

THE ROLE OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION IN ACHIEVING VIKSIT BHARAT 2047

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Abstract—*This study explores the integrated role of sustainable development and economic transformation in Viksit Bharat 2047, India's long-term national development vision for making India a developed nation by its centenary of independence. Although existing policy documentation and scholarly discourses outline the broad ambitions of this vision, what is relatively underexplored systematically is how economic transformation strategies line up with sustainability objectives and what policy instruments best link the latter dimensions. Drawing exclusively on secondary data sources-national policy reports, government vision documents, academic literature, and credible think-tank analyses-this research identifies a gap in understanding the interconnection between economic growth targets and environmental and social sustainability pledges under the Viksit Bharat framework. It investigates in detail some of the key aspects constituting the bedrock of both economic expansion and sustainability outcomes, namely, green economic initiatives, renewable energy transitions, human capital development, and inclusive growth strategies. This research further assesses the degree to which existing policy instruments are supportive of balanced growth, without compromising ecological resilience and social equity.*

Keywords: *Sustainable Development, Economic Transformation, Viksit Bharat 2047.*

INTRODUCTION:

All of us are aware that India is aiming to be a developed nation by 2047 which would be the 100 years anniversary of independence. While this is a very positive step, we must also consider that a 'developed' nation does not simply mean having high economic output (G.D.P.), but it would also mean having a healthy balance of economic and environmental sustainability and equity for all members of society. To put that into context; as climate change continues to increase, and income disparity continues to widen, we must find a way to achieve those goals.

Earlier drafts on this topic have mostly focused on growth in terms of economic development without taking into consideration the ecological limits or inequalities between individuals within society. In today's environment we have a better understanding of the need for sustainability to provide opportunities for long term resilience for our economy. Therefore, it is necessary for me to describe how similar (or dissimilar) the policies and practices of Viksit Bharat are to sustainable development principles.

NEED OF THE STUDY:

Sustainable Development is defined as a present-oriented process that meets the current requirements of society without jeopardising the ability of future people to meet their own needs. Sustainable Development is composed of three intertwined pillars, which are economic viability, environmental protection, and social equity. In the case of India, this means an emphasis on achieving a balance between industrialisation/urbanisation and conserving our natural resources, while also advancing towards an inclusive form of social development.

Economic Transformation, on the other hand, refers to changing the structure of the economy from low-productivity activities to sectors with higher productivity, such as manufacturing and services. For example, Digitalisation, Industrial Modernisation and Infrastructure Investment have been critical components of Economic Transformation in India. Ultimately, the goal of Economic Transformation is to generate employment, increase income, and reduce poverty.

Economic Transformation and Sustainable Development are not mutually exclusive; they can support and enhance one another when linked properly. Green Technologies, Sustainable Manufacturing Practices, and Human Capital are connections that bring together Economic Growth and Sustainable Development. The Viksit Bharat 2047 vision implicitly acknowledges the connectedness of Economic Growth and Sustainable Development.

LITERATURE REVIEW:

Mr. T. Karthikeyan (2025): This paper highlights how MSME's are driving changes in the economy and leading to better sustainable consideration and practices, as part of the Viksit Bharat 2047 project through digitalization, innovation and implementation of sustainable practices, for improving the level of productivity and competitiveness of MSME's. The paper also identifies challenges facing MSME's such as financing limitations and below average skill level gaps that may impede on balanced growth in the future. The overall conclusion of this study is that a highly developed and Sustainable MSME sector will allow India to achieve inclusive and long-term growth to occur by 2047.

Sharma, R. (2024) Vision Viksit Bharat 2047: This Paper Vision Viksit Bharat 2047: A Development Economics Perspective is a holistic concept of Viksit Bharat combining Economic Growth and Sustainable Development, including Social Inclusion. The paper highlights that for long-term development you will need to: a) Create an Environment for Structural change b) Create Human Capital and c) Encourage Balanced Sectoral Development. In addition, the study illustrates why it is better to use a combination of Environmental and Quality of Life Indicators (as opposed to only GDP) to measure the success of a Development Strategy. In summary, there is a need to align Economic Transformation and Sustainable Development for the Achievement of Vision 2047.

Dan, I. (2024). Viksit Bharat @2047: This paper discusses how advancements in technological innovation, adoption of renewable energy resources, and integration of environment friendly practices can lead to ecological sustainability while also enabling economic growth. Ultimately, it will be essential to reconcile all aspects of Viksit Bharat 2047 with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The CEEW report titled "Mainstreaming a Green Economy" has highlighted the connection between a sustainable economy and economic development and has shown that the creation of a sustainable green economy can contribute significantly to achieving Vision 2047 as well as provide an opportunity for creating additional market value (\$1.1 trillion) and an estimated 48 million job opportunities by the year 2047. According to the report, three important green value chains exist that connect the opportunity for growth with the opportunity for long-term environmental sustainability. Furthermore, the report articulates the necessary policy and ecosystem levers needed to effectively scale up these green pathways to sustainable economic growth and environmental sustainability.

Chandrashekhara K. Madar. 2025: This research examines some of the obstacles facing the realisation of these goals such as effective co-ordination between policies, lack of capacity to implement policy change, and ensuring that economic growth does not harm nature but rather enhances it. To summarise, if India wants to achieve its vision of Viksit Bharat 2047, it must successfully manage multiple barriers to economic transformation through sustainable development practices.

Dr. Haseena (2015): The paper reviews about connecting Sustainable Development with the Economic Transformation process. It establishes that Green Initiatives and Coordinated Policy efforts must be made to support a long-term sustainable future for the economy, and that Sustainability must be integrated into the growth model of India. The authors conclude by emphasizing the importance of transformative practices in creating an integrated and sustainable Viksit Bharat 2047 Vision.

Upadhyay, M., & Nigam, A. K. (2024): As described in this report, Agri-entrepreneurship can lead to significant changes in an economy through the Viksit Bharat 2047 vision, by providing rural job opportunities and integrating farmers into the overall value chain of their products, thus fostering inclusiveness within communities. Moreover, the report illustrates that sustainable agricultural innovation is critical for long-term national development.

OBJECTIVES:

To examine the role of sustainable development in India's economic transformation under the Viksit Bharat 2047 vision.

To analyze how economic transformation strategies contribute to long-term sustainability outcomes.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

The analysis presented in this research was developed from secondary data derived from a variety of sources including Government reports and policies, Academic Journals, Research Papers, etc., published by recognized research facilities

and think tanks. It takes a descriptive and analytical approach to the interaction between Sustainable Development and Economic Transformation in relation to the Viksit Bharat 2047 initiative.

ROLE OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA'S ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION UNDER VIKSIT BHARAT 2047

1.1 Sustainable development is an enabler for growth.

According to the Viksit Bharat 2047 vision, sustainable development sees growth not just as an increase in production levels, but as a way to build economic security for future generations through combining or integrating environmental protections into policy as well as social inclusion in the economy. Sustainable development offers other means of supporting structural transformation by way of balancing a community's or country's desire to grow and to remain productive with the conservation of resources.

1.2 The transition to a green economy.

This and the use of renewable energy will be one of the primary cornerstones of India's economic transformation. The expansion of the use of renewable energy sources, energy-efficient technologies and sustainable infrastructure will help further industrial development by reducing the carbon footprint of industry. These programs will also provide the opportunity for innovation through the establishment of jobs and lower total energy costs which will support a more sustainable means of economic competitiveness.

1.3 Human capital development

This is another area of sustainable development that will impact India's economic transformation in the future. Investing in education, health care, skills development and digital literacy will improve worker productivity and adaptability. Providing all people access to those opportunities will ensure they benefit from India's economic transformation and will diminish socioeconomic inequities and support the long-term development of all.

1.4 Sustainable Industrialization and Agriculture.

Through the promotion of good practices in regards to industrial and agricultural development, sustainability impacts how an economy develops or transforms through the establishment of better performing Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) as well as the development of sustainable Agri-preneurship and resource-use efficiency improvements creating a platform for greater productivity and reducing environmental impacts. Collectively these efforts build balanced regional economies and provide greater resilience over time.

ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION STRATEGIES AND LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY OUTCOMES.

2.1 Enhancing Productivity through Structural Change

Economic transformation strategies under the Viksit Bharat 2047 initiative promote the transformation of India from a resource-intensive economy to an economy focused on creating wealth through higher productivity sectors such as manufacturing, service, and technology-based industries. By implementing structural transformations that generate increased levels of income and employment, and simultaneously promote efficient use of resources, these strategies will enable the growth of sustainable economic outcomes.

2.2 Technology as a Transformation Driver

The digital transformation that is taking place globally will drive the alignment of India's economic growth objectives with sustainability objectives. Improved efficiencies in production, service delivery, and government services will reduce the amount of resources used in these activities and increase the ability to monitor and report on environmental impacts. Digital tools will allow for greater accountability in measuring the environmental impact of business practices and will help further support sustainable development through the continued expansion of India's economy.

2.3 Sustainability as a Fundamental Element of Economic Planning

The incorporation of sustainability concepts in economic development planning will help India to make strategic economic development decisions that will positively impact the country's long-term sustainable development strategy. The investments that will be made in clean energy systems, sustainable transportation systems, and climate-resilient infrastructure systems will be critical to improving the adaptive capacity of India and subsequently limit future risks associated with those investments.

Aligning Sustainable Development with Economic Transformation for Viksit Bharat 2047

Sustainable development and economic transformation are integral to the achievement of Viksit Bharat 2047. The development of Viksit Bharat 2047 will require a balance between three factors: Economic Transformation, Sustainable Development and Environmental Sustainability. The integration of these elements will allow the coordination of the objectives of Growth with that of Environmental and Social Sustainability for each Region of India.

While many scholars have written about many aspects of sustainable development—including economics, social equity, and environmental protection—and about how India is going to transform its economy, most of the writing on these topics has focused on individual sectors or industries rather than bringing together the three elements into one coherent framework. Most of the studies had either focus only on one area or develop action plans for another area without regard to how it can integrate with the other aspects of India's Viksit Bharat 2047 vision. Additionally, while there are extensive policy documents that outline very ambitious goals for both Growth, as well as sustainable development, there has been limited attention given by research academics in assessing how these goals will interrelate, conflict, or support each other in the context of India achieving the Viksit Bharat 2047 vision. Also, little to no attention has been paid to the need for strong institutional coordination amongst the different actors within the government, non-profit, and private sectors in order to balance rapid economic growth with ecological protection and sustainable social development. This study attempts to fill those gaps by taking a holistic view of how sustainable development and economic transformation can both lead to and support the achievement of the Viksit Bharat 2047 vision.

CONCLUSION:

Viksit Bharat 2047 encapsulates India's ambitions to achieve a comprehensive and multi-dimensional path of development, which includes components not only concerned with economic growth but with social inclusion and environmental sustainability. The results of this research suggest that sustainable development is fundamental to economic transformation and is greatly influenced by them; therefore, they must be pursued together to reach this vision for the nation. As a catalyst for the economic transformation process, sustainable development provides the framework and impetus required for creating a green, more productive economy by nurturing human capital, and encouraging the involvement of all people within the economic transformation process. Economic transformation strategies create access to the financial resources and technology that will enable countries to achieve their long-term sustainable development goals. The findings from this study suggest that integrating sustainability principles into economic planning increases resilience, reduces the likelihood of future risks, and provides balanced growth for a nation. However, integrating these sustainability principles will require coordinated policies, strong governance, and a sustained institutional commitment to that integration. The overall finding of this study is that India needs to focus on achieving sustainability-led economic transformation in order to be a developed, resilient, and inclusive nation by 2047.

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