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SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

1. Institutional Commitment to Clean Energy

Amity University Rajasthan (AUR), established under the Amity University Rajasthan Act, 2008, is a 152-acre residential campus on NH-11C, Jaipur, located in the hot and semi-arid region of Rajasthan. In this climate, air-conditioning, lighting and water pumping account for most of the campus energy demand. The University has therefore treated affordable and clean energy as a core institutional priority, addressing it through renewable energy generation on campus, energy-efficient building design and operation, and a culture of responsible energy use among its students, faculty and staff.

The campus is certified LEED Gold by the U.S. Green Building Council, and its buildings use passive design to reduce dependence on mechanical cooling and artificial lighting. A 1 MW on-site solar power plant meets about half of the campus electricity requirement. The Registrar has certified the campus carbon neutral, with a green belt on about 80% of its land acting as a carbon sink.

The University's commitment is formalised in three approved documents: the Policy for Energy Efficiency in Renovation, Construction and Maintenance (9 December 2024), the Plan for Upgradation of Existing Buildings to Higher Energy Efficiency (9 December 2024) and the Energy Efficiency Plan (2 December 2024). Together they set measurable targets, assign responsibility to the Energy Management Committee and the Administrative Officer (Maintenance), and require annual review. The academic year 2025–26 was the first full year of their implementation. Beyond the campus, the University extends its clean energy expertise to the local community, industry and government.

The University's energy framework is aligned with:

- the Energy Conservation Act, 2001 and the Energy Conservation and Sustainable Building Code (ECSBC) 2024, successor to ECBC 2017;
- the National Building Code of India 2016;
- the National Solar Mission and the National Action Plan on Climate Change;
- ISO 50001:2018 Energy Management Systems; and
- UN Sustainable Development Goals 7 and 13.

2. Renewable Energy

AUR generates clean electricity on campus from a solar power plant with a cumulative capacity of 1 MW, developed in association with CleanMax Solar. The plant comprises a 500 kW ground-mounted solar tracking system, which follows the sun to maximise generation, and rooftop installations on academic and administrative buildings. The plant is grid-connected and operated throughout 2025–26, meeting about half of the campus electricity requirement.

3. Energy Efficiency in Buildings and Operations

Area	Measures in place in 2025–26
Green buildings	Campus certified LEED Gold by the U.S. Green Building Council (July 2017); passive design with orientation, shading, natural ventilation and daylighting suited to the hot and semi-arid climate
Lighting	Conventional tube lights replaced with LED lighting; campus street lighting converted to LED
Air-conditioning	Central set point of 23 °C and individual unit set point of 24 °C
Chiller plant	Cooling towers supplied with STP-treated water (about 70,000 litres per day), reducing fresh-water pumping
Equipment replacement	Seven water coolers 13–15 years old and beyond economic repair approved for replacement through central purchase (February 2025)
Maintenance	Scheduled preventive maintenance of electrical, HVAC, chiller and solar systems
Standby power	Diesel generators used only as standby; used oil sent to an RSPCB-authorised re-refiner

4. Policies, Plans and Targets

Document	Adopted	Key provisions and targets
Policy for Energy Efficiency in Renovation, Construction and Maintenance	Dec 2024	ECSBC / NBC compliance and mandatory passive design for all new buildings and renovations; star-rated procurement; annual audit; review every three years
Plan for Upgradation of Existing Buildings	Dec 2024	15–20% reduction in energy consumption through prioritised retrofits
Energy Efficiency Plan	Dec 2024	20% reduction in energy consumption over three years against FY 2024–25; at least 25% renewable energy by 2030

5. Energy Audits and Carbon Management

- Third-party energy and green audits by Incube Sustainability Pvt. Ltd., an IGBC member, identified areas of energy wastage; findings guided the LED retrofit, set-point control and chiller optimisation.
- A five-step carbon management process (identify, measure, reduce, offset, verify) is followed, covering grid electricity, standby generators, transport, waste and wastewater.
- A green belt on about 80% of the 152-acre campus acts as a carbon sink, and the Registrar has certified the campus carbon neutral (28 July 2023).

6. Clean Energy beyond the Campus

Area	Contribution
Community outreach	Awareness on saving electricity, LED lighting, solar pumps and rooftop solar schemes in adopted villages through NSS and Unnat Bharat Abhiyan; community visits to the campus solar plant
Services to industry	Energy audits, solar PV feasibility studies, workshops and consultancy through ASET, the M.Tech (Solar and Alternate Energy) programme, ASAP and the Amity Innovation Incubator
Knowledge transfer	ASET workshop-cum-seminar “Driving the Future: EVs or ICEs? Sustainability Perspective” (3 October 2025)
Policy development	Inputs to RRECL, MNRE and the State Designated Agency; MoU with the Public Policy Research Institute, Thiruvananthapuram (22 August 2025)

7. Key Energy Metrics

Parameter	Status
On-site solar capacity	1 MW (including 500 kW ground-mounted tracking system)
Solar share of electricity requirement	About 50%
Green building certification	LEED Gold (2017)
Energy reduction target	20% over three years from FY 2024–25
Renewable energy target	At least 25% by 2030
Carbon status	Certified carbon neutral (2023)

8. Evidence Submitted

Indicator	Evidence document
7.2.1	Energy Efficiency in Renovation, Construction and Maintenance: Policy and Implementation Report 2025–26
7.2.2	Upgradation of Existing Buildings to Higher Energy Efficiency: Progress Report 2025–26
7.2.3	Process for Carbon Management and Reduction of CO_2 Emissions
7.2.4	Energy Efficiency Plan: Implementation Report 2025–26
7.2.5	Certification of Carbon Reduction and Energy Performance
7.4.1	Local Community Outreach for Energy Efficiency and Clean Energy
7.4.2	Promoting the Move to Renewable Energy beyond the University

Indicator	Evidence document
7.4.3	Energy Efficiency and Clean Energy Services to Local Industry
7.4.4	Support to Government in Clean Energy Policy Development

9. Way Forward

Under its adopted plans, the University is pursuing building-wise sub-metering with an energy management system, variable frequency drives on major pumps and fans, cool-roof treatment, expansion of solar capacity and BEE Star Rating of major buildings, towards its targets for 2027–28 and 2030.

Conclusion

Through on-site solar generation, LEED Gold certified buildings, approved energy policies with measurable targets, and outreach to the community, industry and government, Amity University Rajasthan has demonstrated sustained institutional leadership in affordable and clean energy during 2025–26.