



# State Level Energy Conservation Awards, 2024

## Why in News?

The Haryana government continues to emphasize [energy conservation](#), aligning with national efforts under the [Energy Conservation Act, 2001](#).

- The awards aim to recognize contributions across sectors in promoting [energy efficiency](#), particularly in light of increasing [environmental concerns](#).

## Key Points

- **Purpose of the Awards:**
  - **Objective:** To promote energy conservation by recognizing industries, commercial buildings, government institutions, educational institutions, hospitals, and individuals excelling in energy efficiency practices.
  - **Regulatory Framework:** Based on the [Energy Conservation Act, 2001](#), which came into effect in March 2002, setting guidelines for the efficient use of energy resources.
- **Administering Body:**
  - The [Haryana Renewable Energy Development Agency \(HAREDA\)](#) acts as the **State Designated Agency (SDA)** responsible for coordinating, regulating, and enforcing the Act's provisions within Haryana. It is under the jurisdiction of the **Department of Renewable Energy, Haryana**.
- **Award Categories:**
  - **Eligible Sectors:** Industries, commercial buildings, government institutions, educational institutions, hospitals, municipal bodies, and individuals.
  - **Criteria:** Recognition is based on innovative measures to conserve energy, use of new technologies, and efficiency improvements in energy use. Specific fields include:
    - **Innovations in energy conservation.**
    - **Adoption of energy-efficient practices.**
    - **R&D projects in energy.**
- **Award Details:**
  - Prizes include **monetary rewards up to Rs. 2 lakhs**, depending on the specific category of the award. The awards aim to both encourage and financially support further energy-saving efforts by winners.
  - The awards are part of the state's broader efforts to **reduce power consumption** and support sustainable development.
- **Recent Developments:**
  - The **2024 edition** continues these initiatives, encouraging institutions and individuals to submit applications demonstrating their commitment to energy conservation. Deadlines for submissions and guidelines are made available on the HAREDA official website

## The Energy Conservation Act, 2001

- **Regulatory framework**
  - The EC Act establishes standards and policies for **energy efficiency, and empowers the central and state governments** to regulate energy use.
- **Energy audits**

- Authorities can direct energy audits of buildings where **energy-intensive** industries operate.
- **Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)**
  - The BEE was created to oversee the **EC Act's programs and promote energy efficiency**. The BEE's work includes certification, public awareness campaigns, and pilot projects.
- **Carbon credit trading**
  - The [Energy Conservation \(Amendment\) Act, 2022](#) allows the government to introduce a **carbon credit trading scheme** to encourage reducing carbon emissions.
- **Energy savings certificates**
  - The government can issue **energy savings certificates** to industries that consume less than their allotted energy. These certificates can be sold to customers who consume more than their allotted energy.

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