



# Energy Efficiency Enterprise (E3) Certifications Programme

## Why in News

The Ministry of Power has launched "**Energy Efficiency Enterprise (E3) Certifications Programme for the Brick Manufacturing Sector**".

- The E3 Certification Scheme is aimed at tapping huge energy efficiency potential in this sector.

## Key Points

### ▪ About the Energy Efficiency Enterprise (E3) Certifications Programme:

- E3 certification is an accreditation process focused on the Brick industry. The certification will be provided by the [Bureau of Energy Efficiency \(BEE\)](#).
  - It is an initiative to recognise burnt clay brick manufacturers who adopt energy-efficient manufacturing and encourage customers to source bricks from such E3 certified manufacturing units.
  - It will be awarded to Brick Manufacturing Enterprises that meet the minimum Specific Energy Consumption (SECVol) performance criteria specified in the Scheme.
  - It is a **shift from conventional to efficient technologies and product shift** towards low density bricks with better thermal insulation.
  - The adoption of the **E3 Certification is currently voluntary** for the Brick industry.

### ▪ Brick Manufacturing Sector:

- **Contribution in GDP:** The brick sector contributes nearly 0.7% to the country's GDP, offers seasonal employment generation to over 1 crore workers, and has a strong influence on other economic sectors such as transportation and construction.
- **Market Size:** India is the **world's second largest producer of bricks** and this demand is expected to multiply three to four times over the next 20 years, through the E3 Certification program.
- **Energy Consumption:** The brick manufacturing industry consumes about 45-50 million tonnes of coal equivalent annually, amounting to 5-15% of the total energy consumption in the country.

- The brick sector has the second largest potential for energy efficiency amongst the Indian industrial sector after steel and more than cement.

### ▪ Advantages of E3 Certification:

- The implementation of E3 Certification will lead to multiple benefits:
  - **Energy savings in the brick manufacturing process.**
  - **Improved quality of bricks.**
  - **Cost savings to builders.**
  - **Energy savings to occupiers of buildings** due to better thermal comfort and

improved insulation properties.

- Energy saving of 7 Million Tonnes of oil equivalent (MTOE) per year and CO<sub>2</sub> savings of about 25 Million Tonnes by 2030 are estimated through adoption of E3 Certification by 7500 Bricks manufacturing units.
- **Modernization of Sector:** The Scheme seeks to accelerate brick sector modernization, using market incentives to create customer demand to fulfil the vision for [Aatmanirbhar Bharat](#).
- **ECBC Compliance:** Energy efficient bricks will be useful in complying with the requirements of [Energy Conservation Buildings Code \(ECBC\)](#).

## Bureau of Energy Efficiency

- **Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)** is a **statutory body** under the Ministry of Power which was setup in 2002 under the provisions of the **Energy Conservation Act, 2001**.
  - It is mandated to implement policy and programmes in the area of energy efficiency and conservation.
- It assists in developing policies and strategies with the primary objective of reducing energy intensity of the Indian economy.
- **Major Programmes:** State Energy Efficiency Index, Perform Achieve and Trade (PAT) scheme, The Standards & Labeling Programme, Energy Conservation Building Code, etc.

## Energy Conservation Building Code

- The **Bureau of Energy Efficiency** had launched **Energy Conservation Building Code (ECBC) 2007** to establish minimum energy performance standards for buildings in India.
  - Buildings consume a significant proportion of our energy resources and the ECBC is an essential regulatory tool to curb their energy footprint.
- ECBC sets minimum energy standards for new commercial buildings having a connected load of 100kW (kilowatt) or contract demand of 120 KVA (kilovolt-ampere) and above.
- BEE has **also developed a voluntary Star Rating Programme for buildings** which is based on the actual performance of a building, in terms of energy usage in the building over its area expressed in kWh/sq. m/year.

[Source: PIB](#)

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