

Building E- Democracy and Governance for Viksit Bharat - 2047

Dr. Satyanarayana Mabbu

Lecturer in Public Administration

B.J.R.Government Degree College (A), Narayanagud, Hyderabad

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Abstract

E-democracy, encompassing the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) in democratic processes, today, new global standards of governance are emerging. Citizens of developing countries are demanding better performance on the part of their governments, and they are increasingly aware of the costs of poor management and corruption. Attitudes are also changing in industrial countries where bribery is no longer viewed as a legitimate cost of doing business overseas. Development in ICT sector carried various e-Governance projects in Asia, with particular focus on India. The paper is intended to make us realize that only effective implementation of E-Governance can take ICT to the common man, helping national and state governments to align their services with the changing needs of both citizens and stakeholders, as well as to develop the economy. An ICT-driven E-Governance system primarily involves the creation, storage, analysis, transmission and use of information and communication. It can provide important inputs to the government's policy-making process. It makes government processes accountable. E-Governance automates and thereby speeds up routine administrative functions. It enables the government to work better, yields higher revenue growth and costs less, apart from servicing citizens' needs as never before. Citizens can freely interact with various government departments anytime, anywhere with maximum speed and with minimal effort and this is what digital democracy actually means. Major Aspects of E-Governance, Issues in Implementation, Advantage and Practices, Digital Democracy, Model of Digital Democracy and Indian initiatives towards E Digital Democracy.

Keywords: Digitalisation; Viksit Bharat 2047; E-democracy; Social Transformation-Governance; Sustainable Development; Digital Democracy; E-Governance

1. Introduction

India stands at the cusp of a transformational journey as it envisions becoming Viksit Bharat (Developed India) by 2047, the centenary of its independence. The roadmap for this ambitious vision hinges significantly on the strategic use of innovation and technology. In an era driven by digitization, artificial intelligence, green energy, space research, biotechnology, and inclusive digital ecosystems, technology emerges as both a tool and a canvas on which India will paint its developed future. This chapter explores how innovation and technology will shape India's evolution into a developed nation by 2047. In order to offer its citizens with "Digital Democracy," the Indian government has implemented a number of programs. The "Eternal Summer" of sound government, which will propel the nation to unprecedented heights of accomplishment and prosperity, is how "Digital Democracy" in India is envisioned in this scenario. Based on secondary data gathered from multiple sources, the current paper it discusses the current landscape, key sectors, policy initiatives, potential challenges, and the role of youth and entrepreneurship, focusing on sustainable, inclusive, and globally competitive growth. Many factors mark contemporary political processes. The

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peculiarities of the political system and regime largely determine them. The type of political process, which is characterized by social and political activity of persons and social groups, is democratic. The establishment of such a regime is characterized by gradual steps to introduce democratic principles into the political system, societal institutions, culture, and lifestyle. Such a peaceful transition to a democratic regime can be called democratization. In contemporary public policy, representatives of governing structures seek ways to develop forms of societal participation in decision-making processes. Meanwhile, interested groups, in turn, strive to enhance the quality and legitimacy of the policies enacted. Electronic democracy tools are not a reincarnation of former means of political communication.

2. The pre-history

The digital democracy in India, prior to the launch of the comprehensive Digital India program in 2015, was marked by the gradual computerization of government departments and the rollout of early e-governance initiatives. This era was defined by building foundational technological infrastructure, though citizen participation in governance was largely limited

3. Objectives

- To provide an overview of e-democracy.
- To examine the rationale and scope of e-democracy.
- Interaction in e-democracy.
- The dimensions of e-democracy.
- Governance, and sustainability critical to Viksit Bharat 2047.

4. Methodology

This article will take a descriptive qualitative approach to explore a deeper understanding of the impact of e democracy in the modern era and special reference to visit Bharat program 2047. In this data used was obtained from previous research and studies that still have relevance to this research. These data will be obtained through a desk study, making it possible to utilize existing knowledge to take a deeper look at how e democracy influences interactions between citizens and government in the context of visit Bharat 2047. After the research data has been collected, the data will then be processed to produce findings and a deeper understanding of the impact of e- democracy on people's participation.

This study examines these programs and their effects on the spread of corruption. In these epidemic times, governments everywhere are attempting to enhance their online digital transformation by increasing their efficiency and transparency. People have migrated to digital forms of governance almost effortlessly as the globe has gone online in the modern era, the current article delineates e- democracy Viksit Bharath 2047.

5. Meaning of E Democracy

Democracy comes in many shapes and sizes (Keane, 2009) and so, arguably, the use of ICT in this context will also take various forms. As illustrated above, governments often adopt technological solutions for reasons of efficiency and cost savings, rather than to enhance democratic processes. It is therefore important that, rather than using concepts interchangeably, discussions of government ICT use draw a distinction between notions of e-government and democracy. In his empirical evaluation of e-government in the United States, Norris (2010) highlights that idealistic claims of e-government fostering democratic deliberation and increased civic participation and engagement have not been achieved. He distinguishes between government, e-governance and e-democracy, and argues that while these three concepts are deeply intertwined, much academic literature contains the misconception that they are synonymous.

E-government, is understood as electronic delivery of information and services, whereas e-governance relates more to regulation and control both by governments and citizens. In terms of e-democracy (and its various counterpart names, such as digital democracy and e-participation), that it involves providing citizens with access to government institutions and officials, and enabling civic participation through ICTs in matters of public concern. In this vein, e-democracy can be understood as ongoing digital civic participation activities that partially disperse governmental power in order to enable the public to actively influence political decision-making.

6. E- Democracy and Viksit Bharat 2047 and its need

E-democracy is crucial for Viksit Bharat @2047 by enabling widespread citizen participation, which is the core of the vision for a developed India by 2047. It allows citizens to contribute ideas, provide feedback, and engage in governance, essential for achieving the goals of inclusive growth, innovation, and sustainable development. Platforms like MyGov.in facilitate this through online consultations, and digital infrastructure is a cornerstone for its success, though challenges like the digital divide must be addressed.

• The Title of E-Democracy or Digital Democracy

E-democracy, encompassing e-governance and the use of technology in democratic processes, supports the Viksit Bharat mission in several key ways:

7. Essential for E-Democracy in India

• Tolerance Citizens and Guarantee Inclusion

Digital platforms allow for greater public participation, ensuring the voices of all citizens, including youth and those in remote areas, are heard in policy-making and local self-governance.

• Lucidity and Accountability

E-governance initiatives like Digi Locker and UMANG use technology to deliver citizen-centric services efficiently, reduce corruption, and promote transparency in government operations. This effective governance is explicitly recognized as a critical component of the 2047 vision.

• Modernizing Governance

The adoption of cutting-edge technologies like AI and Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) in governance is pivotal for modernizing industries and administrative systems, a major focus area for Viksit Bharat 2047.

• Bridging gap Digital Divide

Initiatives under the broader "Digital India" program, such as the Aspirational Blocks Programme, aim to bring tech-enabled opportunities to last-mile communities, ensuring that digital growth is inclusive and reaches vulnerable groups.

• Data-Driven policy making

E-democracy fosters a system where citizen feedback and performance reviews can be collected more effectively, allowing for merit and result-based governance.

• Young people Engagement

Platforms like the MyGov portal's Ideas from Youth for Viksit Bharat 2047 actively solicit suggestions from the younger generation, leveraging their innovative ideas and energy for national development goals.

In essence, e-democracy is not merely a procedural change but a transformative approach to governance that is central to achieving the economic prosperity, social equity, and effective administration required for India to become a developed nation by 2047.

- **Inhabitant participation**

E-democracy provides the digital infrastructure for citizens, especially the youth, to actively contribute to the vision of a developed India. The key example, allowing people to share their ideas and feedback on national development goals

- **Inclusive Progress**

The Viksit Bharat vision focuses on inclusive growth, and e-democracy ensures that this includes all sections of society, not just those in urban areas.

- **Strengthen governance**

Digital platforms can improve transparency, efficiency, and accountability in governance, which is critical for implementing large-scale development plans.

- **Transformation and progress**

By channelling the ideas of the youth and other citizens, e-democracy helps to foster innovation and aligns their aspirations with the nation's development agenda.

- **Imposing the demographic dividend**

India's large youth population is seen as key to achieving its development goals. E-democracy provides a channel to harness their energy, creativity, and ideas for nation-building.

- **Superscribe governance challenges**

E-democracy is a way to overcome traditional governance hurdles, reduce corruption, and improve the delivery of services in areas like education and healthcare.

- **Building a collective vision**

The Viksit Bharat vision requires a collective effort. E-democracy is the mechanism that makes this "collective endeavour" possible by integrating the input of all citizens, states, and institutions into a unified national vision.

- **Empower a digital future**

The Viksit Bharat initiative is built on a foundation of digitalization. Developing a robust e-democracy framework is essential for its success and for achieving comprehensive development across all sectors.

- **Understanding Viksit Bharat: Vision 2047**

Viksit Bharat 2047 represents a comprehensive vision of a developed, equitable, and self-reliant India. It entails

- A \$30 trillion economy with equitable wealth distribution means Zero Poverty
- Hundred percent good quality school education
- Hundred percent skilled labour with meaningful employment.
- Global leadership in emerging technologies
- Sustainability and carbon neutrality

Access to high quality, affordable and nationwide healthcare NITI Aayog and various state planning bodies are working together to chart this vision. Technology and innovation are critical pillars for achieving these outcomes. However, reaching this ambitious goal would require a collaborative effort from all parties, including the government, the commercial sector, and individuals.

Features include aiming for a \$30 trillion economy, achieving zero poverty, ensuring 100% quality school education and skilled labour, promoting women's economic participation, and empowering farmers. Viksit Bharat 2047 is the vision of Government of India to make India a developed nation by 2047, the 100th year of its independence.

Reservation of 33% of the seats in the Lok Sabha and in the state assemblies and the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam guaranteeing quotas to SC and ST women are promoting women's leadership. • The criminalisation of triple talaq has increased Muslim women's rights and security. • Efforts towards financial inclusion have seen over 28 crore women opening Jan Dhan accounts, and most of the beneficiaries of PM Mudra Yojana and Stand-Up India are women. • Initiatives like the Jal Jeevan Mission, Swachh Bharat Mission, and increased maternity benefits under Pradhana Mantri Matruh Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) also promote a culture of increased inclusivity and empowerment of women in India.

E Participation a currently very popular concept in relation to the rise of Web 2.0 and user generated content is e Participation. This concept is broader than digital democracy or e Democracy. The last terms refer to political issues and the relationship of citizens with governments or political representatives. E Participation stands for policy issues at large and the relationship of citizens with both governments and public administrations. E Participation can be defined as the use of digital media to mediate and transform the relations of citizens to governments and to public administrations in the direction of more participation by citizens.

The concept of electronic democracy has intellectual as well as technological roots. Its intellectual roots are anchored in normative democratic theory and in the idea of participatory democracy. Technologically, it is rooted in dramatic changes in media technology that amount to a revolution in the field of communication. The communications revolution is a process that spans a long period of time, encompassing a multitude of technological developments from the first telegraph wire connecting both sides of the Atlantic Ocean since 1862 through to the diffusion of the Internet in the 1990s.

Conclusions the implementation of information and communication technologies in the public sector occurs in various directions. It appears both within public authorities and in the sphere of interaction among public policy actors. It is expedient to distinguish three directions: e-government, e-services, and e-participation. From the perspective of electronic democracy, establishing e-government is paramount. It provides public access to state-critical information, thereby contributing to government transparency and creating a system of public oversight over its activities via the Internet. However, there are several practical challenges and discrepancies between the theoretical model and actual political practice.

8. Following risks related to the practical implementation of e-democracy principles

Information technologies disrupt established mechanisms of societal relations, which may lead to increased tension and chaos in the political system.

New technologies provide extensive opportunities for the dissemination of various forms of destructive and extremist information, as well as manipulation of public opinion.

The presence of information inequality can exclude a significant portion of the population from the process of making political decisions.

The development of information technologies can transform real political participation into a virtual simulation, reducing society's influence on government.

The issue of protecting information from unauthorized access remains unresolved, which is crucial for developing electronic democracy. Reliable data protection is a mandatory requirement for the functioning of government structures.

Therefore, regardless of the level of technological development, the democratic potential of electronic technologies depends on the presence of the political will to implement it.

9. Suggestions

To maximize digitalisation's impact on Viksit Bharat 2047, the following recommendations are proposed

- **Increase funds for Digital Infrastructure**

Accelerate Bharat Net and deploy 5G to achieve 100% connectivity by 2030, with a focus on rural areas World Bank.

- **Digital Literacy Programs**

Launch nationwide initiatives targeting rural women, youth, and elderly populations to achieve greater digital literacy by 2035 (Wang & Si, 2024).

- **Strengthen Cybersecurity**

Enforce data protection laws and invest in AI-driven cybersecurity solutions to reduce cyber threats by a significant share by 2030

- **Promote Inclusive Policies**

Subsidize digital devices and internet access for low-income households to bridge the digital divide.

- **Foster Innovation**

Establish innovation hubs and provide tax incentives for startups in AI, IoT, and green technologies.

- **Adopt Sustainable Practices**

Mandate renewable energy for data centres and promote eco-friendly digital infrastructure to align with net-zero goals (Fatema & Raza, 2023).

- **Align Skilling with Industry**

Update curricula to include AI, blockchain, and cybersecurity, and establish MSME universities to train 10 million workers annually (Chenoy et al., 2019)

10. Conclusion

E-governance efforts have been implemented in India, and one of their key effects has been to increase administrative efficiency, transparency, and citizen empowerment. A practical attitude based on a shared goal and structure has been chosen by the government to expedite the nationwide deployment of e governance at the local, state, and federal levels. Revolutionizing the processes and structures of governance,

E-governance brings with it unprecedented innovations. The government, the people, and many other stakeholders can all reap numerous benefits from it. The successful implementation of e-government in India has the potential to address several concerns, including poverty, bureaucratic corruption, and weak governance. In the historical development of the democratic experiment, e- Democracy attempts to demonstrate how interactive technology might contribute to the process of government. E-Democracy may serve as an addition to the present frameworks.

Viksit Bharat 2047 is not only a vision but also a collective mission that requires an innovation-first mindset. Technology must serve humanity, bridge inequalities, and create sustainable value for all citizens.. By embracing innovation deeply and inclusively, India can rise as a beacon of developed, equitable, and technology-powered progress on the global stage by 2047.

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