

Energy accounting soon in State

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IT might not be long before energy accounting comes to State. Following the directive from the Union Ministry of Power to the States to introduce star-labelling, on a five-star scale, in commercial buildings and flats, an Energy Credit Card and star-rating system is to be introduced to monitor energy consumption of buildings and industries.

The programme has been developed by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) and will rate the buildings in terms of actual energy-efficient performance. It is being implemented through the Energy Management Centre (EMC) and will become an energy credit report for the buildings and industries.

The rating will be in terms of conservation and sustainable energy use. "We will involve the builders so that it will be easy to get the data. We are planning to put across a proposal to the State Government to help in implementing the initiative," said Unnithan, Director Energy Management Centre Thiruvananthapuram. The Indian Green Building Council (IGBC), Kerala Chapter, has already conveyed its readiness to participate in the project.

"We can reduce wastage of energy by using green building components like energy-efficient light fixtures, glazing, introduction of shading systems etc," said B R Ajit, chair-

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man, IGBC-Kerala chapter. "We want to tie up with EMC and KSEB and have separate credit-rating for five sectors including residential, tourism, hospitals, offices, malls and commercial buildings," he added. The energy audit will bring out a picture of energy-saving measures adopted by industries. The credit report will consider six-month periods as time capsules for evaluation.

The IGBC has also discussed with many corporates who are in energy saving sector to support cost of Energy Credit Cards as well as to meet the cost of energy awards, he said. As an incentive, IGBC has proposed that the Government provide discounts on energy bills for those who have been able to achieve minimum of 25 percent deduction in their half-year energy bills. "Though we plan to launch the programme next month, the rating could start from September," he said.