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Ministry of Power

**THE GOVERNMENT INTRODUCES ENERGY CONSERVATION CODES FOR
COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS**

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The Government has introduced Energy Conservation Codes for commercial buildings. Initially, implementation of the codes will be voluntary but will be made mandatory soon under the Energy Conservation Act 2001 for the buildings having connected load of 500 kw or more.

The implementation of the codes will reduce energy consumption from 25% to 40% and will yield annual saving of about 1.7 billion units. The codes sets a minimum efficiency standards for external wall, roof, glass structure, lighting, heating, ventilation and air conditioning of the commercial buildings in all the five climatic zones in the country. The State Government will have the flexibility to amend these codes to suit local or regional needs and notify them accordingly.

Launching the codes here today, Minister for Power, Shri Sushil Kumar Shinde said that the codes aimed at bringing down the energy consumption of the commercial buildings through the efficient design and use of resources. Highlighting the Government's efforts to increase power production in the country, Shri Shinde said that the plans had been made for capacity addition of about 70 thousand MW during the 11th Plan and by 2012 the country would be self sufficient to the great extent in the power sector. He said that efficient use of energy and check the leakages in energy consumption is must as by conserving only 20% of energy the country would save about Rs. 20,000 crore. The Minister said that very soon the Government would put in place appropriate institutional structure to oversee implementation of the codes throughout the country with involvement of states and other stakeholders. Effective awareness and outreach programme would be launched to overcome strong first cost bias that usually needs owners to under-invest in energy efficiency during building design and construction. The State Governments would be requested to integrate the energy codes in city bylaws through municipalitie, he added.

RM/NCJ/DT