

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hon'ble President of India Felicitates Student Winners of National Painting Competition on Energy Conservation Day 2017

1.22 crore School Students Participated in the Competition Across the Country

New Delhi, December 14, 2017: At the National Energy Conservation Day Celebrations held in the national capital today, Hon'ble President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, presented prizes to school children who won the National Painting Competition 2017. The competition invites children between the 4th and 9th standards across the country to depict sustainable living and their vision for a clean, green and energy efficient future.

Shri Ram Nath Kovind, Hon'ble President of India, addressed the august gathering: "The spirit of energy conservation is an intrinsic part of the Indian ethos. I would like to extend my best wishes to all the school children who have participated and made sincere efforts in creating imaginative paintings that aptly illustrate the level of their engagement with energy conservation activities and concerns for environmental sustainability. As the demand for energy in the country is steadily increasing and whereas the limited energy resources are rapidly depleting, it is vital to involve our youth, as decision makers of tomorrow, to join these initiatives to avoid energy crisis and enhance energy security."

Present on the occasion, Shri R.K Singh, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent charge) for Power and New & Renewable Energy stated, "Our effort on sustainable development rests heavily on the optimum use of energy and curbing its wastage. The efficient utilisation of energy needs to be an integral part of our lifestyle in our quest for energy security. I take particular pride in congratulating the children, our

young leaders in the making, who have participated in the painting competition and demonstrated inherent sensitivities to energy usage and environmental sustainability.”

The annual painting competition is organized by the Ministry of Power and Bureau of Energy Efficiency in association with 11 Central Power Sector Undertakings with the objective of encouraging school students to portray their inspiring ideas on energy efficiency and climate change.

The competition is held in three stages, namely, School, State and National Level. This year, students were evaluated for painting on themes including, switching off unnecessary lights, responsible energy use, making energy saving a passion, star labelled appliances, and energy efficiency in homes and offices. This year, total 19 student winners from across the country were given prizes at the national level.

First prize winners in each of Category A (standards 4th, 5th and 6th) and Category B (standards 7th, 8th and 9th) were awarded INR 1 lakh, each, by the Ministry of Power, while second and third prize winners received INR 50,000 and INR 25,000, respectively.

The competition is becoming increasingly popular over the years amongst school students, indicating growing energy conservation awareness amongst the youth. In 2017, a record number of 1.226 crore students participated in the school level painting competition, as against the 1.14 crore students in 2016 and 60 lakh students in 2014.

The competition is a part of the National Awareness Campaign to promote energy conservation launched by the Ministry of Power. It seeks to encourage the habit and awareness towards energy conservation



among India's young minds and equip them with information and knowledge on energy conservation from a tender age.

Through the combined actions of BEE, state governments and related agencies to promote adoption of energy efficiency and conservation measures, so far India has saved 385.2 billion units of energy through concerted efforts and mitigated CO₂ emissions by 319.7 million tonnes, from reduced energy consumption and avoided capacity generation.

These achievements are playing a critical role enabling India to meet its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to United Nations Framework for Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). India seeks to pursue a climate-friendly and cleaner path to holistic economic development, intending to reduce the emission intensity of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 33 to 35 percent by 2030 from 2005 level.

ABOUT BUREAU OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Set up on 1st March 2002, under the provisions of the Energy Conservation Act, 2001 by the Government of India, Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) is mandated to regulate and promote energy efficiency and its conservation in India. Its mission is to assist in developing policies and strategies, with a thrust on self-regulation and market principles, with the prime objective of reducing the energy intensity of the Indian economy.

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