

Draft National resource efficiency policy (NREP)

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Why in news?

A draft National Resource Efficiency Policy, 2019 has been proposed by MoEFCC.

Features:

- It seeks to set up a **National Resource Efficiency Authority (NREA)**.
- It is the **regulatory body** that will be spearheading the initiative i.e. developing action plans, setting targets, capacity building etc. as well as collaborating with state governments and local ministries.
- An **Inter-ministerial National Resource Efficiency Board (NREAB)** will **guide the NREA** in areas of implementation.
- **It proposes** tax benefits on recycled materials, green loans to small and medium Enterprises (SMEs) and soft loans to construct waste disposal facilities, apart from setting up Material Recovery Facilities (MRF).
- Idea of the national policy is to drive the country towards a circular economy through the **'principle of 6R' and 'green public procurement'**.
- The 6R stands for *reduce, reuse, recycle, redesign, re-manufacture and refurbish*.
- 'Green public procurement' is to procure products with lower environmental footprints such as secondary raw materials and locally sourced materials.
- It also **itches for moving towards a 'zero landfill' approach in the country**, hinting at the possibility of imposing 'landfill taxes' and 'high tipping fees' for bulk generators of waste.
- The draft policy includes a **life-cycle analysis (LCA)** of

each sector, shedding light on resource use and GHG emissions at each stage.

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- Each sector has a different set of interventions and targets based on the LCA and current resource use within that sector.