

10. Preventing wastage of electricity

Background

Electricity is a very convenient and flexible form of energy. However, it is often not used judiciously by most of us. Electricity is a scarce resource which is produced by burning coal at a thermal power station. It is also generated at nuclear power stations and hydel power plants. Irrespective of the ways in which it is produced it affects our environment. Conserving electric energy not only saves our money but also helps in increasing its availability. By proper planning and a little awareness, we can save a substantial amount of electricity in our schools, work places and homes.



Objectives

- (i) To create awareness about the need for conservation of electricity.
- (ii) To be sensitised about avoiding excessive use of electricity.

Methodology

1. Visit all the classrooms of your school with a few of your friends during recess time and after the school is over.

2. Observe whether all the fans and bulbs/tubelights are switched off, when no one is there.
3. Note down how many electric fans and bulbs are switched on in vacant classrooms. If you come across any such classrooms, turn off all the switches.
4. Also in a similar way try to find out whether electricity is being wasted at home.
5. Find out about energy saving devices available in the market, for example, compact fluorescent tubes (CFLs).

Conclusion

Prepare a report citing instances of wastage of electricity. Prepare a plan for conserving electricity at your school/home.

Follow-up

1. Talk to your school principal or teacher to get your plan implemented.
2. Keep monitoring the activity and communicating with your school mates during assembly time. Ensure that electricity is used judiciously in your house too.
3. Make a list on how you can minimise use of energy consumption in your house/school by gradually replacing worn out electrical devices and fittings with more energy efficient ones.

