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The Green Energy Corridor Phase-III Scheme

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Source: News on

Context The **Union Cabinet** approved the **Green Energy Corridor Phase-III (GEC-III)** scheme with an outlay of **₹1,86,405 crore**.

What It Is

- A flagship central infrastructure scheme to **expand and modernise state-level transmission grids (InSTS)**
- **Renewable Energy Evacuation:** The scheme will enable evacuation of up to **135 GW** of renewable energy across States/UTs.
- **Battery Energy Storage: 50 GWh of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS)** will be deployed to improve grid flexibility.
- **Total Outlay:₹1,86,405 crore**
  - **₹1,36,378 crore** – Intra-State Transmission Systems
  - **₹50,000 crore** – 50 GWh BESS
- **Central Financial Support:₹54,082 crore**
  - This will help reduce **intra-state transmission charges**, ultimately keeping electricity costs lower.
- **Target:** The projects are planned for completion by **FY 2032-33**.
- **Non-Fossil Energy Target:** GEC-III will support India's goal of **900 GW installed non-fossil fuel capacity by 2035**.
- **Nodal Ministry: Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)**

Important Facts for Exams

- **Green Energy Corridor (GEC):** Transmission network designed to integrate and evacuate electricity generated from renewable energy sources.
- **Intra-State Transmission System (InSTS):** Transmission network used to transfer electricity **within a State**.
- **BESS:** Battery-based system that stores electricity and supplies it when required.
- **TBCB:** A competitive bidding system where transmission projects are awarded to the bidder offering the required service at the most competitive tariff.
- **BOOM: Build-Own-Operate-Maintain** model in which a private transmission provider builds, owns, operates and maintains the infrastructure.
- **Brownfield Project:** Expansion, upgrading or strengthening of an **existing infrastructure/network**.
- **Non-Fossil Capacity:** Power capacity based on sources such as **solar, wind, hydro and nuclear**, rather than fossil fuels.

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