbon which is dangerous for environment; therefore, even at homes we should use them when it is very hot. Let's not overlook the fact that too much physical comfort leads to poor

resistance and hence poor immunity.

10. We should also save LPG as much as possible. Let's cook food in pressure-cookers or vessels with proper lids. High flames and big burners should sparingly be used, and the knobs must immediately be switched off while not using them. Proper usage not only saves scarce fuel but also the hard earned money.

11. Heating up food again and again not only reduces its nutrient value but also results in wastage of fuel. Therefore, it is advisable to take food together which gives the members a good family time and prevents repeated heating up food.

12. Gas-geysers should be used only when they are extremely essential. We should give up the habit of bathing with hot water round the year because it is neither good for health nor for the pocket.

The above cited small steps of fuel conservation can make a big change provided they are adopted with full sincerity and integrity.

To conclude, if we wish to save our planet, maintain our health and our comfortable living, we should replace the consumption of the fossil fuel with other sources of energy like for instance, the solar energy. It is a cheaper, natural, cleaner and renewable source of energy and God has bestowed it upon us in abundance. If we learn the techniques to capture, store and aptly utilize this vital and divine source of energy then there would be no dearth of power anywhere across our goddess earth. Thus, before the dream of consumption of the solar energy on a wide scale is realised, let's us save fuel today so that we may use it tomorrow.

#### **SOURCES CONSULTED:**

Amanda Bishop. Energy Conservation (Saving Our World), Cavendish Square Publishing, 2008.

Amory Lovins. Winning the oil endgame: Rocky mountain institute, 2004.

Elmer S. Monroe. Saving fuel with furnaces, 1982.

Frank Kreith; D. Yogi Goswami (Editors) Handbook of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, 2007.

Fredric March. Wind power for the electricity.

John Zumerchik. Macmillan encyclopedia of energy, 2000.

J.R.Waters. Energy conservation in buildings, 1976.

Robert J. Henry. Plant resources for food, fuel and conservation, 2009.

Besides, booklets/ leaflets /posters published by PCRA (Petroleum Conservation Research Association).