

E For Energy Efficiency

Executive Summary

Since ages, civilizations have been dependent on both the availability and the advancement of energy. There has been a significant progression from natural, animal, and steam power, to the internal combustion engine and electricity generation and to harnessing of alternative sources of energy. The progress and the ways in which energy is produced, distributed, and consumed have put enormous pressure on the ecosystem's natural resources.

A majority of our energy demands are met from fossil fuels such as coal and petroleum. The burning of these fuels is a large source of carbon dioxide emissions, which contributes to the greenhouse effect. While fossil fuels remain our largest source of energy, they are finite resources at the same time. With current patterns of energy demand there is an increasing push to utilize alternative sources of energy efficiently. As human consumption of energy continues to increase, further research and development will be necessary to produce alternative sources of energy that are readily available, which are affordable and less harmful to the environment as compared with conventional fossil fuels. However, it is pertinent to foster consciousness among people on energy conservation and energy efficiency so that they realize the importance of utilizing limited resources and building a society which is mindful of their 'needs' and 'desires'.

Against this background, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) in partnership with Power Operation System Co. Ltd. (POSOCO) initiated a project titled 'E for Energy Efficiency' with an objectives to build consciousness on the importance of energy efficiency among the future generation of the country, to educate students on the inter-linkages of scarce resources and its optimum utilization, and to create an informed group of citizens by encouraging students to actively participate in efforts to conserve the energy.

A child-friendly and activity-oriented project, E for Energy Efficiency reached out to students in the age group of 8 to 12 (classes IV – VII) from 10 schools each from Mumbai and Bangalore.

The objectives of the project were achieved through workshops, competitions, teacher training, and interactive sessions with students, exposure visit, film screening and discussions. Also, child-friendly resource materials like brochure, post cards, book mark were developed for information dissemination and awareness generation among the school students. Also to inculcate a feeling of association, pride and a sense of belonging among participants, attractive caps and T-shirts were developed and distributed to the schools, teachers, parents, and POSOCO employees.

