



VIKSIT BHARAT 2047: A POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR A DEVELOPED INDIA

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ABSTRACT

The aspiration of Viksit Bharat reflects India's pursuit of a development model that transcends economic expansion and emphasizes holistic national advancement. This paper conceptualizes Viksit Bharat as an integrated outcome of economic productivity, institutional effectiveness, social inclusion, technological capability, and environmental responsibility. Through qualitative policy analysis and comparative development perspectives, the study examines India's readiness to transition into a developed nation while identifying structural constraints that may impede this journey. A Multidimensional Development Framework is proposed to align growth, governance, and sustainability into a coherent national strategy. The paper concludes that achieving Viksit Bharat demands long-term institutional consistency, participatory governance, and strategic investment in human capital rather than isolated policy interventions.

KEYWORDS: Viksit Bharat, Development Framework, Inclusive Growth, Governance, Sustainability, Skill development, Quality of education.

INTRODUCTION

India's development trajectory has entered a phase where incremental progress is no longer sufficient to meet future aspirations. While economic indicators reveal significant advancement, development outcomes remain uneven across regions and social groups. The vision of Viksit Bharat emerges in this context as a comprehensive national ambition that seeks qualitative transformation rather than numerical growth alone.



Unlike conventional development narratives that prioritize income levels as the primary benchmark of progress, Viksit Bharat places equal emphasis on institutional credibility, social mobility, technological adaptation, and environmental balance. This paper argues that India's transition into a developed nation must be evaluated through a multidimensional lens that integrates economic efficiency with human well-being and governance quality.

CONCEPTUAL FOUNDATION OF VIKSIT BHARAT

➤ Interpreting Viksit Bharat as a Developmental State-

Viksit Bharat signifies a developmental condition where state capacity and citizen capability evolve simultaneously. It reflects a nation's ability to generate economic value while ensuring dignity, opportunity, and security for its population. In this sense, development is understood as a systemic outcome rather than a sector-specific achievement.

The concept recognizes that rapid growth without institutional maturity can intensify inequality, whereas strong institutions without economic dynamism may limit national competitiveness. Viksit Bharat therefore requires balanced advancement across multiple domains.

➤ Departure from Linear Development Models-

Traditional linear models of development assume a sequential transition from agriculture to industry and then to services. India's context challenges this assumption due to its demographic scale, diversity, and democratic structure. Viksit Bharat acknowledges this complexity and supports a non-linear, adaptive development path that accommodates regional diversity and technological leapfrogging.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The study seeks to:

1. Develop a conceptual understanding of Viksit Bharat beyond economic indicators.
2. Identify critical dimensions essential for India's development transition.
3. Examine structural and governance-related constraints.
4. Propose an integrated framework to guide long-term policy planning.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research adopts a qualitative analytical approach, drawing upon:

- Policy discourse analysis



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- Development theory interpretation
 - Comparative insights from emerging economies
 - Thematic synthesis of governance, social, and economic indicators

The methodology prioritizes conceptual clarity and policy relevance over statistical generalization.

DIMENSIONS OF VIKSIT BHARAT

1. Economic Capability and Productive Expansion

Economic development under Viksit Bharat is defined by productivity enhancement rather than output expansion alone. Emphasis is placed on value creation, employment elasticity, and sectoral diversification. The role of micro, small, and medium enterprises becomes central in ensuring broad-based growth.

2. Human Development as a Strategic Asset

A developed nation is ultimately measured by the capabilities of its citizens. Education systems must shift from credential-based learning to skill-based adaptability, while healthcare must prioritize preventive and accessible models. Human capital investment is thus treated as long-term national infrastructure.

3. Governance Capacity and Institutional Trust

Effective governance underpins development sustainability. Transparency, accountability, and responsiveness strengthen institutional trust, enabling smoother policy implementation. Digital governance mechanisms further reduce transaction costs and enhance citizen-state interaction.

4. Infrastructure and Spatial Integration

Infrastructure development facilitates economic integration and social mobility. Viksit Bharat envisions infrastructure not merely as physical assets but as enablers of regional equity, market access, and service delivery.

5. Innovation and Technological Absorption

Technological readiness differentiates developing and developed economies. Indigenous innovation, research ecosystems, and digital public platforms enhance efficiency while expanding access. Technology serves as a multiplier rather than a substitute for human effort.

6. Social Equity and Participatory Inclusion



Persistent inequality undermines development legitimacy. Inclusive policies targeting gender balance, social mobility, and financial access are integral to Viksit Bharat. Social inclusion enhances economic resilience and political stability.

7. Environmental Responsibility

Development divorced from ecological considerations is unsustainable. Climate adaptation, renewable energy adoption, and sustainable resource use are foundational to long-term prosperity.

CHALLENGES TO THE VIKSIT BHARAT VISION

Key constraints include:

- Inter-state development disparities
- Skill-market misalignment
- Institutional capacity gaps
- Fiscal and environmental pressures
- Policy execution inefficiencies

These challenges necessitate coordination across governance levels and sectors.

VIKSIT BHARAT DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

The proposed VBDF integrates four mutually reinforcing dimensions:

- ✓ **Economic Resilience** – productivity, innovation, employment
- ✓ **Social Capability** – education, health, inclusion
- ✓ **Institutional Strength** – governance quality, decentralization
- ✓ **Environmental Sustainability** – green growth, resilience

The framework emphasizes policy coherence and long-term alignment rather than fragmented programmatic approaches.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- ❖ Establish development benchmarks beyond GDP
- ❖ Strengthen local governance capacity
- ❖ Institutionalize long-term planning mechanisms
- ❖ Align sustainability goals with economic policy
- ❖ Encourage citizen participation in development processes

CONCLUSION



Viksit Bharat represents a transformative reimagining of India’s development ambition—one that prioritizes quality, inclusion, and sustainability alongside growth. The pathway to a developed India is neither linear nor uniform, but it is achievable through institutional consistency, human capital investment, and adaptive governance. By adopting a multidimensional development framework, India can convert demographic potential and technological capability into enduring national prosperity.

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