



MNRE proposes enhancement of budget allocation for green buildings through GRIHA

On the second day of the 6th GRIHA Summit, awards were presented to green buildings, LEED EB and Alternate Compliance Paths launched and GRIHA-NASA Trophy awarded

New Delhi, March 13: The Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has proposed a manifold increase in the allocation for the transition phase from megawatt to gigawatt through the Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment (GRIHA). Speaking at the 6th GRIHA Summit, **Mr Upendra Tripathy**, Secretary, MNRE, said that speed, scale and skill sets need to be enhanced to increase the renewable energy mix in our energy production. “The Summit is providing various ideas and is bringing together specialized professionals from different sectors to give a new thrust to renewable energy. We need to expand the number of institutions who are working to take this movement forward.” He added that India would soon overtake other countries in renewable energy, as the country has the resources and ideas to make this happen.

Dr Leena Srivastava, Acting Director-General, TERI, said: “Since energy efficiency is at the core of sustainable habitats, renewable energy must be given a head start. We have enormous experience not only on green buildings, but also on renewables. The creation of capacities is going to be vital to achieve clean and sustainable habitats. TERI University has taken the lead by offering various specialized courses to move towards a green economy.”

Ms Mili Majumdar, Director, TERI, and Secretary cum Treasurer, GRIHA Council, thanked the supporters of GRIHA Summit, which include Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), the US Green Building Council (USGBC) and the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE).

Awards to green projects/people

Mr Tripathy also presented awards to exemplary GRIHA projects and professionals in attaining sustainable habitats. They are Aishwaryam Courtyard, Pune, BPCL, Chembur, Circuit House,

Pune, GAIL, Kailaras, Income Tax Commissioners Office, NOIDA, IRICEN, Pune, Neelkanth Park, SIDBI, Bhubaneswar, Sona College, Salem, National Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER), Delhi (Site Management), Assam Water Research Management Institute, Guwahati (Passive Architecture Design), MNIT, Jaipur (Construction workers' health and safety), Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP), Lonar (Use of sustainable building materials) and Phase I and II of IIM, Udaipur (Integrated water management).

Among the professionals who were felicitated include Mr Divakar Garg, Director General (Works), Central Public Works Department (CPWD), Ms Anamika Prasad, Director, EDS, Mr Anurag Bajpai, Director – Planning & Sustainable Design, GreenTree Building Energy Pvt. Ltd., Mr P Sahel, Vice Chairman, Lotus Greens, Dr Anoop Kumar Mittal, Chairman-cum-Managing Director, National Building Construction Corporation Ltd., Ms Swati Puchapalli Reddy, Terra Viridis and Ms Poorva Keskar, Trustee, Sustainability Initiatives.

TERI-LEED pathways

Among the highlights of the Summit was the launch of the LEED EB and Alternate Compliance Paths (ACPs) jointly developed by TERI and USGBC. Experts, consultants and officials of USGBC, TERI and GBCI shared their experiences on the tools and platforms developed to address issues around resource optimization in existing buildings.

Mr Mahesh Ramanujam, Chief Operating Officer, USGBC, said: “USGBC and TERI have a shared vision and a great opportunity to leave a sustainable planet for future generations. Existing buildings hold incredible promise. We are very pleased to announce the LEED EB launch and look forward to an enriching and fruitful partnership. Let us not forget that all buildings are existing buildings.”

Ms Mili Majumdar, Director, TERI, and Secretary cum Treasurer, GRIHA Council, said: “TERI and USGBC entered into a strategic collaboration in July, 2014. One of the key initiatives taken under the collaboration is the launch of LEED for existing buildings. It is a programme to retrofit existing buildings to make them green.”

GRIHA-NASA trophy

Lotus Greens and The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) have joined hands to renew their commitment to the development of sustainable habitats by presenting the GRIHA-NASA (National Association of Students of Architecture) Trophy. The winners are NIT, Calicut, AMS Academy of Architecture, Chennai, Gateway College of Architecture (Sonipat Winner) and the Faculty of Architecture & Ekistics, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.

Mr P Sahel, Vice Chairman, Lotus Greens, said, “The students of architecture will be the ambassadors and catalysts for guiding sustainable development in the future. The GRIHA-NASA Trophy is a great opportunity to help budding architects appreciate the power of eco-friendly practices. As part of Lotus Greens’ commitment to promote sustainability across India, we have been sponsoring the GRIHA-NASA Trophy. We are elated to see the response; some exemplary work have been showcased by the students.”

Ms Mili Majumdar, Director, Sustainable Habitat Division, TERI, and Secretary cum Treasurer, The GRIHA Council, said: “We are proud to partner with Lotus Greens for supporting the GRIHA Trophy at NASA, which is an important initiative towards mainstreaming resource efficiency through future architects of our country. The students have shown a keen interest, especially for the live residential project that was identified as the problem statement. I look forward to the initiative gaining greater momentum. ”

Mr Samit Choksi, CEO and Co-Founder, THINK Idea Lab, said: “We are creating products that will influence behavioral change. For example, we have developed ‘Ulta Chatta’, an inverted canopy that collects, filters and stores rainwater. It is important to make products flexible to achieve sustainability. So we have added solar panels to the ‘Ulta Chaata’ that can bring clean lighting too.”

Said **Mr Alan Abraham**, Principal, Abraham John Architects: “We have initiated the Bombay Greenway Project to address the city’s growing problems of congestion, traffic and flooding. We have plans to construct a green layer over 114 km of railway lines to create 114 km of new space that can be utilized for walking, cycling and leisure purposes to decongest the present scenario.”

About GRIHA

GRIHA is a tool to facilitate design, construction and operation of green buildings that measures “greenness” of a building in India. It has been recognized as an innovative tool for sustainable development by the United Nations. It evaluates the environmental performance of a building holistically over its entire life cycle, thereby providing a definitive standard for what constitutes a ‘green building’. The rating system, based on accepted energy and environmental principles, will seek to strike a balance between the established practices and emerging concepts, both national and international.

About TERI

The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) is an independent, not-for-profit research organization deeply committed to every aspect of energy, environment, and sustainable development. From providing environment-friendly solutions to rural energy problems, to helping shape the development of the Indian oil and gas sector; from tackling global climate change issues across many continents to enhancing forest conservation efforts among local

communities; from advancing solutions to growing urban transportation and air pollution problems to promoting energy efficiency in Indian industries, the emphasis has always been on finding innovative solutions to make the world a better place to live in. All activities at TERI move from formulating local and national-level strategies to suggesting global solutions tackling critical energy and environment related issues.

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