



# Viksit Bharat @ 2047: Strategies for an Inclusive and Sustainable Development in the Global Context

**Thoutam Ramu,**

Research Scholar, School Of Inter & Trans Disciplinary Studies, IGNOU, New Delhi.

## **Abstract**

Viksit Bharat@ 2047 is the vision of Government of India to transform India into developed nation by 2047 when India would celebrate its 100 years of Independence. Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Sri Narendra Modi envisioned the plan of Viksit Bharat @ 2047 in his Independence Day speech of 2021 encompassing the various aspects of development which includes economic growth, social progress, environmental sustainability, technological advancement and good governance. Govt. of India has been preparing a clear roadmap and action plan for achieving the goal of developed Nation by 2047.

However any kind of development which is not inclusive and sustainable cannot last long. The examples of South East Asian countries in the last decade of 20<sup>th</sup> century offer a cautious and holistic approach in this regard. Hence the development and empowerment of marginalized and disadvantaged sections of society like schedule castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), other backward classes (OBC), persons with disability (PWD) and women are critical for achieving the goal of developed India. Also India shall promote and follow sustainable practices like renewable energy, green energy, conservation of forest and biodiversity, organic farming in order to make the vision of developed India sustainable.

In this context, 4 pillars of Viksit Bharat i.e. 1. garib (poor),

2. Mahila (women), 3. Kisan (farmers), 4. Yuva (Youth) are indispensable and vital in the inclusive and sustainable development of the country. Hence this research paper aims to explore the strategies and approaches for inclusive and sustainable development and lays down a clear roadmap for making India a developed nation by 2047.

(Keywords: Viksit Bharat @ 2047, inclusive development, sustainable development, economic growth, social progress)

## **1) Introduction**

Honorable Prime minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi envisioned the plan of Viksit Bharath@2047 in his independence speech of 2021 from the ramparts of Red fort, New Delhi. In continuation of prime minister's speech, finance minister laid down the objectives of Viksit Bharath in her budget speech 2022-2023. Further Union budget 2023-2024 envisioned India as a technology driven and knowledge based economy. In this regard, NITI Aayog has been preparing a clear roadmap for achieving the transformational goals of Viksit Bharath@2047.

In the global context, India assumed the role of global leader by successfully organizing G-20 summit and it remained as milestone in India's history. Further India is the only country which kept its paris-2015 climate action commitments by meeting 40% of its power requirements from non-fossil fuels much a head of the time schedule. Further in the crisis times of corona pandemic (Covid-19) India proved its technological prowess by providing free covid vaccinations to many countries across the continents. All these factors led India to stand globally high and provided much needed momentum for India's vision towards Viksit Bharat.

## 2) Objectives

1. To understand the Vision, goals and objectives of Viksit Bharat @2047.
2. To understand the concepts of inclusive development and sustainable development.
3. To formulate and devise the strategies for inclusive and sustainable development of Viksit Bharat.

## 3) Research Methodology

Data have been collected through secondary sources. The secondary data is sourced from the websites of Press Information Bureau (PIB), NITI Aayog, concept note of UGC, reference note of Parliament Library, working papers of National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) and various articles published in different journals.

## 4) Viksithbharat@2047 (VB)

Viksithbharat@2047 is the vision of government of India to transform India into a developed nation by 2047 when India would celebrate its 100 years of Independence.

### 4.1) Objectives and goals of VB@2047

Honorable Prime Minister articulated Viksit Bharat as the vision encompassing the various aspects of development which include economic growth, Social progress, environmental sustainability, technological advancement and good governance. The goals and objectives of ViksitBharat include

- 1) Achieving \$30 trillion economy with per Capita income of \$18000-\$20,000 by 2047 with strong public finances and robust financial sector.
- 2) Building world-class infrastructure both in rural and urban areas.
- 3) Promoting digital economy and good governance.
- 4) Achieving self reliance in Defence and Space sectors.
- 5) Fostering Green Energy and Climate action
- 6) Empowering the youth through training and skill development.
- 7) Promoting Research & Development (R&D) by building world-class laboratories.
- 8) Developing 3 to 4 global champions in every sector of Industry.

## 5) Inclusive development and sustainable development

### 5.1) Inclusive development(ID)

Inclusive development is “a holistic and integrated development which includes the hitherto excluded population in the process of the development”. The Concept of inclusive development focus on the inclusion and development of marginalized ,weaker, oppressed sections of the society like scheduled castes(SC's),scheduled Tribes(S.T's), other Backward Classes(BC's) persons with disability(Pwd),women etc.,

## 5.2) Sustainable Development (SD)

According to World Bank's Brundtland's Commission Report (1987), Sustainable development is "the process of development which meets the needs of present generation without compromising the needs of future generations". Sustainable development aims at accelerating economic development without jeopardizing the environmental and human interests.

### 5.3) Significance of ID and SD for Viksit Bharat

The vision of Viksit Bharat i.e developed India without Inclusive and sustainable development is highly illogical, unreasonable and disruptive. The development which is not inclusive and sustainable cannot last long. Hence the development and empowerment of marginalized and disadvantaged sections of the society such as Sc's, ST's, OBC's, Pwd's and women are so vital and crucial in achieving the goal of developed India. Also rapid economic development at the cost of environmental and ecological interests will put the future generations at the stake nullifying the benefits of Viksit Bharat.

Hence, a development strategy which is inclusive, extensive, comprehensive, holistic, integrated and sustainable is the need of the hour and shall be followed in the road map to be prepared for making India, Viksit Bharat by 2047.

### 6) Whether the stage set for Viksit Bharat @ 2047 ?

India is presently 5<sup>th</sup> largest economy in the world with the GDP of \$3.7 trillion. India is expected to become 3<sup>rd</sup> largest economy in the world after USA and China surpassing Japan and Germany by 2030 with the likely GDP of \$7.3 trillion. Besides the economic development, India demonstrated its technology prowess with chandrayan mission. India proved its global leadership skills by successfully organizing G-20 summit in 2023. India's world class infrastructure in terms of National Highways, Railways, Airports and Social Infrastructure in terms of education, health laid down a solid ground and launching pad upon which India must lead its journey towards Viksit Bharat by 2047.

## 7) Results And Discussion

### Strategies for inclusive and sustainable development of Viksit Bharat(VB)

To achieve the vision of Viksit Bharat, India must continue to focus on inclusive and sustainable development. Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi rightly envisioned the achievement of Viksit Bharat on the principles of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas and Sabka Prayas." This is the clear vindication of Government's inclusive strategy for realising the objective of developed India. Some of the important strategies for sustainable and inclusive development are as explained below:-

#### 7.1) Jan Bhagidari (People's Participation)

Government has reiterated the principle of Jan Bhagidari which provides for people's participation in the development process and decision making. The participation of marginalized and disadvantaged sections of society like SC's, ST's, OBC's, Pwd's, women must be encouraged to participate in the development process through Grama Sabhas in rural areas and Ward Sabhas in urban areas. Further, Women Self Help Groups (SHG's), Community Based Organisations (CBO'S), Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO's), Voluntary agencies, and civil society shall be involved in the Viksit Bharat@2047 Vision right from the planning stage to implementation. Panchayat Raj institutions (PRI's) and urban local bodies(ULB) must be given greater role in Viksit Bharat through decentralization of powers, functions and funds.

#### 7.2) Poverty alleviation and Removal of Inequalities

Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi described that (1) Garib (poor) (ii) Mahila (women) (iii) Yuva (youth) (iv) Kisan (farmer) are the 4 pillars of Viksit Bharat (VB).

In this context Garib (poor) are central to the Idea of developed India. Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) and South Asia particularly India are home to the largest population of poor in the world. Government's programmes like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme (MGNREGS) (which guarantees 100 days of wage employment to rural poor per year) and National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) (micro credit based Self Employment Programme for Women) are highly successful initiatives towards reducing the poverty. Because of these concerted efforts of the Government, nearly 25 crore poor people escaped the poverty during the last decade. Multi-dimensional approach focusing on social, economic and human development of poor people is the most suitable strategy for reducing the poverty to zero levels and removal of inequalities by 2047.

### 7.3) Yuva (Empowerment of Youth)

India possess the huge advantage of demographic dividend. India accounts for nearly 20% of world's young population who can propel India into Viksit Bharat. Training and skill development of youth is the appropriate strategy for inclusive and sustainable Viksit Bharat.

Under National skill development mission started in 2014, Government so far trained 1.4 crore youth in various skills and upgraded the skills of nearly 50 lakh youth. Under PM Mudra Yojana 80 lakh youth were given loans worth of 22 trillion rupees to take up entrepreneurial activities on a large scale.

### 7.4) Mahila (Women Empowerment)

Women empowerment is another important strategy in the achievement of inclusive and sustainable Viksit Bharat. In this regard, National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) stands out to be a notable endeavour to promote women empowerment through formation of women self- help groups (SHG's) and providing micro credit to them to take up entrepreneurial activities.

Besides these, focusing on women's education, health and nutritional needs further enhances their participation in the development process.

### 7.5) Kisan (Farmers) - Sustainable Agriculture

Large chunk of Indian population (nearly 60%) is dependent on agriculture. Hence, India cannot become a developed nation without the empowerment and development of farmers and agricultural labourers. Sustainable agriculture with organic farming coupled with doubling farmer's income (DFI) are the right strategies for inclusive and sustainable Viksit Bharat.

Government's initiative of PM Kisan, aimed at providing input subsidy of Rs. 6000/- annum per farmer is noteworthy in this regard. This scheme has already benefitted nearly 12 crore farmers across the country. Also, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bheema Yojana (PFBY) (providing crop insurance to farmers in case of crop failures), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sanchayee Yojana (providing irrigation facility), E-NAM (Electronic National Agricultural Market) (providing marketing facilities), have been supporting the farmers in enhancing their incomes.

### 7.6) Food security

Providing food security to all its citizens is another crucial strategy for inclusive and sustainable developed Viksit Bharat. National food security Act (2013) was aimed at providing food security to all. Also Government's initiatives like public distribution system (PDS), Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) are providing free food grains to all the poor people in India.

### 7.7) Financial and digital financial inclusion

Financial inclusion is an effective strategy for inclusive development. Accessible, affordable, timely and adequate credit systems and institutions are vital in the inclusive development of Viksit Bharat. So far 40 crore Jan Dhan accounts have been opened for poor people with zero balance under Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), one of the world's largest financial inclusion programme. Also the Government have been transferring the benefits and amounts to poor under all welfare and development programmes through digital payment systems i.e. (Direct benefit Transfer) (DBT).

**7.8) Physical Infrastructure**

Developing world class infrastructure which is cost-effective, affordable and accessible to all is another significant approach for inclusive and sustainable Viksit Bharat.

Under PM Gatishakti, Government of India have been developing world class infrastructure and logistics like National highways, railways, airports, ports and waterways etc with the budget outlay of eleven lakh, eleven thousand, one hundred and eleven. (11, 11,111) crores of rupees (2024-25 Union Budget)

**7.9) Social Infrastructure**

The development of accessible and affordable social infrastructure like education, healthcare, nutrition, sanitation, safe drinking water, housing, electricity etc. to all is another critical element in the achievement of inclusive and sustainable Viksit Bharat.

Government's initiatives like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and PM Shree in education and Ayushman Bharat scheme in health are the right initiatives in this direction. POSHAN Abhiyan is providing nutritional security to women and children. Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) is one of the largest behavioural change programmes in the world. Under SBM open defecation free (ODF) status was achieved by constructing nearly 10 crore household toilets to poor. Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana(PMAY) was aimed at providing cost-effective and affordable houses to all poor people.

**7.10) Green energy and clean environment**

Shifting towards green energy and renewable energy resources is the effective strategy for sustainable development of Viksit Bharat. India is committed to meet 50% of its energy requirements from Renewable energy sources (550GW) by 2030 and to reduce carbon emissions by one billion tones by 2030 and to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2070.

India realized the potential of hydrogen as clean fuel in decarbonising the sector of power, transportation and industry. India shifted its policy towards Electric vehicles (EVs) on large scale by giving subsidies. India's continues focus on solar and wind energy has been reinforced by the recently announced scheme of Govt of India i.e PM's roof top solar project (to equip 10 lakh houses with solar panels to provide 300 units of free electricity monthly).And it is going to be a game changer in India's journey towards green energy and energy security.

**7.11) Technology and innovation**

Developing globally competitive international research and development (R&D) institutions is yet another critical element in inclusive and sustainable development.

Under the initiative of startup India and Standup India Government have been encouraging Research and development (R&D) and innovation. These efforts made India 3rd largest startup hub in the world with 100 unicorn companies. National research foundation was also established to make a global leader in the fields of research and innovation.

**7.12) Good governance**

Improving public service delivery systems through good governance and e-governance initiatives is very important strategy in including hitherto excluded population in the development process. Good governance initiatives like Citizen charter, Right to Information Act (2005) (RTI), Ease of Doing business (EOD), UPI ,digital payments systems, E-Shram portal, CO-WIN platform for COVID-19 vaccinations have ensured transparency accountability and timely delivery of government services to citizens.

**8 ) Recommendations**

Besides 8 to 10% annual GDP growth rate the following measures have to be taken to inclusive and sustainable Viksit Bharat @2047

1. Peoples participation (Jan Bhagidhari) has to be promoted in both policy making and Program planning and implementation

2. Removal of poverty and inequalities through multidimensional approach.

3. Women empowerment by providing equal opportunities to them in all the fields and sectors of development.

4. The advantage of demographic dividend has to be encashed through training, skilling, re- skilling and up skilling programmes.

5. Sustainable agricultural practices like organic farming to be promoted.

6. Doubling the Farmer's Income (DFI) through diversification of farmer's livelihood opportunities through both farm and non-farm livelihoods.

7. 100% financial and digital financial inclusion has to be achieved through accessible, affordable, timely and adequate digital credit systems and institutions

8. Food security has to be ensured to all the citizens by continuing and strengthening the existing programmes like PDS, ICDS, Midday meals etc.

9. Universal coverage of Social infrastructural services like education, health, nutrition, housing, sanitation, safe drinking water, electricity etc.

10. Development and providing of world class, accessible and affordable infrastructural facilities like Road, Rail, Ports, Airports and Waterways.

11. Promoting green energy practices like solar, wind and hydrogen and making them cost- effective and affordable to common man.

12. Promoting Research and Development (R&D) and innovation through start-up hubs, world-class laboratories and research institutions.

13. Ensuring hassle-free, timely, speedy public service delivery through good governance, e-governance and digital platforms.

14. Involvement of panchayat Raj institutions (PRI) and urban local bodies (ULB's) in the planning, implementation of various welfare, developmental programmes and schemes through decentralization.

## 9) Conclusion

India now stands at critical juncture in its destiny towards becoming developed nation by 2047. India has to take off on its present growth and development runway so as to reach the destination of Viksit Bharat by 2047. Inclusive and sustainable model of growth can only safely land India in the club of developed nations. The collective efforts of central and state Governments, Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and civil society can realise the vision of Viksit Bharat. Viksit Bharat without inclusive development and sustainable development cannot last long. Hence, Janbhagidhari system (people's participation) and the principle of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas" would ensure inclusive and sustainable viksit Bharat.

## References:

1. <https://pib.gov.in/press-release/framepage.aspx?PRID:2045606>

2. <https://pib.gov.in/press-release/detail.aspx?PRID:2037976>

3. <https://pib.gov.in/press-release/detail.aspx?PRID:20006761>

4. <https://pib.gov.in/press-release/framepage.aspx?PRID:1985077>

5. Mohapatra, S. (2024), Pohit, S. (2024). Charting the path to a developed India: Viksit Bharat 2047. NCAER, New Delhi, India.

6. Eknath, M. (2024). VIKSIT Bharat @ 2047 : Pathways to developed India. Peer- reviewed Journal - ISBN 978-93-340-0881-4

7. Dharmirider, G. (2023), Pooja Singh (2023). Vision India @ 2047: Transforming Nation's Future. LARRDIS.