



National Energy Conservation Day 2021

For Prelims: National Energy Conservation Day, Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), National Energy Conservation Awards, SAMEEEKSHA Portal.

For Mains: National and global efforts to ensure energy conservation, Scenario of Power Sector in India and need of energy conservation.

Why in News

The [National Energy Conservation Day](#) is observed on December 14th, every year by the [Bureau of Energy Efficiency \(BEE\)](#).

- The day **focuses on making people aware of [global warming and climate change](#)** and promotes efforts towards saving energy resources. It also **highlights the achievements of the country** in the fields of energy efficiency and conservation.
- The Ministry of Power celebrated **Energy Conservation Week (8-14 Dec)** in 2021 under **Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav**. As part of celebrations, the **BEE** under the Ministry of Power has organized various programs.

Key Points

- **Energy Conservation:**
 - It refers to the **efforts made to ensure that energy is used efficiently** by either using less energy for a particular constant purpose – like **switching off lights and fans** when not being used – or **reducing the use of a particular service that uses energy** – like driving less and using public transport instead.
 - Energy conservation is a **conscious, individual effort**, and at a macro level, it leads to energy efficiency.
 - The end goal of energy conservation is **to reach towards sustainable energy**.
 - It is **different from the term ‘energy efficiency’**, which is using technology that requires less energy to perform the same function.
- **Energy Conservation Act, 2001:**
 - The [Act](#) was enacted with the goal of reducing the energy intensity of the Indian economy. **It provides regulatory mandates for:**
 - Standards & labeling of equipment and appliances;
 - Energy conservation building codes for commercial buildings; and
 - Energy consumption norms for energy intensive industries.
- **Energy Conservation Week:**
 - The **Ministry of Power** is celebrating **Energy Conservation Week** under [Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav](#) from 8th to 14th December 2021.
 - The **BEE and the Ministry of [Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises \(MSMEs\)](#)** have together taken a number of initiatives to ensure the growth of this sector in an energy-efficient and environmentally-friendly way.
 - To ensure synergy among various players in the MSME sector, BEE and the Ministry of

MSME have also promoted a collaborative platform--"**SAMEEEKSHA**" (**Small and Medium Enterprises Energy Efficiency Knowledge Sharing**).

- The platform **aims to pool the knowledge and synergise the efforts of various organisations** for the promotion and adoption of clean, energy technologies and practices.
- The BEE has organized an **Interactive Workshop on Outcomes of Energy and Resource Mapping** of the MSMEs Clusters.
- **National Energy Conservation Awards:**
 - The Ministry of Power had launched the [National Energy Conservation Awards](#) in 1991, to give national recognition through awards to industries and establishments that have taken special efforts to reduce energy consumption while maintaining their production.
 - It **recognizes the energy efficiency achievements** in 56 sub-sectors across industry, establishments and institutions.
- **Other Related Initiatives:**
 - **National:**
 - [Perform Achieve and Trade Scheme \(PAT\)](#): It is a market based mechanism to enhance the cost effectiveness in improving the Energy Efficiency in Energy Intensive industries through certification of energy saving which can be traded.
 - [Standards and Labeling](#): The scheme was launched in 2006 and is currently invoked for equipment/appliances.
 - [Energy Conservation Building Code \(ECBC\)](#): It was developed for new commercial buildings in 2007.
 - **Demand Side Management**: It is the selection, planning, and implementation of measures intended to have an influence on the demand or customer-side of the electric meter.
 - **Global Efforts:**
 - **International Energy Agency**: It works with countries around the world to shape energy policies for a **secure and sustainable future**.
 - India is not a member country but an [association country](#). However [IEA has invited India to be a full time member](#).
 - The **IEA** and Energy Efficiency Services Ltd. (EESL - Ministry of Power) co-produced a case study on the Indian Government's domestic efficient lighting programme - [UJALA](#) - to showcase the multiple benefits of energy efficient lighting.
 - **Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL)**:
 - It is an **international organization** that works in **partnership with the United Nations and leaders in government, the private sector, financial institutions and civil society** to drive faster action towards the achievement of [Sustainable Development Goal 7 \(SDG7\)](#) - access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all by 2030 - in line with the Paris Agreement on climate.
 - **Paris Agreement**:
 - It is a [legally binding international treaty](#) on **climate change**. Its goal is to limit global warming to well below 2, preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius, compared to pre-industrial levels.
 - As a part of the **Paris Agreement**, India has **committed to reducing its energy intensity** (units of energy use per unit of GDP) by 33-35% by 2030 compared to the 2005 levels.
 - **Mission Innovation (MI)**:
 - It is a **global initiative of 24 countries** and the European Commission (on behalf of the [European Union](#)) **to accelerate clean energy innovation**.
 - **India** is one of the member countries.
- **Scenario of Power Sector in India:**
 - **Overall Capacity**: India is the **third-largest electricity producer** in the world. The overall capacity of about 392 GW is added into its electricity grid, as of November 2021.
 - **Thermal, nuclear, and renewable energy systems** are the major sources for generating India's electricity.
 - The installed power generation capacities for thermal, nuclear, and renewable energy technologies hold shares of 60% (234.69 GW), 2% (6.78

GW), and 38% (150.54 GW), respectively.

- **Renewable Energy Sector:** The **renewable energy sector** in India is the **fourth most attractive renewable energy** market globally.
 - In terms of **wind energy installation capacity**, India was **ranked fourth**, while it was placed fifth in solar energy installation capacity.
 - India has achieved a milestone by crossing 150 GW of renewable energy (RE) capacity.
 - As of November 2021, the overall RE installed capacity stood at 150.54 GW against the ambitious RE target of 175 GW by 2022 and [450 GW by 2030](#).

Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)

- The BEE is a **statutory body** established through the [Energy Conservation Act, 2001](#) under the **Union Ministry of Power**.
- It **assists in developing policies and strategies** with the primary objective of reducing the energy intensity of the Indian economy.
- BEE **coordinates with designated consumers, designated agencies, and other organizations** to identify and utilize the existing resources and infrastructure, in performing its functions.

[Source: PIB](#)

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/national-energy-conservation-day-2021>