



Viksit Bharat @ 2047: Economic, Social and Environmental Dimension

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Abstract

India, approaching its centenary of independence in 2047, aspires to emerge as a developed nation, a vision widely referred to as Viksit Bharat. Achieving this goal requires a multi-dimensional approach that balances rapid economic growth, inclusive social development, and environmental sustainability. The current status of India across these three dimensions, identifies the structural and policy challenges, and explores strategies necessary for transforming the nation into a globally competitive, equitable, and sustainable economy. The study underscores the importance of technological innovation, digital governance, and human capital development as catalysts for achieving high productivity, employment generation, and social empowerment. It also highlights the need for environmental stewardship, focusing on renewable energy adoption, climate resilience, and sustainable resource management to mitigate the impacts of climate change. The paper examines critical factors such as industrialization, technological innovation, human capital development, healthcare, education, gender equality, and environmental conservation, highlighting their interdependence in driving holistic progress. It also identifies challenges, including population growth, income inequality, resource management, and climate change, which must be addressed through effective policy interventions and governance reforms. By integrating economic efficiency with social justice and environmental responsibility, India can aspire to achieve a sustainable and inclusive model of development. This research provides insights into actionable strategies, policy frameworks, and technological initiatives necessary to realize the dream of a Viksit Bharat in 2047, ensuring long-term well-being for all citizens.

Keywords: Viksit Bharat, India 2047, economic development, social development, environmental sustainability, inclusive growth, human capital, climate resilience.

1. Introduction

India, since gaining independence in 1947, has undergone a remarkable journey of nation-building, characterized by demographic growth, technological advancement, and socio-economic transformation. Despite significant progress, the country still faces challenges such as poverty, unemployment, regional disparities, gender inequality, and environmental degradation. As India approaches its centenary of independence in 2047, the vision of Viksit Bharat a developed, inclusive, and sustainable nation has become central to national policy and public discourse.

The concept of Viksit Bharat goes beyond mere economic metrics like GDP growth or per capita income. It encompasses a holistic framework of development, integrating three critical dimensions: economic prosperity, social equity, and environmental sustainability. Economic development ensures industrial growth, employment generation, and technological advancement. Social development focuses on education, healthcare, gender equality, and social inclusion, while environmental sustainability emphasizes climate resilience, resource management, and ecological balance.



This research paper seeks to explore the multi-dimensional pathways necessary to achieve Viksit Bharat. It analyzes current trends, identifies challenges, and proposes strategies and policy interventions to ensure that India not only attains global economic competitiveness but also fosters social justice and environmental responsibility. By focusing on inclusive growth, sustainable practices, and innovation-driven development, India can aspire to become a model nation that balances prosperity with equity and sustainability by 2047.

2. Objectives of the Study

- To analyze strategies for sustainable economic growth and global competitiveness.
- To evaluate employment generation, skill development, and industrial expansion.
- To assess education, healthcare, gender equality, and social inclusion for social development.
- To examine environmental sustainability, including climate change mitigation, natural resource management, and pollution control.
- To identify challenges and obstacles in achieving Viksit Bharat by 2047.

3. Significance of the Study

The study of Viksit Bharat @ 2047 is significant because it provides a comprehensive framework for understanding the pathways to transform India into a developed, inclusive, and sustainable nation. By analyzing the economic, social, and environmental dimensions of development, the study highlights the interconnections between growth, equity, and ecological balance, emphasizing that holistic development is essential for long-term progress.

From an academic perspective, the research contributes to the existing literature on sustainable development, human capital, and inclusive growth, offering insights into policy measures, strategic planning, and governance models relevant to India's unique socio-economic context.

From a policy perspective, the study provides actionable recommendations for government agencies, policymakers, and development planners to design integrated strategies that promote economic competitiveness, social justice, and environmental resilience. It also helps identify potential challenges and barriers that may impede the achievement of Viksit Bharat, enabling proactive and informed decision-making.

From a societal perspective, the study underscores the importance of citizen participation, social awareness, and community engagement in nation-building. By highlighting pathways to improve education, healthcare, employment, and environmental sustainability, the study empowers stakeholders to contribute to a prosperous, equitable, and sustainable India.

In essence, this research is significant because it provides a roadmap for the centenary vision of India, aligning economic growth, social well-being, and environmental stewardship to achieve a truly developed nation by 2047.

4. Review of Literature

The concept of Viksit Bharat has been discussed in various policy documents, research studies, and scholarly works, focusing on economic growth, social development, and environmental sustainability. According to the NITI Aayog (2021), India's vision for 2047 emphasizes inclusive development, technological innovation, and sustainable resource management as key drivers to achieve the status of a developed nation. The report outlines strategies for skill development, rural transformation, and industrial competitiveness as essential for economic growth.

The World Bank (2020) highlights that India's demographic dividend can be a significant advantage if adequately leveraged through education, skill development, and employment generation, stressing that human capital development is central to sustainable economic growth. Studies on social development, such as the UNDP

Human Development Report (2023), emphasize the need for equitable access to healthcare, education, and social protection to reduce inequalities and enhance social cohesion.

Environmental scholars, including the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (2022), argue that India's path to development must incorporate climate resilience, renewable energy adoption, and sustainable resource management, as environmental degradation poses risks to both economic growth and social well-being. Research on green economies by Bhattacharya & Patel (2021) further indicates that integrating environmental sustainability with industrialization and urbanization is critical to achieving long-term prosperity.

Despite the wealth of literature, most studies focus on individual dimensions economic, social, or environmental rather than examining them in an integrated framework. This highlights a research gap: a comprehensive, multi-dimensional analysis of India's development vision for 2047 is required to provide actionable insights for policymakers, academicians, and stakeholders.

5. Research Methodology

5.1 Research Approach

This study adopts a descriptive and analytical research approach to examine the economic, social, and environmental dimensions essential for achieving Viksit Bharat by 2047. The descriptive approach is used to document the current status of India's development across economic growth, social welfare indicators, and environmental sustainability measures. Analytical methods are employed to identify interconnections among these dimensions, assess challenges, and evaluate the effectiveness of existing policies and strategies.

5.2 Sources of Data

The research is primarily based on secondary data, collected from government reports, policy documents, and statistical publications. Key sources include reports from the NITI Aayog, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, and the Economic Survey of India. International publications such as UNDP Human Development Reports and World Bank reports provide comparative insights and global perspectives. Peer-reviewed journal articles and research papers supplement the data, ensuring credibility and academic rigor.

5.3 Analytical Methods

The study employs qualitative and conceptual analysis to examine the trends and patterns in India's economic, social, and environmental sectors. Comparative analysis is used to evaluate the effectiveness of existing policies, identify gaps, and suggest improvements. The research also incorporates a forward-looking perspective, projecting potential strategies and interventions required to achieve Viksit Bharat by 2047.

5.4 Scope and Limitations

The scope of the study encompasses India's long-term development vision, focusing on policies and strategies that integrate economic growth, social inclusion, and environmental sustainability. However, the study is limited by its reliance on secondary sources and projections for the year 2047, which are subject to uncertainties in demographic, technological, and ecological conditions. Primary data collection was not feasible due to the forward-looking nature of the research.

5.5 Significance of Methodology

This research methodology enables a comprehensive understanding of India's developmental trajectory, offering insights for policymakers, academicians, and stakeholders. By combining descriptive and analytical approaches, the study provides a holistic framework that identifies challenges, evaluates strategies, and recommends policies for achieving inclusive, sustainable, and equitable development in India by its centenary year.

6. Economic Dimension

6.1 Economic Growth and Global Competitiveness

Economic growth forms the foundation of a developed India. By 2047, India aims to achieve high GDP, increased per capita income, and global competitiveness across sectors such as manufacturing, services, information technology, and green technologies. The focus on industrialization and technology-driven growth will strengthen the nation's position in global trade, attract foreign investment, and increase employment opportunities. Sustainable economic expansion will also ensure that benefits reach all regions, reducing urban-rural and regional disparities.

6.2 Employment Generation and Skill Development

A critical component of economic development is the creation of productive employment opportunities. India's youth population, often referred to as the demographic dividend, provides immense potential if properly skilled. Programs like Skill India and vocational training initiatives aim to equip citizens with modern technical, digital, and entrepreneurial skills, enabling them to participate actively in emerging industries. Additionally, formalizing the informal economy will ensure job security, social protection, and better working conditions for millions of workers.

6.3 Infrastructure Development and Industrial Expansion

Robust infrastructure is essential to support economic growth. By 2047, India plans to expand smart cities, digital connectivity, high-speed transport, energy grids, and industrial corridors. Investments in renewable energy and modern logistics will reduce production costs and increase competitiveness. Industrial expansion, especially in sectors like pharmaceuticals, electronics, and green technology, will drive innovation, create jobs, and enhance export potential.

6.4 Inclusive Growth and Regional Balance

Economic development must be inclusive and equitable to achieve Viksit Bharat. Policies targeting poverty reduction, social welfare, and rural development are necessary to bridge the gap between urban and rural areas. Supporting small and medium enterprises (SMEs), encouraging startups, and providing access to finance and markets will empower marginalized communities and ensure that economic growth benefits all sections of society.

6.5 Innovation, Technology, and Entrepreneurship

Innovation and technology adoption will play a pivotal role in India's journey toward a developed economy. Digital infrastructure, artificial intelligence, robotics, and clean energy technologies will transform industries, increase productivity, and foster entrepreneurship. Encouraging a culture of innovation through research and development (R&D) incentives, incubation centers, and collaborations with global institutions will ensure that India remains competitive in the rapidly evolving global economy.

7. Social Dimension

7.1 Education and Human Capital Development

Education is the cornerstone of social progress and a critical enabler for Viksit Bharat. By 2047, India aims to provide universal access to quality education at all levels, from primary to higher education. Emphasis will be placed on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education, research-oriented higher education, and digital literacy, equipping citizens to participate in a knowledge-driven economy. Skill development programs and vocational training will prepare the workforce for emerging industries, bridging the gap between education and employment opportunities. A well-educated population will not only drive economic growth but also foster innovation, critical thinking, and social empowerment.

7.2 Healthcare and Well-being

A developed India ensures the health and well-being of its citizens. By 2047, the focus will be on universal healthcare access, preventive medicine, and affordable medical infrastructure. Programs addressing nutrition, maternal and child health, and lifestyle diseases will reduce the national disease burden. Expansion of telemedicine and rural health centers will ensure that healthcare reaches even the most remote regions. By prioritizing healthcare, India can enhance productivity, extend life expectancy, and improve the overall quality of life, ensuring a healthier, more resilient population.

7.3 Gender Equality and Social Inclusion

Social development requires equity, justice, and empowerment. India aims to achieve full gender equality by encouraging women's participation in governance, business, and education. Similarly, the empowerment of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and other marginalized communities is crucial to bridge historical socio-economic gaps. Legal reforms, social welfare programs, and community development initiatives will promote social inclusion, reduce disparities, and strengthen social cohesion, fostering an environment where every citizen can contribute to national growth.

7.4 Urban-Rural Integration and Smart Villages

Balanced development between urban and rural areas is essential for inclusive growth. By 2047, India envisions smart villages and tier-2 towns equipped with digital connectivity, quality education, healthcare, and employment opportunities. Modernizing agriculture through technology-driven farming, irrigation systems, and agro-processing units will enhance rural incomes and reduce migration to cities. Strengthening rural infrastructure will create a more balanced development model, ensuring that prosperity is not limited to urban centers alone.

7.5 Cultural Preservation and Ethical Development

Social development also includes the preservation of India's rich cultural heritage, traditions, and ethical values. By fostering civic responsibility, national unity, and ethical governance, India can build a society that values social harmony, tolerance, and sustainability. Integrating cultural education with modern curricula will cultivate citizenship, social responsibility, and moral development, which are essential for a cohesive and progressive nation.

8. Environmental Dimension

8.1 Climate Change Mitigation and Renewable Energy

Environmental sustainability is a core pillar of Viksit Bharat. By 2047, India must prioritize climate change mitigation to protect its population and natural resources. Transitioning to renewable energy sources, such as solar, wind, and hydroelectric power, will reduce dependence on fossil fuels and curb greenhouse gas emissions. Policies promoting energy efficiency, clean technology adoption, and low-carbon infrastructure will ensure that economic growth does not compromise ecological balance. By embracing renewable energy and sustainable practices, India can position itself as a global leader in green development.

8.2 Sustainable Natural Resource Management

Sustainable management of natural resources is essential for long-term development. India's growth must include efficient use of water, forests, minerals, and agricultural land. Strategies like rainwater harvesting, watershed management, afforestation, and soil conservation will help maintain ecological balance while supporting agriculture and industry. By adopting circular economy principles and reducing resource wastage, India can meet its developmental goals without depleting natural capital for future generations.

8.3 Biodiversity Conservation

India's rich biodiversity is vital for ecological stability, cultural identity, and economic development. Protecting forests, wildlife habitats, wetlands, and marine ecosystems ensures the survival of species and maintains ecosystem services. By integrating community-based conservation programs, wildlife protection laws, and eco-tourism initiatives, India can preserve its natural heritage while creating sustainable livelihoods. Conservation efforts will also enhance resilience against climate-related disasters and environmental degradation.

8.4 Pollution Control and Waste Management

Rapid industrialization and urbanization have contributed to air, water, and soil pollution in India. Effective pollution control measures are essential to safeguard public health and ecological integrity. Implementing strict environmental regulations, promoting clean technologies, and developing efficient solid and electronic waste management systems will reduce environmental hazards. Public awareness campaigns and incentives for eco-friendly practices can further reinforce sustainable lifestyles among citizens.

8.5 Green Economy and Sustainable Development

A Viksit Bharat requires a green economy that integrates sustainability into all sectors. Promoting eco-friendly industries, sustainable agriculture, renewable energy projects, and green infrastructure will reduce the environmental footprint of growth. Incorporating environmental education and climate awareness into public programs will cultivate a generation that values sustainability. By aligning economic objectives with environmental stewardship, India can achieve resilient, long-term development that balances prosperity with ecological responsibility.

9. Challenges in Achieving Viksit Bharat

9.1 Population Growth and Demographic Pressure

One of the most significant challenges India faces is its rapid population growth. With a population projected to remain the largest in the world by 2047, providing adequate employment, healthcare, education, and basic infrastructure will be a major task. Overpopulation can strain resources, increase urban congestion, and amplify environmental degradation, making it essential to adopt population management strategies, family planning initiatives, and skill development programs to ensure sustainable growth.

9.2 Socio-Economic Inequality

Income and regional disparities continue to hinder inclusive development. Urban-rural divides, unequal access to education and healthcare, and social discrimination against marginalized communities can prevent equitable growth. Without addressing these inequalities, economic growth risks benefiting only a section of the population, leaving many behind. Effective policies must focus on poverty reduction, targeted welfare schemes, and opportunities for marginalized groups to ensure holistic development.

9.3 Technological Gaps and Skill Deficits

Technological advancement is key to economic competitiveness, yet India faces a digital divide and skill gaps. Limited access to high-end technology, research facilities, and digital infrastructure in rural and semi-urban areas can slow innovation and productivity. Bridging this gap requires investment in digital infrastructure, STEM education, vocational training, and research and development, ensuring that all citizens can participate in a technology-driven economy.

9.4 Environmental Degradation and Climate Risks

Environmental challenges pose a direct threat to India's development goals. Deforestation, pollution, water scarcity, soil degradation, and climate change can disrupt agriculture, reduce public health standards, and threaten biodiversity. Natural disasters such as floods, droughts, and cyclones are becoming more frequent,

exacerbating socio-economic vulnerabilities. Addressing these challenges requires climate-resilient policies, sustainable resource management, and proactive disaster preparedness strategies.

9.5 Governance and Policy Implementation

Strong governance is critical to achieving Viksit Bharat, but bureaucratic inefficiencies, corruption, and weak policy implementation remain obstacles. Poor coordination among central and state governments, slow legal processes, and lack of accountability can hinder reforms. Strengthening transparent governance, digital administration, policy monitoring, and citizen participation is essential to ensure that economic, social, and environmental initiatives are successfully executed.

9.6 Global Economic and Geopolitical Challenges

India's growth is also influenced by global economic trends and geopolitical uncertainties. Trade disruptions, international conflicts, energy price volatility, and competition for technology and resources can affect economic stability. To mitigate these risks, India must pursue diversified trade partnerships, strategic diplomacy, and investment in self-reliant technologies while remaining integrated in the global economy.

10. Policy Recommendations

10.1 Economic Policy Recommendations

To achieve a developed India, sustained economic growth must be coupled with inclusivity and resilience. Policies should focus on industrial diversification, promotion of startups, and strengthening small and medium enterprises (SMEs). Investment in advanced manufacturing, digital industries, and green technology will enhance competitiveness and create employment opportunities. Additionally, financial inclusion, access to credit, and market integration for marginalized communities can ensure that economic benefits reach all segments of society. Infrastructure development, including smart cities, efficient transport networks, and energy grids, should be prioritized to support economic expansion.

10.2 Social Policy Recommendations

Social development is key to building human capital and inclusive growth. Policies must aim for universal access to quality education, vocational training, and skill development programs to prepare citizens for future industries. Healthcare reforms should focus on affordable and accessible medical facilities, preventive healthcare, nutrition programs, and telemedicine services, especially in rural areas. Policies promoting gender equality, social justice, and empowerment of marginalized groups will strengthen social cohesion. Development of smart villages and tier-2 towns can bridge the rural-urban divide, ensuring equitable access to opportunities and resources.

10.3 Environmental Policy Recommendations

Environmental sustainability must be integrated into all developmental strategies. India should promote renewable energy, energy efficiency, and low-carbon technologies to reduce dependency on fossil fuels. Policies for water conservation, forest management, soil protection, and biodiversity conservation are crucial for long-term ecological stability. Implementing strict pollution control regulations, waste management systems, and circular economy initiatives will safeguard public health and the environment. Encouraging green industries and sustainable agriculture will help balance economic growth with ecological responsibility.

10.4 Governance and Technological Policy Recommendations

Efficient governance is essential to implement economic, social, and environmental policies effectively. Digital governance systems, transparent administration, and accountability mechanisms can enhance policy execution. Investment in research and development, technology adoption, and innovation ecosystems will increase productivity and competitiveness. Collaboration between government, private sector, and civil society can ensure that policies are responsive, inclusive, and sustainable.

10.5 Integrated and Long-Term Policy Framework

Achieving Viksit Bharat requires an integrated policy approach that aligns economic growth with social welfare and environmental sustainability. Policies should be data-driven, outcome-oriented, and flexible, allowing adjustments based on emerging trends and challenges. Long-term planning must incorporate climate resilience, demographic management, regional development, and global competitiveness to ensure that India achieves its 2047 vision without compromising equity or ecological balance.

11. Conclusion

The vision of Viksit Bharat @ 2047 represents India's aspiration to become a developed, inclusive, and sustainable nation as it completes 100 years of independence. Achieving this vision requires a holistic approach that integrates three critical dimensions: economic prosperity, social equity, and environmental sustainability. Economic growth alone is insufficient; it must be complemented by quality education, healthcare, employment generation, and social inclusion, ensuring that the benefits of development reach all citizens. At the same time, environmental stewardship through renewable energy adoption, resource management, and pollution control is vital to sustain progress for future generations.

India faces significant challenges, including population growth, income inequality, technological gaps, environmental degradation, and governance issues, which can impede the path to development. However, strategic policy interventions, such as infrastructure modernization, skill development, social welfare programs, and climate-resilient practices, can overcome these obstacles. Integration of innovation, technology, and good governance will further enhance India's capacity to meet global standards of development while maintaining social harmony and ecological balance.

In conclusion, Viksit Bharat is not only an economic ambition but a comprehensive development paradigm that balances prosperity, equity, and sustainability. If India continues to pursue inclusive policies, environmentally responsible growth, and citizen empowerment, it can achieve its centenary goal of becoming a globally respected, socially equitable, and environmentally resilient nation by 2047. The journey towards Viksit Bharat embodies the nation's commitment to progress with justice and sustainability, offering a roadmap for a thriving India that fulfills the aspirations of all its citizens.

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