

Viksit Bharat and the Usage of Greenery in the Sake of Sustainability

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Abstract

Viksit Bharat's greenery strategy is centered on environmental sustainability as a core pillar. This strategy integrates green energy (solar and wind), waste reduction, clean air and water, and sustainable practices such as climate-resilient farming, tree planting, and green jobs. It is driven by technology and innovation, supported by empowering youth, women, and farmers, and supported by good governance. The ultimate goal of this strategy is to align economic growth with ecological protection for a developed India by the year 2047. Over the course of India's development, environmental sustainability will become increasingly important in order to maintain environmental sustainability. The 2047 vision includes a strong support for sustainable development, which asks for steps to conserve natural resources, improve green technology, and guarantee responsible consumption. This vision also makes a commitment to ensuring responsible consumption. India is committed to taking the initiative in addressing the issues posed by climate change and safeguarding its vast biodiversity for future generations through the implementation of sustainable practices. Implementation difficulties include: On the way to achieving Viksit Bharat in the year 2047, the next step is to go from the stage of scheduling to the stage of action. In order for us to achieve the lofty objective of Viksit Bharat by the year 2047, we will need to triumph over a number of critical challenges.

1. Introduction

Green sustainability, or environmental sustainability, refers to the responsible utilization of Earth's resources to satisfy current demands without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. It emphasizes harmonizing ecological, social, and economic objectives through practices such as adopting renewable energy sources, minimizing pollution, conserving resources, and safeguarding ecosystems to ensure the long-term health of the planet. It pertains to the pursuit of environmental sustainability through the implementation of eco-friendly practices and systems to promote a healthy planet. The notion of 'Viksit Bharat' or evolved India is fundamentally linked to the tenets of sustainability and environmental awareness, embodying a vision of advancement that harmonizes economic development with ecological conservation. As India seeks to establish itself as a worldwide leader in the 21st century, the demand to create a sustainable and environmentally friendly nation emerges as both a patriotic obligation and a pragmatic requirement. This essay analyses the concept of a sustainable Viksit Bharat, investigating the problems and opportunities in realizing this vision. This will contend that sustainability must be foundational to India's developmental strategy via the use of renewable energy, green urban planning, and community-driven environmental efforts. These aspects are essential for securing sustained prosperity while preserving natural resources. This essay seeks to provide a balanced perspective on how India might attain a sustainable future by examining governmental policies, society roles, and global influences, incorporating both patriotic fervour and pragmatic concerns. By identifying green initiatives such as renewable energy, circular economies, and biodiversity protection as vital paths, India's vision of a Developed India by 2047 (Viksit Bharat) merges economic progress with profound environmental sustainability. This vision recognizes that economic growth is not the only factor that contributes to environmental sustainability. This involves utilizing "sunrise sectors" for the purpose of creating green

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jobs, lowering carbon emissions through the use of technology, promoting sustainable agriculture (similar to the lessons learned from the Green Revolution), green urban planning, and empowering citizens through movements such as Life (Lifestyle for Environment) in order to construct a nation that is prosperous, inclusive, and highly resilient to environmental challenges.

A nation that excels in economic, social, and infrastructure areas is referred to as a Viksit Bharat. This concept is frequently envisioned as a developed India by the year 2047, which would celebrate the centennial of India's independence. On the other hand, development that does not prioritize sustainability runs the risk of depleting resources and making climate-related problems much worse, as several studies from around the world have demonstrated. It is necessary to integrate environmental, social, and economic goals in order to achieve sustainable development, as stated in a report published by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP, 2019). This is done to ensure that the progress that is made today does not compromise the future generations. For India, this entails rethinking growth through the perspective of sustainability, giving low-carbon technologies, resource efficiency, and biodiversity conservation the highest priority. This vision is in line with India's historical mindset of living in peace with environment, which can be seen in the country's long-standing traditions such as water conservation and sustainable agriculture. This equilibrium has been disrupted, however, as a result of India's fast urbanization and industrialization, in which the country ranks among the highest in terms of global carbon emissions (IEA, 2021). Therefore, in order to achieve a sustainable Viksit Bharat, it is necessary to combine contemporary innovation with traditional wisdom. This is a concept that powerfully resonates with the ambitions of patriotic individuals to recuperate national pride through responsible growth.

2. Pillars of Viksit Bharat's Green Strategy

- **Green Economy and Innovation:** This involves making enormous investments in electric vehicles, green hydrogen, bio-fibres, and sustainable aviation fuel, which will result in the creation of market value and millions of jobs. This goes beyond the usual growth model.
- **Energy Transition:** In its pursuit of a net-zero energy footprint by 2070, India is pouring resources into renewable sources of power like solar, wind, and nuclear power. Programs like the National Green Hydrogen Mission are helping to make this transition possible.
- **Sustainable Agriculture:** Taking into account both the achievements and the difficulties that the Green Revolution brought about (such as the degradation of soil), the emphasis is placed on the efficient use of water, organic farming, crop rotation, and the reduction of chemical dependence.
- **Green urbanization:** The Smart Cities Mission, vertical gardens, green public transportation, and environmentally friendly architecture are essential components in the fight against pollution and the depletion of resources in cities that are expanding.
- **Circular Economy:** Maximizing the use of resources by concentrating on recycling plastics and debris from construction projects, as well as transforming waste (such as frying oil) into fuels that are environmentally friendly.
- **Environment-Friendly Lifestyle (Life) Movement:** According to the Indian Institute of Public Administration, the goal is to connect individuals to global sustainability activities for the purpose of supporting easy, conscious choices in daily life, ranging from the management of trash to the regulation of water consumption.

3. Greenery's Role in Achieving Viksit Bharat

- **Climate Resilience & Mitigation:** According to the findings of researchers, the restoration of ecosystems, the preservation of resources, and the development of resilience against the effects of climate change are all dependent on the protection of biodiversity, forests, and green spaces.

- **Economic & Social Well-being:** Green jobs, ecosystem services (clean air and water), and sustainable tourism all contribute to the maintenance of livelihoods, while urban greening enhances both public health and quality of life.
- **Resource Management:** In addition to ensuring the health of the soil, which is essential for ensuring food security, green infrastructure helps to provide efficient water management (blue finance).

4. Challenges & Opportunities

- The achievement of Viksit Bharat, despite its lofty goals, calls for substantial financial and technological assistance, as well as constant policy implementation, notably in the realm of urban planning and the guarantee that green projects would not exacerbate existing inequity.
- In order to establish a future in which economic prosperity is inextricably tied to ecological health, the vision makes use of innovation, public-private partnerships, and global cooperation. This will position India as a leader in the field of sustainable development.

India's yearly per capita carbon emissions are only approximately one-third of the worldwide average, despite the fact that it is one of the world's fastest-growing economies. This demonstrates India's dedication to achieving a balance between economic growth and environmental sustainability. It is the aim of the government to achieve net zero carbon emissions by the year 2070 and to have a "Viksit Bharat" by the year 2047 that drives the policies and initiatives of the country. The Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) of India, which establish aggressive targets for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, are a reflection of this commitment. However, in order to accomplish these goals, rich countries will need to provide significant financial and technological support. It is anticipated that by the year 2030, the financial requirements for a low-carbon growth route will range between \$5.8 trillion and \$11.5 trillion. In spite of the slow rate at which international financing and technology are being transferred, India continues to direct its attention toward achieving sustainable economic growth as a foundational component of its efforts to combat climate change.

5. Green, Climate, Blue and Sustainable Finance

When environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors are taken into account during the decision-making process of a financial institution, this is referred to as sustainable finance. The objective of sustainable finance is to generate long-term value for both investors and society. The organization's objective is to strike a balance between financial profits and good social and environmental benefits by providing support to initiatives and businesses that contribute to a more sustainable future. Sustainable finance comprises a variety of techniques, such as responsible investing, impact investing, and ESG investing, with the goal of fostering a financial system that is more egalitarian and environmentally conscientious.

In the context of the promotion of sustainable development, the reduction of environmental risks, and the mitigation of climate change, the term "green finance" refers to the utilization of financial instruments, mechanisms, and investments for the purpose of providing support to environmentally friendly projects, companies, and initiatives. The allocation of funds to renewable energy, energy efficiency, green infrastructure, sustainable agriculture, conservation, and adaptation and resistance to climate change are all included in this. Green finance encompasses a variety of financial instruments, such as green bonds, impact investment, environmental, social, and governance (ESG) investing, sustainable loans, carbon credits, green equity, and venture capital. The 'Investing in Green Economy' study published by the London Stock Exchange Group states that the global green economy currently has a market capitalization of USD 7.2 trillion, which places it in the position of being the 'second best-performing industry' worldwide over the course of the last decade.

A wide range of financial sources, including public, private, and alternative funding, are included in the concept of climate finance. The purpose of climate finance is to provide support for worldwide efforts to address climate change through the implementation of adaptation and mitigation strategies. For the purpose of lowering emissions of greenhouse gases and adjusting to the effects of a changing climate, this financing is absolutely necessary. Taking into account the different contributions to climate change and capacity to address its impacts, the United Nations

Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Kyoto Protocol, and the Paris Agreement all place an emphasis on the necessity of financial aid from wealthy countries to developing countries.

The term "sustainable finance" refers to a more comprehensive concept that takes into account environmental, social, and governance challenges. The term "green finance" refers to a subset of sustainable finance that focuses solely on investments that are beneficial to the environment, such as renewable energy, green infrastructure, and environmentally friendly technologies. In the realm of sustainable finance, climate financing is a subcategory that is more specific, focusing on investments that either adapt to or reduce the effects of climate change. Sustainable finance encompasses all climate and green funding, but not all sustainable finance is climate or green finance. In essence, sustainable finance encompasses all financing. There are a number of additional essential terminology relating to climate that play an important part in climate investments. These phrases include sustainable finance, green finance, and climate finance, among others. A specialized subset of green finance, blue finance is centered on the preservation of ocean and water resources as well as the utilization of these resources in a sustainable manner. It safeguards maritime ecosystems, encourages the development of sustainable fishing practices, and ensures efficient management of water resources. Marine protected areas, sustainable aquaculture, and improvements in water management are some of the initiatives that are supported by investments in blue finance. It is essential that this be done in order to preserve biodiversity and provide support for coastal populations. 'Life below Water' is the fourteenth Sustainable Development Goal (SDG), and the Sustainable Blue Economy Finance Principles provide a framework for how blue finance might be aligned with this goal. Ocean-linked industries, sometimes known as the "blue economy," are projected to have an annual economic worth of around USD 2.5 trillion, which is equivalent to the seventh largest economy in the world. With a focus on inclusive growth, technological advancement, and social equity, Green Sustainability in Viksit Bharat (Developed India) is India's vision to achieve economic prosperity by the year 2047. This vision aims to make environmental protection and resource efficiency central to its development through the utilization of renewable energy, green technology, and waste management. This will ensure long-term well-being without causing harm to the planet.

The efficiency of environmental legislation is under evaluation as India pursues sustainable development. Conflicts over mining, dams, pollution, water scarcity, forest rights, and other environmental issues have rose drastically. While community understanding of their rights may be a factor, environmental rights violations have increased as strain on the environment has increased. Shrivastava and Kothari (2012) eloquently show how Indian economic openness for growth led to fast industrialization after 1991. As expected, environmental historian Ramachandra Guha (2013) called modern India 'an environmental basket-case'. Air quality is unsafe, groundwater is contaminated, water tables are receding, oceans are rising, plastic garbage is polluting the ecosystem, and landfills are becoming part of our cities' skylines. Floods, droughts, abrupt weather cycles, crop pattern changes, and retreating coastal areas harm the ecosystem and challenge growth and development assumptions. Sustainability and development must coexist. If not adequately managed, our garbage harms the environment.

Therefore, assessing the policies' effects on pollution, natural resource management, and ecological health requires a complete analysis. Enforcement of rules is a major obstacle to environmental policy implementation in India. Despite extensive regulations, infrastructure, manpower, and bureaucratic complexity sometimes hinder implementation. Translating new policies into implementation is often difficult. This gap between policymaking and implementation must be addressed and improved. Environmental issues are complex and require the participation of government agencies, corporations, NGOs, and the public. Indian environmental policy increasingly prioritize collaboration. Government agencies set policies, regulate, and monitor industries to ensure environmental compliance. Meanwhile, civil society and environmental activists are crucial to preserving the environment and keeping companies and the government accountable. Industries' influence on environmental policies is crucial. Industries are heavily regulated since they pollute and use resources. However, more sectors are embracing eco-friendly technologies and incorporating environmental sustainability into their corporate goals. Regulatory bodies and industry are realizing the benefits of economic growth and environmental stewardship. Climate change and its mitigation affect the economy and the environment. This presents a difficulty and an opportunity. The environment is full. We must work together to give future generations a self-sustaining lifestyle, adequate resources, development that does not harm our ecosystem, safe flora-fauna and wildlife, and fit land, water, and air. We need environmental governance badly.

6. Conclusion

A vision that merges economic development and environmental stewardship, the construction of a Viksit Bharat that is both sustainable and environmentally friendly is one that is both ambitious and attainable. Throughout this article, we have discussed several important topics, including renewable energy, green urban planning, community engagement, and global cooperation. We have highlighted both potential and problems in these areas. The country of India has achieved considerable progress, such as expanding its use of renewable energy sources; nonetheless, there are ongoing problems such as urban pollution and unequal access to resources that require immediate action. By framing sustainability as a national duty to future generations, this goal is given an emotional significance that is enhanced by the use of a patriotic perspective. As we move forward, the consequences are quite clear: in order to make this vision a reality, it is necessary to maintain policy initiatives, innovate technologically, and involve society. In the end, a Viksit Bharat that is sustainable is not just a development aim; rather, it is a demonstration of India's resiliency and dedication to a future that is harmonious. A green India (Viksit Bharat) is necessary for a fully developed India. By embracing renewable energy, developing circularity, supporting sustainable agriculture, and integrating ecological wisdom into modern progress, India has the potential to produce prosperity that is robust, equitable, and in tune with nature. This will ensure that all Indians will have a bright future. Interrelated ideas in the field of sustainable finance, green finance, and climate finance seek to make the financial sector more ecologically aware and accountable. These methods provide a way forward for a more sustainable future while the globe struggles with issues like climate change, social injustice, and environmental degradation. India can successfully mobilize resources to fight climate change, strengthen resilience, and ensure long-term economic and social prosperity by incorporating these ideas.

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