



सत्यमेव जयते

Ministry Of New  
And  
Renewable Energy



## **MANUAL VOLUME - 1**

Introduction to National Rating System

# **GRIHA**



# Foreword

The time has come where we can no longer ignore the benefits of green building practices that have a major impact on our environment. The Government is taking appropriate steps to ensure that green building practices are mainstreamed through a mix of regulations and voluntary schemes. The National Action Plan on Climate Change has, therefore, announced a mission on sustainable habitats. In addition, the recently launched ECBC 2007 (Energy Conservation Building Code 2007), the appliance labelling programme of the Bureau of Energy Efficiency, and the rating system for appraisal and clearance of large construction projects by the Ministry of Environment and Forests are some of the significant steps to move towards green buildings. Several corporate organizations and institutions have mandated the use of green practices in their new construction. Development of a holistic framework that meets all the regulatory norms and responds to the needs of differing agro-climatic zones in India is felt to be an urgent need. GRIHA (Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment) was developed in response to this need.

Keeping in view agro-climatic conditions in India and, in particular, the preponderance of non-air-conditioned buildings, the National Rating System – GRIHA – has been developed as a suitable system for all kinds of buildings in different climatic zones of the country. The system, initially developed by TERI as TERI-GRIHA, has been modified to GRIHA as the country's

National Rating System after incorporating various modifications suggested by a group of architects and experts.

The GRIHA rating system takes into account the provisions of the National Building Code 2005; the Energy Conservation Building Code 2007 announced by BEE (Bureau of Energy Efficiency) and other IS codes.

GRIHA – the National Rating System will evaluate the environmental performance of a building holistically over its entire life cycle, thereby providing a definitive standard for what constitutes a 'green building'. The rating system, based on accepted energy and environmental principles, will seek to strike a balance between established practices and emerging concepts, both national and international.

On a broader scale, this system, along with the activities and processes that lead up to it, will benefit the community at large with improvement in the environment by reducing GHG (greenhouse gas) emissions, improving energy security, and reducing the stress on natural resources.

This book provides a comprehensive understanding of GRIHA, its underlying criteria and the rating procedure. The book also covers best practices that could be followed to achieve desired GRIHA ratings.



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