**Salient features of the Energy Conservation Act 2001**

The Act empowers the Central Government and, in some instances, State Governments to:

* specify energy consumption standards for notified equipment and appliances;
* direct mandatory display of label on notified equipment and appliances;
* prohibit manufacture, sale, purchase and import of notified equipment and appliances not conforming to energy consumption standards;
* notify energy intensive industries, other establishments, and commercial buildings as designated consumers;
* establish and prescribe energy consumption norms and standards for designated consumers;
* prescribe energy conservation building codes for efficient use of energy and its conservation in new commercial buildings having a connected load of 500 kW or a contract demand of 600 kVA and above;
* direct designated consumers to:-

1. designate or appoint certified energy manager in charge of activities for efficient use of energy and its conservation;
2. get an energy audit conducted by an accredited energy auditor in the specified manner and interval of time;
3. furnish information with regard to energy consumed and action taken on the recommendation of the accredited energy auditor to the designed agency;
4. comply with energy consumption norms and standards;
5. prepare and implement schemes for efficient use of energy and its conservation if the prescribed energy consumption norms and standards are not fulfilled;

* get energy audit of the building conducted by an accredited energy auditor in this specified manner and intervals of time;

State Governments may –

1. amend the energy conservation building codes prepared by the Central Government to suit regional and local climatic conditions;
2. direct every owners or occupier of a new commercial building or building complex being a designated consumer to comply with the provisions of energy conservation building codes;
3. 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 in such manner and at such intervals of time as may be specified;