

TERI Organises Stakeholder Consultation on Energy Education

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THE scale of development in India has become fast-paced in the past two decades. India's urban centres are increasing in size and modernisation involving vast construction, factories and transportation networks is taking place, including new electricity connections. As a result, India has become the world's third-largest energy-consuming nation. A significant part of India's energy requirement is met through fossil fuels, which are meagre and may last only for a few years. In addition, conventional sources of energy lead to higher carbon emissions and associated risks of climate change. Application of renewable sources has though started but enough has to be done in terms of making renewables available door to door with widespread implementation and achieving economies of scale. This scenario warrants a firm thrust on energy conservation and enhancing energy efficiency measures to judiciously utilise the scarce resources of the country and help achieve universal access to energy for all. With this grim situation, it is important to change the mindset of individuals such that responsible actions towards energy usage can be adopted, and anthropogenic causes of climate change can be controlled.

Against this background, TERI (The Energy and Resources Institute) in partnership with BSES Delhi implemented projects 'Energy Wise Energy Rise' and 'EN-Powered Schools' to orient students to conserve energy and

adopt actions for efficient use of energy. In both projects, partnership with the Department of Education, Government of NCT of Delhi, and Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) was sought to reach out to schools in 2024-25.

'EN-powered Schools' targeted students in the age bracket of 8–10 years, as this age group is at their reception best and can influence parents' psyche too in the learning process. The idea was to make them understand the state of the environment of Delhi, energy demand, conservation, and efficiency measures while also introducing renewable energy and other developments in this sector.

The programme adopted a curriculum-based approach, through age-appropriate content. A children's resource book titled, *Vidyut Jaise Sashakt Bane Hum* and other resource material in the form of posters, activity sheets and flip charts, were developed and disseminated. In addition, students were educated and empowered through workshops that comprised storytelling sessions, contests and games. The year-long programme engaged approximately 20,000 students and 600 teachers in 100 schools.

"Energy Wise Energy Rise" was initiated in the year 2018 with the objective of imparting energy education to middle school students, i.e., grades 6 to 8 of government schools in south and west zones of Delhi. The programme targeted 90,000 students in 300 schools in three phases of the project. The