



## EESL signs MoU with TERRE to kick-start discussions on carbon neutrality in educational institutions on World Environment Day

*To undertake skill building for addressing the challenge of climate-change*

New Delhi, 5<sup>th</sup> June 2021 – Accelerating the momentum for carbon neutrality in educational institutions on the occasion of World Environment Day, Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), a joint venture under the administration of Ministry of Power has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Technology, Education, Research and Rehabilitation for the Environment (TERRE). The MoU has been signed with the view to set up a launch platform for kick starting the discussions on carbon neutrality in educational institutions.

TERRE and EESL have joined hands to propose nation-wide projects, across educational institutes/campuses in India. These projects will transform the higher educational campuses in India into hubs for energy efficiency, renewable energy and emission reduction.

The virtual MoU signing ceremony took place in the august presence of **Prof. Anil Dattatraya Sahasrabudhe, Chairman, AICTE, Mr Saurabh Kumar, Executive Vice-Chairperson, EESL Group and Dr Rajendra Shende, Chairman, TERRE**. They were joined by the heads of educational institutes and international experts involved in the sustainability domain. The event was also graced by senior dignitaries of both these groups and other leading educational institutes.

Under the partnership, EESL will engage with TERRE to prepare guidelines for a benchmark survey of the institutes that have taken pledge for Not Zero-Net Zero. EESL will also hold workshops for energy audits, make available the guidelines for aggregating demand, set standards for super-efficient appliances available in the market for developing energy efficient plans and map out emission reduction strategies.

EESL, using its ESCO models (CAPEX and PAYS) will finance the replacements of existing inefficient appliances and set in motion the processes to make campuses and infrastructure of the educational institutions energy efficient.

EESL and TERRE would identify research areas for net-zero campaigns to benefit the industry and consumers and create a fund for research on sustainable energy. They will also arrange field visits of interested national/international entities to these institutes to showcase the best practices under the “Knowledge-Exchange-Program (KEP)”

**Speaking about this partnership, Mr. Saurabh Kumar, Executive Vice Chairman, EESL said,** *“Educational institutes, with their campuses are the centres where youth develop the ideas for building a better future. These institutes are the catalysts for skill development for addressing the global challenge of climate change. Having piloted the actions related to implementation of SDGs and climate change in some of the institutes, TERRE and EESL will work on campuses to implement*



*and foster sustainable energy solutions to enable a low carbon future, with significant economic and social impact”.*

**Dr Rajendra Shende, Chairman, TERRE said,** *“In the past, TERRE and EESL have participated in encouraging education institutes to take a pledge of carbon neutrality called ‘Not Zero-Net Zero’. More than 250 institutes took the pledge, evincing their interest to move towards sustainability. With an aim to take forward this momentum and convert these ambitions into action, we have signed this MoU with EESL, and we look forward to doing some impactful work through this partnership”.*

**Further notes to the Editor:**

### **About Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)**

A joint venture of NTPC Limited, Power Finance Corporation, Rural Electrification Corporation and POWERGRID, Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) was set up under Ministry of Power to facilitate implementation of energy efficiency projects. EESL is a Super Energy Service Company (ESCO) that seeks to unlock energy efficiency market in India, estimated to at Rs. 74,000 crore that can potentially result in energy savings of up to 20 per cent of current consumption, by way of innovative business and implementation models. It also acts as the resource centre for capacity building of State DISCOMs, ERCs, SDAs, upcoming ESCOs, financial institutions, etc.

### **About TERRE**

A Public trust is a global non-profit, non-partisan and independent organization dedicated to sustainable solutions to our developmental imperatives. TERRE also is the abbreviation for ‘Technology, Education, Research and Rehabilitation for the Environment.’ One of the flagship projects of TERRE is Smart Campus Cloud Network (scnhub.com). SCCN is a global network of the education campuses of schools, colleges, institutes, and universities committed to make a tangible contribution to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

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