

'Green Buildings' for nature friendly world

Green Building, also known as **green construction** or **sustainable building**, is the practice of creating structures and using processes that are environmentally responsible and resource-efficient throughout a building's life-cycle, ie from siting to design, construction, operation, maintenance, renovation, and deconstruction. This practice expands and complements the classical building design concerns of economy, utility, durability, and comfort.



Comparing to conventional buildings, green buildings uses less water, optimizes energy efficiency, conserves natural resources, generates less waste and provides healthier spaces for occupants.

Although new technologies are constantly being developed to complement current practices in creating greener structures, the common objective is that green buildings are designed to reduce the overall impact of the built environment on human health and the natural environment by

- (a) *Efficiently using energy, water, and other resources*
- (b) *Protecting occupant health and improving employee productivity*
- (c) *Reducing waste, pollution and environmental degradation*

Green Building has arrived on the scene as energy costs hit new highs and global warming concerns make headlines.

IN INDIA:- "Green Buildings" are not new in India. India has always tried to incorporate green concepts in its structure and architecture. In India there has always been a scarcity of resources like water, energy, materials and also extreme weather conditions have made it a compulsion for India to follow a sustainable planning design and structure.

The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED-INDIA) has a Green Building Rating System which is a nationally and internationally accepted benchmark for design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings.

Time-turn off switches (that switch on and off at regulated hours), sensory switches that turn off if there is no one in the room, controlling air leakages in air-conditioned room and using appropriate shower heads to save water are some of the energy saving methods used in Green buildings.

Currently, there are many structures in the country, including the Reserve Bank of India building in Mumbai that have the green and energy-efficient building tag. Being an innovative idea to conserve the natural resources, Green Building concept is gaining popularity these days.