

# **Report on Currency and Finance 2022-23**

For Prelims: RBI's Report on Currency and Finance, net-zero emission target

For Mains: Growth & Development, India's renewable energy targets and the role of the financial sector.

## Why in News?

The cumulative total expenditure for India's adaptation to climate change could reach 85.6 lakh crore by 2030, according to an estimate made by **Reserve Bank of India(RBI)** in its Report on Currency and Finance 2022-23.

## What is Report on Currency and Finance?

- About:
  - It is an annual publication of the RBI.
  - The report covers various aspects of the Indian economy and financial system.
- Theme:
  - The theme of Report on Currency and Finance 2022–23 is 'Towards a Greener Cleaner India'.
    - It focuses on the challenges and opportunities of climate change for India and the role of the financial sector in achieving a low-carbon and climateresilient development path.

Vision

- Aim:
- It aims to provide analytical insights into the macroeconomic and financial developments in India and their policy implications.
- Dimensions:
  - The report covers four major dimensions of climate change to assess future challenges to sustainable high growth in India, the unprecedented scale and pace of climate change; its macroeconomic effects; implications for financial stability; and policy options to mitigate climate risks.

## What are the Key Highlights of the Report?

- Renewable Energy Target:
  - India needs to significantly increase its use of renewable energy to achieve its goal of <u>net</u> <u>zero emissions by 2070.</u> The report suggests that India should aim for renewables to account for 80% of its energy mix by 2070-71.
  - This would require an accelerated reduction in the energy intensity of GDP by about 5% annually.
- Green Financing Requirement:
  - India's green financing requirement is estimated to be at least 2.5% of GDP annually till 2030 to address the infrastructure gap caused by climate events.
    - The financial system may need to **mobilize adequate resources** and **reallocate current resources** to contribute effectively to India's net-zero target.

#### Policy Intervention:

- The report also highlights the need for a balanced policy intervention to ensure progress across all policy levers, which would enable India to achieve its green transition targets by 2030 and make the net-zero goal by 2070 attainable.
- Financial Risks due to Climate Change:
  - The <u>public sector banks (PSBs)</u> in India may be more vulnerable to climate-related financial risks than private sector banks.
- Policy Instruments:
  - Central banks have several policy instruments at their disposal to influence investment decisions and the allocation of resources and credit to achieve sustainability targets.
    - This includes mandating banks and other financial institutions to consider climate and environmental risks through various regulations.

## **UPSC Civil Services Examination Previous Year Questions (PYQs)**

#### Q. Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is appointed by the Central Government.
- 2. Certain provisions in the Constitution of India give the Central Government the right to issue directions to the RBI in public interest.
- 3. The Governor of the RBI draws his power from the RBI Act.

### Which of the above statements are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- **(b)** 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (c)

#### **Explanation:**

- The Reserve Bank of India was established on April 1, 1935 in accordance with the provisions of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.
- Though originally privately owned, since nationalization in 1949, the Reserve Bank is fully owned by the Government of India.
- The RBI's affairs are governed by a central board of directors. The board is appointed by the Government of India in line with the Reserve Bank of India Act.

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