The following Act of Parliament received the assent of the President on the 29th September, 2001, and is hereby published for general information:—

THE ENERGY CONSERVATION ACT, 2001

[29th September 2001]

An Act to provide for efficient use of energy and its conservation and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

Be it enacted by Parliament in the Fifty second Year of the Republic of India as follows:—
CHAPTER I
PRELIMINARY

1. (1) This Act may be called the Energy Conservation Act, 2001.

(2) It extends to the whole of India except the state of Jammu and Kashmir.

(3) It shall come into force on such dates as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint; and different dates may be appointed for different provisions of this Act and any reference in any such provision to the commencement of this Act shall be construed as a reference to the coming into force of that provision.
2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires: –

(a) “accredited energy auditor” means an auditor possessing qualifications specified under clause (p) of sub-section (2) of section 13;

(b) “Appellate Tribunal” means Appellate Tribunal for Energy Conservation established under section 30;

(c) “building” means any structure or erection or part of a structure or erection, after the rules relating to energy conservation building codes have been notified under clause (a) of section 15 of clause (1) of sub-section (2) of section 56, which is having a connected load of 500kW or contract demand of 600 kVA and above and is intended to be used for commercial purposes;

(d) “Bureau” means the Bureau of Energy Efficiency established under subsection (1) of section 3;

(e) “Chairperson” means the Chairperson of the Governing council;

(f) “designated agency” means any agency designated under clause (d) of section 15;

(g) “designated consumer” means any consumer specified under clause (e) of section 14;

(h) “energy” means any form of energy derived from fossil fuels, nuclear substances or materials, hydro-electricity and includes electrical energy or electricity generated from renewable sources of energy or bio-mass connected to the grid;

(i) “energy audit” means the verification, monitoring and analysis of use of energy including submission of technical report containing recommendations for improving energy efficiency with cost benefit analysis and an action plan to reduce energy consumption;

(j) “energy conservation building codes” means the norms and standards of energy consumption expressed in terms of per square meter of the area wherein energy is used and includes the location of the building;

(k) “energy consumption standards” means the norms for process and energy consumption standards specified under clause (a) of section 14;

(l) “Energy Management Centre” means the Energy Management Centre set up under the Resolution of the Government of India in the erstwhile Ministry of Energy, Department of Power No. 7(2)/87-EP (Vol. IV), dated the 5th July, 1989 and registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860;

(m) “energy manager” means any individual possessing the qualifications prescribed under clause (m) of section 14;

(n) “Governing Council” means the Governing Council referred to in section 4;

(o) “member” means the member of the Governing Council and includes the Chairperson;

(p) “notification” means a notification in the Gazette of India or, as the case may be, the Official Gazette of a State;

(q) “prescribed” means prescribed by rules made under this Act;
(r) "regulations" means regulations made by the Bureau under this Act;
(s) "schedule" means the Schedule of this Act;
(t) “State Commission” means the State Electricity Regulatory Commission established under sub-section (1) of section 17 of the Electricity Regulatory Commissions Act, 1998;
(u) words and expression used and not defined in this Act but defined in the Indian Electricity Act, 1910 or the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 or the Electricity Regulatory Commissions Act, 1998 shall have meanings respectively assigned to them in those Acts.

CHAPTER II
BUREAU OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY

3. (1) With effect from such date as the Central Government may, by notification, appoint, there shall be established, for the purposes of this Act, a Bureau to be called the Bureau of Energy Efficiency.

(2) The Bureau shall be a body corporate by the name aforesaid having perpetual succession and a common seal, with power subject to the provisions of this Act, to acquire, hold and dispose of property, both movable and immovable, and to contract, and shall, by the said name, sue or be sued.

(3) The head office of the Bureau shall be at Delhi.

(4) The Bureau may establish offices at other places in India.

4. (1) The general superintendence, direction and management of the affairs of the Bureau shall vest in the Governing Council which shall consist of not less than twenty, but not exceeding twenty-six members to be appointed by the Central Government.

(2) The Governing Council shall consist of the following members, namely:-

(a) the Minister in charge of the Ministry or Department of the Central Government dealing with the Power, ex officio Chairperson;

(b) the Secretary to the Government of India, in charge of the Ministry or Department of the Central Government dealing with the Power, ex officio member;

(c) the Secretary to the Government of India, in charge of the Ministry or Department of the Central Government dealing with the Petroleum and Natural Gas, ex officio member;

(d) the Secretary to the Government of India, in charge of the Ministry or Department of the Central Government dealing with the Coal, ex officio member;

(e) the Secretary to the Government of India, in charge of the Ministry or Department of the Central Government dealing with the Non-conventional Energy Sources, ex officio member;

(f) the Secretary to the Government of India, in charge of the Ministry or Department of the Central Government dealing with the Atomic Energy, ex officio member;

(g) the Secretary to the Government of India, in charge of the Ministry or Department of the Central Government dealing with the Consumer Affairs, ex officio member;

(h) Chairman of the Central Electricity Authority established under the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, ex officio member;

(i) Director-General of the Central Power Research Institute registered under the Karnataka Societies Act, 1960, ex officio member;
Executive Director of the Petroleum Conservation Research Association, a society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860

Chairman-cum-Managing Director of the Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited, a company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956

Director-General of the Bureau of Indian Standards established under the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986

Director-General of the National Test House, Department of Supply, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Kolkata

Managing Director of the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited, a company incorporated under the Companies act, 1956

one member each from five power regions representing the States of the region to be appointed by the Central Government

such number of persons, not exceeding four as may be prescribed, to be appointed by the Central Government as members from amongst persons who are in the opinion of the Central Government capable of representing industry, equipment and appliance manufacturers, architects and consumers

such number of persons, not exceeding two as may be nominated by the Governing Council as members

Director-General of Bureau ex officio member – secretary

The Governing Council may exercise all powers and do all acts and things which may be exercised or done by the Bureau.

Every member referred to in clause (o), (p) and (q) of sub-section (2) shall hold office for a term of three years from the date on which he enters upon his office.

The fee and allowances to be paid to the members referred to in clauses (o), (p) and (q) of sub-section (2) and the manner of filling up of vacancies and the procedure to be followed in the discharge of their functions shall be such as may be prescribed.

The Governing Council shall meet at such times and places, and shall observe such rules of procedure in regard to the transaction of business as its meetings (including quorum of such meetings) as may be provided by regulations.

The Chairperson or, if for any reason, he is unable to attend a meeting of the Governing Council, any other member chosen by the members present from amongst themselves at the meeting shall preside at the meeting.

All questions which come up before any meeting of the Governing Council shall be decided by a majority vote of the members present and voting, and in the event of an equality of votes, the Chairperson or his absence, the person presiding, shall have second or casting vote.
6. No act or proceeding of the Bureau or the Governing Council or any Committee shall be invalid merely by reason of —

(a) any vacancy in, or any defect in the constitution of, the Bureau or the Governing Council or the Committee; or

(b) any defect in the appointment of a person acting as a Director-General or Secretary of the Bureau or a member of the Governing Council or the Committee; or

(c) any irregularity in the procedure of the Bureau or the Governing Council or the Committee not affecting the merits of the case.

7. The Central Government shall remove a member referred to in clause (o), (p) and (q) of sub-section (2) of section 4 from office if he —

(a) is, or at any time has been, adjudicated as insolvent;
(b) is of unsound mind and stands so declared by a competent court;

(c) has been convicted of an offence which, in the opinion of the Central Government, involves a moral turpitude;

(d) has, in the opinion of the Central Government, so abused his position as to render his continuation in office detrimental to the public interest:

Provided that no member shall be removed under this clause unless he has been given a reasonable opportunity of being heard in the matter.

8. (1) Subject to any regulations made in this behalf, the Bureau shall, within six months from the date of commencement of this Act, constitute Advisory Committees for the efficient discharge of its functions.

(2) Each Advisory Committee shall consist of a Chairperson and such other members as may be determined by regulations.

(3) Without prejudice to the powers contained in sub-section (1), the Bureau may constitute, such number of technical committees of experts for the formulation of energy consumption standards or norms in respect of equipment or processes, as it considers necessary.

9. (1) The Central Government shall, by notification, appoint a Director-General from amongst persons of ability and standing, having adequate knowledge and experience in dealing with the matters relating to energy production, supply and energy management standardisation and efficient use of energy and its conservation

(2) The Central Government shall, by notification appoint any person not below the rank of Deputy Secretary to the Government of India as Secretary of the Bureau

(3) The Director-General shall hold office for a term of three years from the date on which he enters upon his office or until he attains the age of sixty years, whichever is earlier

(4) The salary and allowances payable to the Director-General and other terms and conditions of his service and other terms and conditions of service of the Secretary of the Bureau shall be such as may be prescribed

(5) Subject to general superintendence, direction and management of the affairs by the Governing Council, the Director-General of the Bureau shall be the Chief Executive Authority of the Bureau

(6) The Director-General of the Bureau shall exercise and discharge such powers and duties of the Bureau as may be determined by regulations

10. (1) The Central Government may appoint such other officers and employees in the Bureau as it considers necessary for the efficient discharge of its functions under this Act.
(2) The terms and conditions of service of officers and other employees of the Bureau appointed under sub-section (1) shall be such as may be prescribed.

11. All orders and decisions of the Bureau shall be authenticated by the signature of the Director-General or any other officer of the Bureau authorised by the Director-General in this behalf.

CHAPTER III

TRANSFER OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES ETC, OF ENERGY MANAGEMENT CENTRE TO BUREAU

12. (1) On and from the date of establishment of the Bureau -

(a) any reference to the Energy Management Centre in any law other than this Act or in any contract or other instrument shall be deemed as a reference to the Bureau;

(b) all properties and assets, movable and immovable of, or belonging to, the Energy Management Centre shall vest in the Bureau;

(c) all the rights and liabilities of the Energy Management Centre shall be transferred to, and be the right and liabilities of, the Bureau;

(d) without prejudice to the provisions of clause (c), all debts, obligations and liabilities incurred, all contracts entered into and all matters and things engaged to be done by, with or for the Energy Management Centre immediately before that date for or in connection with the purposes of the said Centre shall be deemed to have been incurred, entered into, or engaged to be done by, with or for, the Bureau;

(e) all sums of money due to the Energy Management Centre immediately before that date shall be deemed to be due to the Bureau;

(f) all suits and other legal proceedings instituted or which could have been instituted by or against the Energy Management Centre immediately before that date may be continued or may be instituted by or against the Bureau; and

(g) every employee holding any office under the Energy Management Centre immediately before that date shall hold his office in the Bureau by the same tenure and upon the same terms and conditions of service as respects remuneration, leave, provident fund, retirement or other terminal benefits as he would have held such office if the Bureau had not been established and shall continue to do so as an employee of the Bureau or until the expiry of six months from the date if such employee opts not to be the employee of the Bureau within such period.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 or in any other law for the time being in force, the absorption of any employees by the Bureau in its regular service under this section shall not entitle such employees to any compensation under that Act or other law and no such claim shall be entertained by any court, tribunal or other authority.
CHAPTER IV
POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF BUREAU

13. (1) The Bureau shall, effectively co-ordinate with designated consumers, designated agencies and other agencies, recognise and utilise the existing resources and infrastructure, in performing the functions assigned to it by or under this Act

(2) The Bureau may perform such functions and exercise such powers as may be assigned to it by or under this Act and in particular, such functions and powers include the function and power to-

(a) recommend to the Central Government the norms for processes and energy consumption standards required to be notified under clause (a) of section 14;

(b) recommend to the Central Government the particulars required to be displayed on label on equipment or on appliances and manner of their display under clause (d) of section 14;

(c) recommend to the Central Government for notifying any user or class of users of energy as a designated consumer under clause (e) of section 14;

(d) take suitable steps to prescribe guidelines for energy conservation building codes under clause (p) of section 14;

(e) take all measures necessary to create awareness and disseminate information for efficient use of energy and its conservation;

(f) arrange and organize training of personnel and specialists in the techniques for efficient use of energy and its conservation;

(g) strengthen consultancy services in the field of energy conservation;

(h) promote research and development in the field of energy conservation;

(i) develop testing and certification procedure and promote testing facilities for certification and testing for energy consumption of equipment and appliances;

(j) formulate and facilitate implementation of pilot projects and demonstration projects for promotion of efficient use of energy and its conservation;

(k) promote use of energy efficient processes, equipment, devices and systems;

(l) promote innovative financing of energy efficiency projects;

(m) give financial assistance to institutions for promoting efficient use of energy and its conservation;

(n) levy fee, as may be determined by regulations, for services provided for promoting efficient use of energy and its conservation;

(o) maintain a list of accredited energy auditors as may be specified by regulations;
(p) specify, by regulations, qualifications for the accredited energy auditors;

(q) specify, by regulations, the manner and intervals of time in which the energy audit shall be conducted;

(r) specify, by regulations, certification procedures for energy managers to be designated or appointed by designated consumers;

(s) prepare educational curriculum on efficient use of energy and its conservation for educational institutions, boards, universities or autonomous bodies and coordinate with them for inclusion of such curriculum in their syllabus;

(t) implement international co-operation programmes relating to efficient use of energy and its conservation as may be assigned to it by the Central Government;

(u) perform such other functions as may be prescribed.

CHAPTER V
POWER OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT TO FACILITATE AND ENFORCE EFFICIENT USE OF ENERGY AND ITS CONSERVATION

14. The Central Government may, by notification, in consultation with the Bureau,—

(a) specify the norms for processes and energy consumption standards for any equipment, appliances which consumes, generates, transmits or supplies energy;

(b) specify equipment or appliance or class of equipments or appliances, as the case may be, for the purposes of this Act;

(c) prohibit manufacture or sale or purchase or import of equipment or appliance specified under clause (b) unless such equipment or appliances conforms to energy consumption standards;

Provided that no notification prohibiting manufacture or sale or purchase or import or equipment or appliance shall be issued within two years from the date of notification issued under clause (a) of this section;

(d) direct display of such particulars on label on equipment or on appliance specified under clause (b) and in such manner as may be specified by regulations;

(e) specify, having regard to the intensity or quantity of energy consumed and the amount of investment required for switching over to energy efficient equipments and capacity or industry to invest in it and availability of the energy efficient machinery and equipment required by the industry, any user or class of users of energy as a designated consumer for the purposes of this Act;

(f) alter the list of Energy Intensive Industries specified in the Schedule;
(g) establish and prescribe such energy consumption norms and standards for designated consumers as it may consider necessary:

Provided that the Central Government may prescribe different norms and standards for different designated consumers having regard to such factors as may be prescribed;

(h) direct, having regard to quantity of energy consumed or the norms and standards of energy consumption specified under clause (a) the energy intensive industries specified in the Schedule to get energy audit conducted by an accredited energy auditor in such manner and intervals of time as may be specified by regulations;
(i) direct, if considered necessary for efficient use of energy and its conservation, any designated consumer to get energy audit conducted by an accredited energy auditor;

(j) specify the matters to be included for the purposes of inspection under sub-section (2) of section 17;

(k) direct any designated consumer to furnish to the designated agency, in such form and manner and within such period, as may be prescribed, the information with regard to the energy consumed and action taken on the recommendation of the accredited energy auditor;

(l) direct any designated consumer to designate or appoint energy manager in charge of activities for efficient use of energy and its conservation and submit a report, in the form and manner as may be prescribed, on the status of energy consumption at the end of the every financial year to designated agency;

(m) prescribe minimum qualification for energy managers to be designated or appointed under clause (l);

(n) direct every designated consumer to comply with energy consumption norms and standards;

(o) direct any designated consumer, who does not fulfil the energy consumption norms and standards prescribed under clause (g), to prepare a scheme for efficient use of energy and its conservation and implement such scheme keeping in view of the economic viability of the investment in such form and manner as may be prescribed;

(p) prescribe energy conservation building codes for efficient use of energy and its conservation in the building or building complex;

(q) amend the energy conservation building codes to suit the regional and local climatic conditions;

(r) direct every owner or occupier of the building or building complex, being a designated consumer to comply with the provisions of energy conservation building codes for efficient use of energy and its conservation;

(s) direct, any designated consumer referred to in clause (r), if considered necessary, for efficient use of energy and its conservation in his building to get energy audit conducted in respect of such building by an accredited energy auditor in such manner and intervals of time as may be specified by regulations;

(t) take all measures necessary to create awareness and disseminate information for efficient use of energy and its conservation;

(u) arrange and organise training of personnel and specialists in the techniques for efficient use of energy and its conservation;

(v) take steps to encourage preferential treatment for use of energy efficient equipment or appliances: Provided that the powers under clauses (p) and (s) shall be exercised in consultation with the concerned State.
CHAPTER VI
POWER OF STATE GOVERNMENT TO FACILITATE AND ENFORCE EFFICIENT USE
OF ENERGY AND ITS CONSERVATION

15. The State Government may, by notification, in consultation with the Bureau -
(a) amend the energy conservation building codes to suit the regional and local climatic conditions and may, by rules made by it, specify and notify energy conservation building codes with respect to use of energy in the buildings;
(b) direct every owner or occupier of a building or building complex being a designated consumer to comply with the provisions of the energy conservation building codes;

c) direct, if considered necessary for efficient use of energy and its conservation, any designated consumer referred to in clause (b) to get energy audit conducted by an accredited energy auditor in such manner and at such intervals of time as may be specified by regulations;

d) designate any agency as designated agency to coordinate, regulate and enforce provisions of this Act within the State;

e) take all measures necessary to create awareness and disseminate information for efficient use of energy and its conservation;

(f) arrange and organise training of personnel and specialists in the techniques for efficient use of energy and its conservation;

g) take steps to encourage preferential treatment for use of energy efficient equipment or appliances;

(h) direct, any designated consumer to furnish to the designated agency, in such form and manner and within such period as may be specified by rules made by it, information with regard to the energy consumed by such consumer;

(i) specify the matters to be included for the purposes of inspection under sub-section (2) of section 17;

16. (1) The State Government shall constitute a Fund to be called the State Energy Conservation Fund for the purposes of promotion of efficient use of energy and its conservation within the State.

(2) To the Fund shall be credited all grants and loans that may be made by the State Government or, Central Government or any other organization or individual for the purposes of this Act.

(3) The Fund shall be applied for meeting the expenses incurred for implementing the provisions of this Act.

(4) The Fund created under sub-section (1) shall be administered by such persons or any authority and in such manner as may be specified in the rules made by the State Government.

17. (1) The designated agency may appoint, after the expiry of five years from the date of commencement of this Act, as many inspecting officers as may be necessary for the purpose of ensuring compliance with energy consumption standard specified under clause (a) of section 14 or ensure display of particulars on label on equipment or appliances specified under clause (b) of section 14 or for the purpose of performing such other functions as may be assigned to them.

(2) Subject to any rules made under this Act, an inspecting officer shall have power to -
(a) inspect any operation carried on or in connection with the equipment or appliance specified under clause (b) of section 14 or in respect of which energy standards under clause (a) of section 14 have been specified;

(b) enter any place of designated consumer at which the energy is used for any activity and may require any proprietor, employee, director, manager or secretary or any other person who may be attending in any manner to or helping in, carrying on any activity with the help of energy -

(i) to afford him necessary facility to inspect -

(A) any equipment or appliance as he may require and which may be available at such place;

(B) any production process to ascertain the energy consumption norms and standards;

(ii) to make an inventory of stock of any equipment or appliance checked or verified by him;

(iii) to record the statement of any person which may be useful for, or relevant to, for efficient use of energy and its conservation under this Act.

(3) An inspecting officer may enter any place of designated consumer -

(a) where any activity with the help of energy is carried on; and

(b) where any equipment or appliance notified under clause (b) of section 14 has been kept,

during the hours at which such places is open for production or conduct of business connected therewith.

(4) An inspecting officer acting under this section shall, on no account, remove or cause to be removed from the place wherein he has entered, any equipment or appliance or books of accounts or other documents.

18. The Central Government or the State Government may, in the exercise of its powers and performance of its functions under this Act and for efficient use of energy and its conservation, issue such directions in writing as it deems fit for the purposes of this Act to any person, officer, authority or any designated consumer and such person, officer or authority or any designated consumer shall be bound to comply with such directions.

Explanation - For the avoidance of doubts, it is hereby declared that the power to issue directions under this section includes the power to direct -

(a) regulation of norms for process and energy consumption standards in any industry or building or building complex; or

(b) regulation of the energy consumption standards for equipment and appliances.

CHAPTER VII

FINANCE, ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT OF BUREAU
Grants and loans by Central Government

19. The Central Government may, after due appropriation made by Parliament by law in this behalf, make to the Bureau or to the State Government grants and loans of such sums or money as the Central Government may consider necessary.

20. (1) There shall be constituted a Fund to be called as the Central Energy Conservation Fund and there shall be credited thereto -
   
   (a) any grants and loans made to the Bureau by the Central Government under section 19;
   
   (b) all fees received by the Bureau under this Act;
   
   (c) all sums received by the Bureau from such other sources as may be decided upon by the Central Government.

   (2) The Fund shall be applied for meeting -
   
   (a) the salary, allowances and other remuneration of Director-General, Secretary officers and other employees of the Bureau,
   
   (b) expenses of the Bureau in the discharge of its functions under section 13;
   
   (c) fee and allowances to be paid to the members of the Governing Council under sub-section (5) or section 4;
   
   (d) expenses on objects and for purposes authorised by this Act.

Borrowing powers of Bureau

21. (1) The Bureau may, with the consent of the Central Government or in accordance with the terms of any general or special authority given to it by the Central Government borrow money from any source as it may deem fit for discharging all or any of its functions under this Act.

   (2) The Central Government may guarantee, in such manner as it thinks fit, the repayment of the principle and the payment of interest thereon with respect to the loans borrowed by the Bureau under sub-section (1).

22. The Bureau shall prepare, in such form and at such time in each financial year as may be prescribed, its budget for the next financial year, showing the estimated receipts and expenditure of the Bureau and forward the same to the Central Government.

23. The Bureau shall prepare, in such form and at such time in each financial year as may be prescribed, its annual report, giving full account of its activities during the previous financial year, and submit a copy thereof to the Central Government.

24. The Central Government shall cause the annual report referred to in section 23 to be laid, as soon as may be after it is received, before each House of Parliament.

25. (1) The Bureau shall maintain proper accounts and other relevant records and prepare an annual statement of accounts in such form as may be prescribed by the Central Government in consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India.
(2) The accounts of the Bureau shall be audited by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India at such intervals as may be specified by him and any expenditure incurred in connection with such audit shall be payable by the Bureau to the Comptroller and Auditor-General.

(3) The Comptroller and Auditor-General of India and any other person appointed by him in connection with the audit of the accounts of the Bureau shall have the same rights and privileges and authority in connection with such audit as the Comptroller and Auditor-General generally has in connection with the audit of the Government accounts and in particular, shall have the right to demand the production of books, accounts, connected vouchers and other documents and papers and to inspect any of the offices of the Bureau.

(4) The accounts of the Bureau as certified by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India or any other person appointed by him in this behalf together with the audit report thereon shall forward annually to the Central Government and that Government shall cause the same to be laid before each House of Parliament.

CHAPTER VIII
Penalties and Adjudication

26. (1) If any person fails to comply with the provision of clause (c) or the clause (d) or clause (h) or clause (i) or clause (k) or clause (l) or clause (n) or clause (r) or clause (s) of section 14 or clause (b) or clause (c) or clause (h) of section 15, he shall be liable to a penalty which shall not exceed ten thousand rupees for each such failure and, in the case of continuing failures, with an additional penalty which may extend to one thousand rupees for every day during which such failures continues:

Provided that no person shall be liable to pay penalty within five years from the date of commencement of this Act.

(2) Any amount payable under this section, if not paid, may be recovered as if it were an arrear of land revenue.

27. (1) For the purpose of adjudging section 26, the State Commission shall appoint any of its members to be an adjudicating officer for holding an inquiry in such manner as may be prescribed by the Central Government, after giving any person concerned a reasonable opportunity of being heard for the purpose of imposing any penalty.

(2) While holding an inquiry the adjudicating officer shall have power to summon and enforce the attendance of any person acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the case of give evidence or produce any document which in the opinion of the adjudicating officer, may be useful for or relevant to the subject-matter of the inquiry, and if, on such inquiry, he is satisfied that the person has failed to comply with the provisions of any of the clauses of the sections specified in section 26, he may impose such penalty as he thinks fit in accordance with the provisions of any of those clauses of that section:
Provided that where a State Commission has not been established in a State, the Government of that State shall appoint any of its officer not below the rank equivalent to a Secretary dealing with legal affairs in that State to be an adjudicating officer for the purposes of this section and such officer shall cease to be an adjudicating officer immediately on the appointment of an adjudicating officer by the State Commission on its establishment in that State:

Provided further that where an adjudicating officer appointed by a State Government ceased to be an adjudicating officer, he shall transfer to the adjudicating officer appointed by the State Commission all matters being adjudicated by him and thereafter the adjudicating officer appointed by the State Commission shall adjudicate the penalties on such matters.

28. While adjudicating the quantum of penalty under section 26, the adjudicating officer shall have due regard to the following factors, namely:-

(a) the amount of disproportionate gain or unfair advantage, wherever quantifiable, made as a result of the default;

(b) the repetitive nature of the default.

29. No civil court shall have jurisdiction to entertain any suit or proceeding in respect of any matter which an adjudicating officer appointed under this Act or the Appellate Tribunal is empowered by or under this Act to determine and no injunction shall be granted by any court or other authority in respect of any action taken or to be taken in pursuance of any power conferred by or under this Act.

CHAPTER IX
APPELLATE TRIBUNAL FOR ENERGY CONSERVATION

30. The Central Government shall, by notification, establish an Appellate Tribunal to be known as the Appellate Tribunal for Energy Conservation to hear appeals against the orders of the adjudicating officer or the Central Government or the State Government or any other authority under this Act.

31. (1) Any person aggrieved, by an order made by an adjudicating officer or the Central Government or the State Government or any other authority under this Act, may prefer an appeal to the Appellate Tribunal for Energy Conservation:

Provided that any person appealing against the order of the adjudicating officer levying any penalty, shall while filing the appeal, deposit the amount of such penalty:

Provided further that where in any particular case, the Appellate Tribunal is of the opinion that the deposit of such penalty would cause undue hardship to such person, the Appellate Tribunal may dispense with such deposit subject to such conditions as it may deem fit to impose so as to safeguard the realisation of penalty.
Every appeal under sub-section (1) shall be filed within a period of forty-five days from the date on which a copy of the order made by the adjudicating officer or the Central Government or the State Government or any other authority is received by the aggrieved person and it shall be in such form, verified in such manner and be accompanied by such fee as may be prescribed:

Provided that the Appellate Tribunal may entertain an appeal after the expiry of the said period of forty-five days if it is satisfied that there was sufficient cause for not filing it within that period.

On receipt of an appeal under sub-section (1), the Appellate Tribunal may, after giving the parties to the appeal an opportunity of being heard, pass such orders thereon as it thinks fit, confirming, modifying or setting aside the order appealed against.

The Appellate Tribunal shall send a copy of every order made by it to the parties to the appeal and to the concerned adjudicating officer or the Central Government or the State Government or any other authority.

The appeal filed before the Appellate Tribunal under sub-section (1) shall be dealt with by it as expeditiously as possible and endeavour shall be made by it to dispose of the appeal finally within one hundred and eighty days from the date of receipt of the appeal:

Provided that where an appeal could not be disposed of within the said period of one hundred and eighty days, the Appellate Tribunal shall record its reasons in writing for not disposing of the appeal within the said period.

The Appellate Tribunal may, for the purpose of examining the legality, propriety or correctness of any order made by the adjudicating officer or the Central Government or the State Government or any other authority under this Act, as the case may be in relation to any proceeding, on its own motion or otherwise, call for the records of such proceedings and make such order in the case as it thinks fit.

32. (1) The Appellate Tribunal shall consist of a Chairperson and such number of Members not exceeding four, as the Central Government may deem fit.

(2) Subject to the provisions of this Act, -

(a) the jurisdiction of the Appellate Tribunal maybe exercised by Benches thereof;

(b) a Bench may be constituted by the Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal with two or more Members of the Appellate Tribunal as the Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal may deem fit:

Provided that every Bench constituted under this clause shall include at least one Judicial Member and one Technical Member;

(c) The Benches of the Appellate Tribunal shall ordinarily sit at Delhi and such other places as the Central Government may, in consultation with the Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal, notify;
(d) The Central Government shall notify the areas in relation to which each Bench of the Appellate Tribunal may exercise jurisdiction,

(3) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (2), the Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal may transfer a Member of the Appellate Tribunal from one Bench to another Bench.

Explanation - For the purposes of this Chapter,

(i) “Judicial Member” means a Member of the Appellate Tribunal appointed as such under item (i) or item (ii) or clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 33, and includes the Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal;

(ii) “Technical Member” means a Member of the Appellate Tribunal appointed as such under item (iii) or item (iv) or item (v) or item (vi) of clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 33.

33. (1) A person shall not be qualified for appointment as the Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal or a Member of the Appellate Tribunal unless he -

(a) in the case of Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal, is or has been, a judge of the Supreme Court or the Chief Justice of a High Court; and

(b) in the case of a Member of the Appellate Tribunal,-

(i) is, or has been, or is qualified to be, a Judge of a High Court; or

(ii) is, or has been, a Member of the Indian Legal Service and has held a post in Grade I in that service for atleast three years; or

(iii) is, or has been, a Secretary for at least one year in Ministry or Department or the Central Government dealing with the Power, or Coal, or Petroleum and Natural Gas, or Atomic Energy; or

(iv) is, or has been Chairman of the Central Electricity Authority for at least one year; or

(v) is, or has been, Director-General of Bureau or Director-General of the Central Power Research Institute or Bureau of Indian Standards for atleast three years or has held any equivalent post for atleast three years; or

(vi) is, or has been, a qualified technical person of ability and standing having adequate knowledge and experience in dealing with the matters relating to energy production and supply, energy management, standardisation and efficient use of energy and its conservation, and has shown capacity in dealing with problems relating to engineering, finance, commerce, economics, law or management.
34. The Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal and every Member of
the Appellate Tribunal shall hold office as such for a term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office:

Provided that no Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal or Member of the Appellate Tribunal shall hold office as such after he has attained, -

(a) in the case of the Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal, the age of seventy years;

(b) in the case of any Member of the Appellate Tribunal, the age of sixty-five years.

35. The salary and allowances payable to and the other terms and conditions of service of the Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal, Members of the Appellate Tribunal shall be such as may be prescribed:

Provided that neither the salary and allowances nor the other terms and conditions of service of the Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal or a Member of the Appellate Tribunal shall be varied to his disadvantage after appointment.

36. If for reason other than temporary absence any vacancy occurs in the office of the Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal or the Member of the Appellate Tribunal, the Central Government shall appoint another person in accordance with the provisions of this Act to fill the vacancy and the proceedings may be continued before the Appellate Tribunal from the stage at which the vacancy is filled.

37. (1) The Chairperson or a Member of the Appellate Tribunal may, by notice in writing under his hand addressed to the Central Government, resign his office:

Provided that the Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal or a Member of the Appellate Tribunal shall, unless he is permitted by the Central Government to relinquish his office sooner, continue to hold office until the expiry of three months from the date of receipt of such notice or until a person duly appointed as his successor enters upon his office or until the expiry of term of office, whichever is the earliest.

(2) The Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal or a Member of the Appellate Tribunal shall not be removed from his office except by an order by the Central Government on the ground of proved misbehaviour or incapacity after an inquiry made by such persons as the President may appoint for this purpose in which the Chairperson or a Member of the Appellate Tribunal concerned has been informed of the charges against him and given a reasonable opportunity of being heard in respect of such charges.
38. (1) In the event of the occurrence of vacancy in the office of the Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal by reason of his death, resignation or otherwise, the senior-most member of the Appellate Tribunal shall act as the Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal until the date on which a new Chairperson appointed in accordance with the provisions of this Act to fill such vacancy enters upon his office.

(2) When the Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal is unable to discharge his functions owing to his absence, illness or any other cause, the senior most Member of the Appellate Tribunal shall discharge the functions of the Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal until the date on which the Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal resumes his duties.

39. (1) The Central Government shall provide the Appellate Tribunal with such officers and employees as it may deem fit.

(2) The officers and employees of the Appellate Tribunal shall discharge their functions under the general superintendence of the Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal as the case may be.

(3) The salaries and allowances and other conditions of service of the officers and employees of the Appellate Tribunal shall be such as may be prescribed.

40. (1) The Appellate Tribunal shall not be bound by the procedure laid down by the Code of civil Procedure, 1908 but shall be guided by the principles of natural justice and subject to the other provisions of this Act, the Appellate Tribunal shall have powers to regulate its own procedure.

(2) The Appellate Tribunal shall have, for the purposes of discharging its functions under this Act, the same powers as are vested in the civil court under the Code of Civil Procedure 1908, while trying to suit in respect of the following matters, namely:-

(a) summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person and examining him on oath;

(b) requiring the discovery and production of documents;

(c) receiving evidence of affidavits;

(d) subject to the provisions of section 123 and 124 of the Indian Evidence Act, 1872, requisitioning any public record or document or copy of such record or document from any office;

(e) issuing commissions for the examination of witnesses or documents;

(f) reviewing its decisions;

(g) dismissing a representation of default or deciding it, ex parte;

(h) setting aside any order of dismissal or any representation for default or any order passed by it, ex parte;

(i) any other matter which may be prescribed by the Central Government.
(3) An order made by the Appellate Tribunal under this Act shall be executable by the Appellate Tribunal as a decree of civil court and, for this purpose, the Appellate Tribunal shall have all the powers of a civil court.

(4) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (3), the Appellate Tribunal may transmit any order made by it to a civil court having local jurisdiction and such civil court shall execute the order as if it were a decree made by the that court.

(5) All proceedings before the Appellate Tribunal shall be deemed to be judicial proceedings within the meaning of sections 193 and 228 of the Indian Penal Code and the Appellate Tribunal shall be deemed to be civil court for the purposes of section 345 and 346 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973.
41. Where Benches are constituted, the Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal may, from time to time, by notification, make provisions as to the distribution of the business of the Appellate Tribunal amongst the Benches and also provide for the matters which may be dealt with by each Bench.

42. On the application of any of the parties and after notice to the parties, and after hearing such of them as he may desire to be heard, or on his own motion without such notice, the Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal may transfer any case pending before one Bench for disposal, to any other Bench.

43. If the Members of the Appellate Tribunal of a Bench consisting of two Members differ in opinion on any point, they shall state the point or points on which they differ, and make a reference to the Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal who shall either hear the point or points himself or refer the case for hearing on such point or points by one or more of the other Members of the Appellate Tribunal and such point or points shall be decided according to the opinion of the majority of the Members of the Appellate Tribunal who have heard the case, including those who first heard it.

44. (1) A person preferring an appeal to the Appellate Tribunal under this Act may either appear in person or take assistance of a legal practitioner or an accredited energy auditor of his choice to present his case before the Appellate Tribunal, as the case may be.

(2) The Central Government or the State Government may authorise one or more legal practitioners or any of its officers to act as presenting officers and every person so authorised may present the case with respect to any appeal before the Appellate Tribunal as the case may be.

45. Any person aggrieved by any decision or order of the Appellate Tribunal may, file an appeal to the Supreme court within sixty days from the date of communication of the decision or order of the Appellate Tribunal to him, on any one or more of the ground specified in section 100 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908:

Provided that the Supreme Court may, if it is satisfied that the appellant was prevented by the sufficient cause from the filing the appeal within the said period, allow it to be filed within a further period of not exceeding sixty days.
46. (1) Without prejudice to the foregoing provisions of this Act, the Bureau shall, in exercise of its powers or the performance of its functions under this Act, be bound by such directions on questions of policy as the Central Government may give in writing to it from time to time:

Provided that the Bureau shall, as far as practicable, be given an opportunity to express his views before any direction is given under this sub-section.

(2) The decision of the Central Government, whether a question is one of policy or not, shall be final.

47. (1) If at any time the Central Government is of opinion -

(a) that on account of grave emergency, the Bureau is unable to discharge the functions and duties imposed on it by or under the provisions of this Act; or

(b) that the Bureau has persistently made default in complying with any direction issued by the Central Government under this Act or in discharge of the functions and duties imposed on it by or under the provisions of this Act and as a result of such default, the financial position of the Bureau had deteriorated or the administration of the Bureau had deteriorated; or

(c) that circumstances exist which render it necessary in the public interest so to do, the Central Government may, by notification, supersede the Bureau for such period, not exceeding six months, as may be specified in the notification.

(2) Upon the publication of a notification under sub-section (1) superseding the Bureau -

(a) all the members referred to in clauses (o), (p) and (q) of sub-section (2) of section 4 shall, as from the date of supersession, vacate their offices as such;

(b) all the powers, functions and duties which may, by or under the provisions of this Act, be exercised or discharged by or on behalf of the Bureau, shall until the Bureau is reconstituted under sub-section (3), be exercised and discharged by such person or persons as the Central Government may direct; and

(c) all property owned or controlled by the Bureau shall, until the Bureau is reconstituted under sub-section (3), vest in the Central Government.

(3) On the expiration of the period of supersession specified in the notification issued under sub-section (1), the Central Government may reconstitute the Bureau by a fresh appointment and in such case any person or persons who vacated their offices under clause (a) of sub-section (2), shall not be deemed disqualified for appointment:

Provided that the Central Government may, at any time, before the expiration of the period of supersession, take action under this sub-section

(d) the Central Government shall cause a notification issued under sub-section (1) and full report of any action taken under this section and the circumstances leading to such action to be laid before each House of Parliament at the earliest.
48. (1) Where a company makes a default in complying with the provisions of clause (c) or clause (d) or clause (h) or clause (i) or clause (k) or clause (l) or clause (n) or clause (r) or clause (s) of section 14 or clause (b) or clause (c) or clause (h) of section 15, every person who at the time of such contravention was in charge of, and was responsible to the company for the conduct of the business of the company, as well as the company, shall be deemed to have acted in contravention of the said provisions and shall be liable to be proceeded against and imposed penalty under section 26 accordingly:

Provided that nothing contained in this sub-section shall render any such person liable for penalty provided in this Act if he proves that the contravention of the aforesaid provisions was committed without his knowledge or that he exercised all due diligence to prevent the contravention of the aforesaid provision.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), where any contravention of the provisions of clause (c) or clause (d) or clause (h) or clause (i) or clause (k) or clause (l) or clause (n) or clause (r) or clause (s) of section 14 or clause (b) or clause (c) or clause (h) of section 15 has been committed with the consent or connivance of, or in attributable to, any neglect on the part of, any director, manager, secretary or other officer of the company, such director, manager, secretary or other officer shall also be deemed to have contravened the said provisions and shall be liable to be proceeded for imposition of penalty accordingly.

Explanation – For the purposes of this section, “company” means a body corporate and includes a firm or other association of individuals.

49. Notwithstanding anything contained in the Income-tax Act, 1961 or any other enactment for the time being in force relating to tax on income, profits or gains –

(a) the Bureau;

(b) the existing Energy Management Centre from the date of its constitution to the date of establishment of the Bureau,

shall not be liable to pay any income tax or any tax in respect of their income, profits or gains derived.

50. No suit, prosecution or other legal proceedings shall lie against the Central Government or Director-General or Secretary or State Government or any officer of those Governments or State Commission or its members or any member or officer or other employee of the Bureau for anything which is in good faith done or intended to be done under this Act or the rules or regulations made thereunder.

51. The Bureau may, by general or special order in writing, delegate to any member, member of the committee, officer of the Bureau or any other person subject to such conditions, if any, as may be specified in the order, such of its powers and functions under this Act (except the powers under section (58) as it may deem necessary.
52. Every designated consumer or manufacturer of equipment or appliances specified under clause (b) of section 14 shall supply the Bureau with such information, and with such samples of any material or substance used in relation to any equipment or appliance, as the Bureau may require.

53. If the Central Government or the State Government is of the opinion that it is necessary or expedient so to do in the public interest, it may, by notification and subject to such conditions as may be specified in the notification, exempt any designated consumer or class of designated consumers from application of all or any of the provisions of this Act:

Provided that the Central Government or the State Government, as the case may be, shall not grant exemption to any designated consumer or class of designated consumers for the period exceeding five years:

Provided further that the Central Government or State Government, as the case may be shall consult the Bureau of Energy Efficiency before granting such exemption.

54. The Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal or the Members of the Appellate Tribunal or officers or employees of the Appellate Tribunal or the members, Director-General, Secretary, officers and other employees of the Bureau shall be deemed, when acting or purporting to act in pursuance of any of the provisions of the Act, to be public servants within the meaning of section 21 of the Indian Penal Code.

55. The Central Government may give directions to a State Government or the Bureau as to carrying out into execution of this Act in the State

56. (1) The Central Government may, by notification, make rules for carrying out the provisions of this Act.

(2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely:

(a) such number of persons to be appointed as members by the Central Government under clauses (o), (p) and (q) of sub-section (2) of section 4;

(b) the fee and allowances to be paid to the members under sub-section (5) of section 4;
(c) the salary and allowances payable to the Director-General and other terms and conditions of his service and other terms and conditions of service of the Secretary of the Bureau under sub-section (4) of section 9;

(d) the terms and conditions of service of officer and other employees of the Bureau under sub-section (2) of section 10;

(e) performing such other functions by the Bureau, as may be prescribed, under clause (u) of sub-section (2) or section 13;

(f) the energy consumption norms and standards for designated consumers under clause (g) of section 14;

(g) prescribing the different norms and standards for different designated consumers under the proviso to clause (g) of section 14;

(h) the form and manner and the time within which information with regard to energy consumed and the action taken on the recommendations of the accredited energy auditor be furnished under clause (k) of section 14;

(i) the form and manner in which the status of energy consumption be submitted under clause (l) of section 14;

(j) the minimum qualification for energy managers under clause (m) of section 14;

(k) the form and manner for preparation of scheme and its implementation under clause (o) of section 14;

(l) the energy conservation building codes under clause (p) of section 14;

(m) the matters relating to inspection under sub-section (2) of section 17;

(n) the form in which, and the time at which, the Bureau shall prepare its budget under section 22;

(o) the form in which, and the time at which, the Bureau shall prepare its annual report under section 23;

(p) the form in which the accounts of the Bureau shall be maintained under section 25;

(q) the manner of holding inquiry under sub-section (1) of section 27;

(r) the form of and fee for filing such appeal under sub-section (2) of section 31;

(s) the salary and allowances payable to and other terms and conditions of service of the Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal and Member of the Appellate Tribunal under section 35;

(t) the salary and allowances and other conditions of service of the officers and other employees of the Appellate Tribunal under sub-section (3) of section 39;

(u) the additional matters in respect of which the Appellate Tribunal may exercise the powers of a civil court under clause (i) of sub-section (2) of section 40;
any other matters which is to be, or may be, prescribed, or in respect of which provision is to be made, or may be made by rules.

57. (1) The State Government may, by notification, make rules for carrying out the provisions of this Act and not inconsistent with the rules, if any, made by the Central Government.

(2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely: -

(a) energy conservation building codes under clause (a) of section 15;

(b) the form, the manner and the period within which information with regard to energy consumption shall be furnished under clause (h) of section 15;

(c) the person or any authority who shall administer the Fund and the manner in which the Fund shall be administered under sub-section (4) of section 16;

(d) the matters to be included for the purposes of inspection under sub-section (2) of section 17;

(e) any other matter which is to be, or may be, prescribed, or in respect of which provision is to be made, or may be made, by rules.

58. (1) The Bureau may, with the previous approval of the Central Government and subject to the condition of previous publication, by notification, make regulations not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act and the rules made thereunder to carry out the purposes of this Act.

(2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such regulations may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely: -

(a) the times and places of the meetings of the Governing Council and the procedure to be followed at such meetings under sub-section (1) of section 5;

(b) the members of advisory committees constituted under sub-section (2) of section 8;

(c) the powers and duties that maybe exercised and discharged by the Director-General of the Bureau under sub-section (6) of section 9;

(d) the levy of fee for services provided for promoting efficient use of energy and its conservation under clause (n) of sub-section (2) of section 13;

(e) the list of accredited energy auditors under clause (o) of sub-section (2) of section 13;

(f) the qualifications for accredited energy auditors under clause (p) of sub-section (2) of section 13;

(g) the manner and the intervals or time in which the energy audit shall be conducted under clause (q) of sub-section (2) of section 13;

(h) certification procedure for energy managers under clause (r) of sub-section (2) of section (13).
(i) particulars required to be displayed on label and the manner of their display under clause (d) of section 14;

(j) the manner and the intervals of time for conduct of energy audit under clause (h) or clause (s) of section 14;

(k) the manner and the intervals of time for conducting energy audit by an accredited energy auditor under clause (c) of section 15;

(l) any other matter which is required to be, or may be, specified.

59. (1) Every rule made by the Central Government and every regulation made under this Act shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament while it is in session, for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive session, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule or regulation, or both Houses agree that the rule or regulation should not be made, the rule or regulation shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be; so however that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule or regulation.

(2) Every rule made by the State Government shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of the State Legislature where it consists of two Houses, or where such Legislature consists of one House, before that House.

60. The provisions of this Act shall be in addition to, and not in derogation of, the provisions of any other law for the time being in force.
61. The provisions of this Act shall not apply to the Ministry or Department of the Central Government dealing with Defence, Atomic Energy or such other similar Ministries or Departments undertakings or Boards or institutions under the control of such Ministries or Departments as may be notified by the Central Government.

62. (1) If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the Central Government may, by order, published in the Official Gazette, make such provisions not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act as may appear to be necessary for removing the difficulty:

Provided that no such order shall be made under this section after the expiry of two years from the date of commencement of this Act.

(2) Every order made under this section shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament.
THE SCHEDULE

[See section 2 (s)]

List of Energy Intensive Industries and other establishments specified as designated consumers

1. Aluminium;
2. Fertilizers;
3. Iron and Steel;
4. Cement;
5. Pulp and paper;
6. Chlor Akali;
7. Sugar;
8. Textile;
9. Chemicals;
10. Railways;
11. Port Trust;
12. Transport Sector (industries and services);
13. Petrochemicals, Gas Crackers, Naphtha Crackers and Petroleum Refineries;
14. Thermal Power Stations, hydel power stations, electricity transmission companies and distribution companies;
15. Commercial buildings or establishments;

SUBHASH C. JAIN,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

MGIP(PLU) MRND—2995GI—19-10-2001