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# A Study On The Evolution Of Monetary Policy Frameworks In India

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## ABSTRACT

The structure of the monetary or fiscal policy of India has undergone from various transformations that highly reflect macroeconomic and economical condition of the nation and also lead the social, political and economic pattern. The current study makes relevant commentary notes on the various fiscal policy strategies comprising for example, the period of the growth of the planning, the period of monetarism, the period of various indicator strategies and the period of inflation aiming in India along with their individual benefits and loss.

**Keywords:** Monetary policy, India

## I. INTRODUCTION

There are various essential task of Central bank but one of the essential task is to keep interest from wither developing too swiftly with conclusive inflation or too slowly with outcomes of high unemployment and slow financial development. Therefore, most of the policy should be conducted and regulated in a way that mainly dominant to stable and consistent development in collective demand of public. This accordingly assists to attain the various macroeconomic objective variables in the economy. Nonetheless, with the passage of time, the policy of the government keeps changing relying upon the requirement at particular time. Here, widely speaking, the investigation mainly concentrates on 4 various periods of Indian Fiscal policy which have been highly followed by central banks of India-- the RBI- at various points of time.

To understand the monetary policy of India, one ought to look at the legal points of monetary policy in India. As per the RBI Act 1934, RBI is legally mandated to regulate and control the problems of banknotes and also keep reserves with the view of securing stability of economy of India and normally to control the current flow and credit system of the nation, to have an advance monetary or fiscal policy structure, it ought to be meet the challenge of an increasing complex economy and to preserve the stability of price even though keeping in mind the aiming of development. It is crystal clear that RBI has to dual mandate. Primary, RBI has to control the inflation. Secondary, it has to satisfy the credit requirement of the economy. Thus, In India, monetary policy practices and

rehearsal have emerged on the basis of these two mandates which are controlling inflation and giving credit to the economy of the nation.

## **II. THE ERA OF DEVELOPMENT PLANNING**

In 1951, India boarded on the road of growth planning. Just after the independence of time of India when the first 5 year plan was conducted. Accordingly, 5 year plan were the main focus of the strategy of growth of India. The query is basically what was the role imagined for monetary policy in this whole structure of growth planning.

One of the most essential things to think of that monetary policy was compliant to the requirement of 5 Year plan. The entire idea was that the government of India would use fiscal policy and planning to increase the development rate and acquisition rates in the financial policy and it had to provide the fiscal requirement of this economy. Most of the people said that monetary policy is a shadow of fiscal policy that mainly lived in the penumbra of fiscal policy. Hence, the RBI was anticipated to assist the funding budget deficits by creating of money. At this time, keep in mind that India wanted to accelerate its investment rate to generate faster development. So, RBI was probable to assist funding budget deficits by making of money.

As per the economic theory, when money is making in excess of the development of the economy, inflation shows its ugly face. It is not related to the planning authority or GOI were not initially aware of inflation risk essential in the strategy. But at some point, the development was basically so strong that planning approach or growth approach essentially assumes that India could bear some of the inflation until development was at the phase where India could easily escape from the high poverty.

As same as of any central bank, the RBI could never neglect the role of money supply or excess supply of money in evolvment of inflation. Thus, essential research and investigation of the RBI represent that inflation in India was also serious to supply side rigidities, for e.g. production of food and intermediate goods. Even though the RBI also understands that to crack the inflation issue, the supply side constraint has to be reduced. Therefore, at one end, there were risks of inflation but the gamble was that it would assist to increase domestic or local production and put India on the way of low inflation and much high financial development. Therefore, under the period of the growth planning, the objective was the growth of the inflation had an overall secondary role to play.

What were the instrument of policy used to control and maintain the growth, development and inflation on a definite path? As per the RBI Act, the main policy instrument is Bank rates. That was basically the most essential instrument of monetary policy as explained in the RBI Act 1934. Nonetheless, the bank rate did not have as much essential as the law may have recommended. Alternatively, the bank rate did not factor

in very much. For instances, the bank rate was changed only 6 times from 1951 to 1971. Now have to compare it from current repo rate changes. If not every three months, it has changed many times in the last 20 years. Nonetheless, the bank rate is a type of policy instrument in the law but barely ever used. Rather than, the RBI used a direct instrument for controlling credit. Therefore, it was not an indirect financial policy by an investment rate channel but instead that it was direct intervention through a credit channel. Credit is not controlling by the RBI for two reasons. First, to handle the flow of credit in the fiscal line of nation. Second, for direct credit to the specific sector of the economy.

This period of the planning of growth mainly had its successes, for example, development of economy accelerated and India formed a diversified base of industry. Nonetheless, term restrictions and drawbacks of this strategy were also obvious. At the end of the 1960s, India was gone through from the very high inflation. This was happening as same as what happens in the western nations due to this reason, the period of 1970s were known as the period of stagflation by the combination of stagnant financial development and high fiscal policy, led to a modern wave of thoughts that basically led to the period of monetarism in India. The entire criticism of monetary policy in the period of planning of growth was that the RBI and government had lost complete control over stagflation and that the development dividend was not as high as expected. All these outcomes mainly led to a whole re-thinking regarding to the monetary policy and beginning of the next phase of monetary policy thoughts, which is the period of monetarism. This widely in line with what happened in the rest of the world also.

### **III. ERA OF MONETARISM**

No economics understudy has done a seminar on monetary economics without going over this key thought put forward by Milton Friedman when he said: "inflation is consistently and wherever is monetary marvel." Keep as a primary concern that the RBI had a structuralize perspective on inflation and that inflation was a direct result of deficient food and middle goods, that is, a supply-side issue. Essentially, Friedman, Fried manites, and monetarists were of the view that inflation, eventually, is clarified by abundance money supply and the central bank needs to plan something for control the development of that money supply. Accordingly, a reevaluate began in the last part of the 1970s around the world and in India also. However, monetarism truly made its mark in India in the mid1980s. In the year 1985, the committee to audit the state of the monetary framework led by Dr. Sukhamoy Chakravarty delivered its landmark report in which he referenced that "RBI should accord price security a prevailing situation in the spectrum of targets pursued by the monetary position." 3

In 1985, the committee recommended a new monetary policy system dependent on monetary focusing with input, drawing on observational proof of stable money request

function. Under this methodology, a monetary projection was made reliable with the normal genuine (GDP) development and a decent degree of inflation. The committee additionally recommended restricting monetary development through the interaction of adaptation of fiscal deficit by an arrangement between the Reserve Bank and the government of India. Hence, during this system, wide money (M3) was set as the halfway objective, while reserve money was one of the primary working instruments for accomplishing control on wide money development.

Zeroing in on the goals under this structure, the current examination again alludes to the RBI law. It was monetary strength and giving credit to the developing economy. What the report said was that inflation control ought to be the essential goal of monetary policy. Noticing that it ought not to focus on development but instead than the essential target ought to be inflation control. This move was a result of the high inflation experience of the 1970s which prompted political shakiness in India. It was likewise the consequence of the generally worldwide reexamining about the idea of the monetary policy. Along these lines, the time of monetarism was a landmark time where monetary policy moved from advancement arranging toward monetarism.

Under a monetarism system, the wide objectives of monetary policy were to give a more grounded center around inflation, decrease the fiscal predominance of monetary policy, and step away from financial suppression. Here, dominance's meaning could be a little clearer. It implies that the RBI's capacity to control money supply to control inflation was seriously confined by its prerequisite to the developing fiscal deficit of the Indian Government. In this manner, monetary policy was docile to fiscal policy. Another issue was financial constraint, which implied that due to interest rate control the majority of the interest rates were lower than the inflation rate. Thus, the capacity of the RBI to oversee total interest through changes in interest rates was confined. The wide objectives in this period of monetarism were to give a more grounded center around inflation, decrease fiscal predominance, and step away from financial restraint. All things considered, in the period of improvement arranging, credit control was the principle policy instrument utilized. While in the period of monetarism, it was control of the money supply which turned into the primary policy instrument of the RBI.

Presently, how did the RBI go to its yearly monetary objective or the objective for how quick the money supply ought to develop? There were three things that the RBI considered:

- 1 The assessed pace of genuine GDP development. Since the money supply needed to develop alongside genuine GDP.

- 2 A worthy degree of inflation. The genuine GDP development, just as inflation, gave an acknowledged pace of ostensible GDP development which was utilized in the money supply count.

3 Income elasticity of the interest for money. The monetary objective was gotten from genuine GDP development just as inflation rate and income elasticity of the interest for money.

This system was very adaptable as in it took into consideration different input impacts (Mohanty, 2010). Also, the money supply target was generally surely known by people in general everywhere (Rangarajan, 1997). The setting of monetary policy during the mid 1980s, as a general rule, used to be in the background of uncomfortably high development of liquidity (M3) and a higher than the ideal ascent in discount prices (Mohanty and Mitra, 1999). Probably the greatest obstruction to monetary focusing on was the absence of command over the RBI's credit to the central government, which represented the main part of reserve money creation. The capital flows during the 1991 financial change additionally made trouble to control monetary totals. Without a doubt, monetary totals had filled the need better regarding its ostensible anchor until money request got shaky. They had been subverted by unsteadiness and loss of consistency of the interest for money, discrediting responsibility, and correspondence when targets were missed. The precariousness in the money request was ascribed to the financial innovations<sup>4</sup> and outer stuns exuding from swings in capital flows, instability in the conversion standard, and worldwide business cycles. Hence, the period of monetarism endured around 10 or 12 years in India. It was a finished split away from the prior period of advancement arranging.

Likewise, it was in the financial change measure. As financial changes advanced, interest rates were liberated. Something other than this happened. "The considerable changes [were] destroying regulated interest rates, the unification of double trade rates by presenting a market-based conversion scale framework and a staged move towards convertibility on the current record" (Ramachandran, 2004). In this manner, worldwide capital flows turned out to be more significant and monetarism began losing its allure in India as well as abroad. Eventually, the monetarist time in the end offered path to the following period of Indian monetary policy, which was the time of numerous markers. The defining moment was in 1998.

#### **IV. THE ERA OF MULTIPLE INDICATOR APPROACH**

After a serious equilibrium of installment emergency in 1991, India embraced monetary changes which prompted an unmistakable change in the mid-1990s in its policy climate, structure, and systems. The monetary policy at that point needed to manage customary issues besides those new issues, which were achieved by changing the financial policy climate. In reality, liberation and progression of financial business sectors began giving occasion to feel qualms about the suitability of select dependence on money as the lone moderate objective in the last part of the 1990s. Against this scenery, the monetary policy system in India transformed from a "unadulterated monetary focusing on technique" to a "various marker approach" in April 1998 with a more noteworthy

accentuation on rate channels for monetary policy detailing comparative with amount instruments.

Deserting of the monetary focusing on system inferred the deficiency of expansive money (M3) as the ostensible anchor. By changing the policy structure, the RBI has not completely referenced its ostensible anchor. Be that as it may, under this system, expansive money stayed an enlightening variable with a large group of amount factors, (for example, money, credit, output, exchange, capital flows, and fiscal situation) just as rate factors, (for example, pace of return in various business sectors, inflation rate and swapping scale). These amount factors are analyzed for the direction of monetary policy viewpoints. The different pointer approach is educated by forward-looking markers since the mid 2000s drawn from the RBI's overviews of modern standpoint, credit conditions, limit use, proficient forecasters, inflation assumptions, and purchaser certainty (RBI, 2014).

A numerous pointer approach was seeing money supply as well as at a more diverse gathering of monetary factors including money supply, inflation, and the interest rate in money markets, swapping scale, credit development, fiscal deficit, and capital inflows. These factors turned out to be very relevant after the 1991 financial changes. For example, until 1991, the money market interest rate was controlled firmly by the RBI. The money market became market-decided simply after 1991. Moreover, the swapping scale was fixed. When India turned out to be completely convertible on the current record that swapping scale got significant input into financial policy. Also, India didn't get an excessive number of capital inflows until 1991. It is exclusively after that money began streaming to the financial exchange as an unfamiliar direct speculation (FDI). Accordingly, the change from a solitary boundary like money supply to the scope of boundaries like inflation, conversion standard, credit development, interest rate, and capital inflows (called various pointers) is really considered the center of the move from monetarism to numerous marker approaches.

A specific essential advance during this period was the memorable accord between the government and the RBI for eliminating the giving of impromptu depository bills, consequently disposing of programmed adaptation of the spending deficit. This, thusly, fortified monetary policy independence and upgraded the believability of the central bank. Albeit the essential destinations of monetary policy of guaranteeing price steadiness and accessibility of credit to gainful areas stayed unblemished, the basic working methods went through huge changes. Additionally, the accentuation moved from direct instruments of monetary policy (interest rate guidelines, particular credit controls, and money reserve proportion [CRR]) to roundabout instruments (repo tasks under liquidity change office [LAF] and open market activities [OMO]). In this manner, from 1998-99 until 2014-15, much accentuation is given on inflation and development

with different transitional targets. Obviously, the inquiry emerges with regards to why the RBI made this move. There were two significant explanations behind this move.

1 The interest for money function became flimsy due to financial liberalization.<sup>5</sup>

2 Interest rates turned into a more significant policy variable than either money supply or credit totals.

The primary issue was that the interest for money function became precarious due to financial advancement. What do we mean by flimsy money request function? Zeroing in on the dependability of money interest, as referenced by Laidler (1982): "When we say that the interest for money function is steady we mean at any rate that money property, as seen in reality, can be clarified, to expectedly worthy degrees of measurable importance, by functional connections which incorporate a moderately modest number of contentions. We likewise mean, or should mean, that a similar condition is fit for being fitted to tests of information drawn from various occasions and places, without it being important to change the contentions of the relationship to accomplish good outcomes, and furthermore without the assessed quantitative estimations of the boundaries changing excessively." <sup>6</sup>

It is known by the way that money supply focusing on bodes well as long as the interest for money is anticipated well. In this manner, the interest for money which is forecastable and the money supply target will give some feeling of what the interest rate would be in the economy. After financial progression with the blast of financial item, individuals began exchanging between bank stores, money, and shared assets, and so on it turned out to be extremely hard to conjecture the interest for money accurately and the interest for money function got flimsy. The subsequent issue was that the interest rate turned into a significant policy instrument. Since simply like the RBI moved away from monetarism, a great deal of other central banks all around the world moved away from monetarism or monetary focusing on. Considering this monetary policy methodology, Gerald Buoy, previous legislative leader of Bank of Canada, noted: "We didn't desert monetary totals; they deserted us."

Along these lines, monetary totals got shaky and could at this point don't be utilized as a policy instrument. Presently, the time of numerous pointer approaches had its run with a ton of changes in this time. The liquidity change office (LAF) under which the repo and opposite repo frameworks are set up appeared. The RBI likewise began developing the financial market in this country. The different pointer approach appeared to function admirably from 1998–99 to 2008–09, as obvious by a normal genuine GDP development pace of 7.1% related with normal inflation of about 5.5%. Nonetheless, from one perspective, industriously high inflation and debilitating development have come to exist together throughout some stretch of time. Then again, since the last part of the 1980s, a few progressed and arising economies have embraced inflation as an

ostensible anchor for monetary policy, drawing upon the solid hypothetical and exact help for low and stable inflation as a fundamental precondition for economical high development (RBI, 2014).

Therefore, just before the worldwide financial emergency, a few onlookers scrutinized this different marker approach system. They proposed a progressive advance toward an inflation-focusing on system as it is received in other arising economies (Rajan, 2008). Subsequently, it went under assault from numerous pundits who said that a different pointer approach was too unclear and monetary policy required an ostensible anchor that ought to have a solitary objective. The objective could be inflation, swapping scale, money supply, and ostensible homegrown GDP; all these are believable ostensible anchors which would assist with securing the assumptions for private financial specialists. This was when numerous central banks, first in cutting edge and afterward arising economies, 7 moved to an inflation-focusing on system. Essentially, it was when worldwide monetary reasoning began moving to the possibility that the undertaking of a central bank isn't simply to meet inflation target yet to secure long-term inflation assumption. Also, there was a view that RBI with its different objectives and various instruments couldn't give sound motioning to the market and the private areas so it could assist them with settling the inflation assumption.

Significantly, since 2007, there were a few undeniable level committees in India which have referenced in their report that the RBI should consider inflation focusing on system rather different marker approach. For example, "The Report of the High Powered Expert Committee on Making an International Financial Center," 2007 (Chairman: Percy S. Mistry); "The Report of the Committee on Financial Sector Reforms," 2009 (Chairman: Raghuram G. Rajan); and The Financial Sector Legislative Reforms Commission (FSLRC)', 2013 (Chairman: B.N. Srikrishna). Every one of them contended that the RBI should surrender a numerous pointer approach and advance toward a solitary ostensible anchor for its monetary policy. Also, in all reports, the favored anchor was the inflation target. The RBI didn't really concur with this since it is felt that in an intricate economy, for example, India, it is critical to have different choices open. For instance, the RBI ought to have a full-administration central bank instead of simply an inflation targeting central bank. In any case, the agreement on the planet had by then moved unequivocally to the possibility that central bank ought to have a solitary objective that is, inflation and the single policy instrument to meet that target which is the momentary interest rate. Thusly, by the then numerous central banks first in cutting edge and afterward arising economies had moved to an inflation-focusing on structure. Taking note of that through the main decade of the 21 century, there was an overall float universally that central bank after central bank began advancing toward inflation focusing on, despite the fact that there were some significant exemptions including the RBI and the Bank of China. Thusly, this analysis and the encounters of the Indian



government prompted the move to the most recent period of monetary policy in India, which is the time of inflation focusing on.

## **V. CONCLUSION**

As explained previously, there is one of the essential tasks of the central bank is to keep interest from whether growing too swiftly with conclusive inflation or too slowly with the conclusive high unemployment and much allow economic development. Therefore, the policy should be regulated in a way that leads to a permanent growth in comprehensive interest. Hence, the final objective of a short term macroeconomic policy is to manage comprehensive interest to assure that the development of economy grows swiftly while keeping inflation under management and control. As monetary policy of India mandated by RBIO Act of 1934 to control and sustain the stability of price without hurting the development of economy. That is the crucial objective. To this conclusion, at various point of time, there were near about 4 various period of monetary policy are as follows:

- a) The period of growth planning
- b) The period of monetarism
- c) The Period of multiple indicator strategy
- d) The present era of inflation aiming has been adopted

All these four periods have been explained by the associative importance given to these two objectives, which are stable price and growth or development. To attain them, various kinds of policy instruments have been used by both unconventional and conventional.

Therefore, in the background of the above debate, it has been represented that monetary policy of India has changed in its associative focus on inflation versus development and the types of the policy tools. That mainly used whether it's either money supply or credit combine or demand rate to fulfill these policies aims. The basic and essential point is that the monetary policy structure keeps on changing or altering along with the monetary policy structure. So, even though financial theory mainly gives a common view or insight of macroeconomic policy, it is critical to join it to historical and tools components in order to see how monetary policy or financial policy is originally bring out in the real world.

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