

Speech of His Excellency, the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh on "Energy Conservation Day"

I congratulate all the winners and also the other participants of the Quiz Competition which has been held today to mark the 'Energy Conservation Day'.

As you know, the Government of India has been decided to observe this day, the 14th of December as 'Energy Conservation Day' in order to create awareness on the importance of energy and its conservation amongst all sections of people specially the younger generation.

My dear children, in today's modern world, energy is one of the most essential requirements for the human existence. We cannot think of life and any kind of development without energy. Whether it is an industry - big or small, or agriculture or for a household, electricity is the driving force behind all of them. Today, the per capita consumption of electricity is considered to be the index for development for any country. The demand for energy especially in the form of electricity and fossil fuels like petrol, diesel, gas, coal etc is increasing day by day in the entire world. But the sources of energy are limited and they are getting exhausted and we have to maintain the pace of development and national growth of any country. So we have to find out the solutions for this.

Energy Conservation and its efficient use could be one of the solutions and it assumes special significance due to the limited sources of Energy in our country and our heavy dependence on imports for this purpose, which results to draining out of our revenue. The other possible solution could be development and use of renewable sources of energy in place of the conventional sources. Conventional sources of energy are mainly the fossil fuels like the petrol, diesel, gas and coal. Their formation takes millions of years and once they are exhausted they are not going to be

regenerated soon. Hence, it is necessary to create public awareness regarding energy conservation and make optimum use of the available resources.

It is said that the fossil fuels are not going to last beyond this century. By way of Energy Conservation and Energy Efficiency measures we can prolong the availability of the fossil fuels to a great extent. Meanwhile, we also have to think for other means of energy sources, which are non-exhaustible and renewable in nature. Such sources are Solar, Wind, Biomass, hydro, ocean –waves, Geo-thermal, Bio-diesel etc. In Arunachal Pradesh, hydro is most abundant and potential to the extent of more than 55,000.00 MW which is almost one-third of the present country's power requirement is available.

Friends, conservation and efficient use of energy mean to avoid wastage of energy. The need of the hour and simplest way of avoiding wastage of energy is to spread the message of Energy Conservation and its efficient use amongst all sections of the people. The consumers have to change their mind set. The subject of energy conservation should not be limited to Seminars or Research papers but become a part and parcel of the life of every citizen of the country and it will help in achieving the goal of 'Power for all by year 2012'. Here, I trust the School Children are the best ambassadors to carry the message to the society.

As you are aware, India is one of the first developing countries which has achieved the unique distinction of successfully achieving the decoupling of economic growth from energy use. This is reflected in the rapid decline in energy intensity in the recent past despite the fact that our economy grew at the rate of about 9%. While we stress the increase in generation, we are also to vigorously pursue energy conservation measures to sustain the growth.

Friends, conserving or saving energy is a national cause. All of us will have to join hands and work in unison so as to make India an energy efficient economy and society. In this context creating public awareness becomes a matter of primary importance. The habit of conservation is best introduced and inculcated at the school age. Children are the best agents of change and in this case we need to equip them with the information and knowledge on energy conservation. The introduction of energy conservation as a subject in the school curricula would go a long way in spreading the message of energy conservation throughout the country.

Each one of us has a role to play in promoting energy efficiency and conservation. Obviously, Government alone cannot do this by itself. All of us need to make a conscious effort to embrace energy efficient practices and products. Building owners, architects and engineers have a special responsibility for incorporating energy efficiency measures when designing and developing new structures.

I once again congratulate all the award winners, all the participants, the Schools who have come here today and participated in the Quiz Competition. I also extend my best wishes to BEE and APEDA in their mission and endeavor to create Energy Awareness in the Society.

Before, I conclude my speech, I earnestly appeal to all the Energy users to utilize energy efficiently and make energy conservation and its efficient use a way of life.

Jai Hind !