

Power shortfall

India is not the only country on the Indian Subcontinent grappling with its energy needs. In Pakistan, daily blackouts are the results of a longstanding energy crisis, with the government pushing to end shortages across South Asia's second largest economy within two years.

There are currently 140million Pakistanis either without power or subject to 12 hours of daily 'load-shedding'. A shortfall of 4,000 MW was estimated to cost the economy 7 percent of GDP in 2015.

Muhammad Kamran, projects director at Karachi based forwarder Star Shipping told HLPFI that Pakistan's development needs are urgent . "The current government wants to get rid of the energy crisis which definitely requires more projects than ever before. This mass need of energy has opened a gateway for all the project logistics companies in Pakistan".

Project forwarder from all over the world are turning their attention towards Pakistan, Kamran said, noting that existing industries are expanding by installing new providing opportunities for heavy machinery imports.

As in India, Pakistan's poor infrastructure is a major hindrance when executing heavy cargo moves.

Kamran explained: "The roads and bridges in Pakistan are old and have no details of load bearing capacity. We are forced to use the bridges and roads with no prior information of sustainability.

"The highway authority is focused on the construction of new roads which is a good sign for us transporters, but there are still huge risks involved in the movement of heavy cargo on the bridges."



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