

Viksit Bharat-2047: Issues and Challenges

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Recently, we are celebrated 79th Independence Day of India. After completion of Eight Decades of India's Independence, still India is Developing Country. Last two-three years, especially after Corona Pandemic, the concept, "Viksit Bharath@2047", a vision of Government of India, primarily championed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. While the idea was likely evolved before formal launch, the initiative, 'The Viksit Bharat @ 2047: Voice of Youth', which Prime Minister Modi launched on December 11, 2023. The word "Viksit Bharat@2047" means, Developed India by 2047. The path to "Viksit Bharat@2047" – the vision to make India a fully developed nation by its 100th year of Independence. It is an ambitious road map that goes beyond the just economic growth, encompassing holistic development across the various sectors. Prime Minister Narendra Modi highlighted four main pillars that will drive the achievement of 'Viksit Bharat' goal. They are Yuva (Youth), Garib (Poor), Mahilaye (the Women) and Anna data (Farmers). Core objectives and Focus areas of Viksit Bharat Economic Prosperity aim to \$30 trillion Economy, Technological Advancement, Environmental Sustainability and Good Governance. It also emphasizes "Jan Bhagidari" (Peoples Participation), actively seeking the ideas and involvement of the Youth and Citizens.

Present, India Economy position in the World Economies, according to International Monetary Fund (IMF) Indian Datasets in April2025, Indian Nominal GDP \$4.19 trillion (4th largest Economy in the World), in the Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) \$17.65 trillion (3rd Largest Economy in the World). Nominal Per Capita Income \$2,878 (136th Rank in the World) and in the Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) Indian Per Capita Income is \$12,132 (119thRank in the World). In the 2024-25, India's GDP Growth Rate 6.2%, where as 6.5% GDP Growth registered in 2023-24. Past last two decades, Indian Economy performance proved to be India is one of the fastest growing economies in the World and India well deserved to the Developed Economy Status (Vikasit Bharat) by 2047.

In the path of Viksit Bharat 2047, India will face to be multi-dimensional, a wide variety of issues and challenges like to Economic, Social, Environmental and Governance constraints. In these, socio-economic disparities, including unequal access of quality education, health care and Socio-Economic problems like Poverty, Unemployment and Income Inequalities, Regional Disparities, Corruption, Lack of Transparency, Pollution, Climate Change, Resource Depletion and Energy Transition, building World Class Infrastructure in Transport, Energy, Digital Connectivity, Massive Upgradation in Quality of Education and Health Care, Changes in Mindset of People, Electoral Reforms, Transparent Funding and Strong Political Will and Peoples' Participation are Major Challenges in the way of Viksit Bharat 2047. Unless, properly address the Population, Agriculture, Industrial, Service Sector, Infrastructural, Technology, Environmental and Governance issues, we cannot achieve Vikasit Bharat by 2047.

Being a largest populous country world, India having the both the advantages and disadvantages from its population. The advantage is among the 145 Crores of its population, India having the nearly 60% population is under working-age group (15-60) and most of them are Youth. India is having highest Youth Population in the World. Upcoming 22 years, it would be increases more and it is estimated to nearly 70-75% of Its total population. It would be a great advantage in the way of Viksit Bharat. No Country having this kind of advantage from their population. If the population increases during this period, it would be having negative effect also. Growth population creates pressure on land. Density of population increases, Food requirement, Demand for Housing, Education and Health Facilities

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will also increase. Consequently, people will migrate from rural areas to urban areas in search of livelihood, better education and health facilities. It will create immense pressure on urban areas. Urbanisation and Urbanisation problems like Traffic Problems, Sound Pollution, Air Pollution, Slums, Unemployment and Poverty also increases,

In Agriculture related issues, India still contributing a major share in India's National Income. During the Last 15 Years, it will be fluctuating around 17 to 19 per cent. In the year 2011-12, share of Agriculture and Allied Sector in Total GVA is 19%, it decreases 18% in 2015-16, it increases to 20.2% in 2021-22 and in 2023-24 it is decrease to 17.8%. It means there is no major change during the last 15 years in the Share of Agriculture and Allied Sectors. Where as in case of Developed Countries, the share of Agriculture Sector is around 1 to 4 per cent. The major challenge is the share of agriculture would decrease below 6 per cent, without affecting its Output. Another major constraint in India is its average size of land holding is 0.74 hectares. According to NABARD Survey, the average size of land holdings in India is decreasing, with a significant drop from 1.08 hectares in 2015-26 to 0.74 hectares in 2021-22. Same thing, which was 2.28 hectares in 1970-71. It indicates that last 5 decades, there is continuous deterioration in the average size of land holding. The main reasons for declining average size of land holding are increasing population leads to more inheritance and subdivision of land and Overtime, land holdings are fragmented into smaller plots, making farming less efficient. This continued fragmentation is raising concerns about economic viability of smaller farms. This is a major hurdle in Mechanization and Modernization of Agriculture. Smaller farms struggle to generate sufficient income, impacting the livelihoods of farmers. Farmers are increasingly turning to collective approaches and technology to improve their productivity. The Government supports measures like adopting modern farming techniques like Mixed Cropping, Multiple Cropping and Inter-Cropping, which can help small farms more viable.

Industrial Sector will be playing major role in achieving the Viksit Bharat by 2047. In the Year 2023-24, Industrial Sector contribution to Indian GDP is 27.6%. Last three decades, Industrial Share in Indian GDP fluctuating between 22%-28%. The major issues in Industrial Sector in India are lack of modern technology, infrastructure bottlenecks like poor power and logistics, environmental concerns from industrial activity, labour problems such as a shortage of skilled workers and poor pay. Many Indian companies are still using Outdated Technology, which effects their efficiency and global competitiveness and the main challenge in Industrial sector in India is accessing finance especially for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). Another major issue in Industrial sector is related to infrastructure, they are inadequate power supply, poor logistics and transportation issues negatively impact on production and delivery times. This sector faces serious issues like labour unrest, a lack of skilled personnel and conflicts over wages. All of which can disrupt production and growth. One more key issue in Industrial sector is environmental problems. Industrial activities can lead to pollution and environmental damage and many sectors struggle to meet sustainability and compliance requirements. Main and important challenge for Indian industrial sector is access to finance. Large and Big firms are somehow managed to get the finance; it is inadequate them. Whereas in the case of small and medium firms often struggle to get timely and affordable loans, which hinder their ability to grow and develop. To achieve Viksit Bharath 2047, Government can address these issues through initiative like Make in India, which is aim to boost domestic manufacturing and attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the Industrial Sector, Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Schemes to provide financial incentives to increase domestic production in key industries and Start-ups and MSME schemes offer support, finance and skill development to Small and Medium Enterprises.

In the Indian Economy, Service Sector is the main and fastest and growing sector, sector in India, in the Year 2023-24, Service Sector contribution to Indian GDP is 54.4%. Key sub-sectors include Information Technology(IT) which is the major sub sector in service sector with accounting 7.5% to India's GDP and Business Processing Outsourcing (BPO) is the one of the important segment estimated have reached \$ 181 billion in 2018-19, Tele Communications, Health Care, Education and Tourism and Hospitality, Financial Services, Real Estate, Banking, Business Services, Tele communications, Trade and Transport and Government and Social Services etc. It provides employment for 30% of total work force of India. Service Sector is the Key sector, which will play crucial and deciding role in achieving the 'Viksit Bharat'. Major issues in Indian Service sector include skill gaps, inadequate infrastructure and a complex regulatory environment. Additionally, the service sector faces challenges with jobless growth. There is significant gap between skills of workforce and the demands of modern service industries especially in High-Tech areas. Despite a large youth population, a lack of industrial-relevant skills and insufficient opportunities contribute to youth

unemployment. Some sectors particularly Small and Medium Enterprises struggle to retain skilled workers due to low wages and poor working conditions leading to brain drain and low-quality output. In Physical infrastructure, inadequate transportation and logistics network leads to higher costs and delays in service delivery, particularly in remote and rural areas. Another issue in Digital Infrastructure is limited high-speed internet penetration in certain regions and concerns about cyber security hinder the growth of digital services. One more issue in service sector is technology adoption; in this many service sectors outside of IT lag in adopting new technologies for efficiency and Competitiveness. Though service sector contribute to highest share to GDP, but it has not generated correspond level of employment, leading to 'Jobless Growth'.

In Governance, Regulatory and Policy Environment Issues, in this businesses face challenges from complex, frequently changing regulations that can create obstacles. Unlike manufacturing sector, in service sector, there is no single, coherent national service policy leading to a lack of uniform reform and development across sectors. Another major issue is digital privacy concerns over data privacy and security are growing in the digital age and navigating data protection laws is significant challenge. Service-led growth concentrated in urban areas, leading to regional disparities and underdevelopment in rural and backward areas. India's service exports, particularly IT and BPO's are heavily depended on global markets, making the Indian economy vulnerable to external shocks.

Apart from above, the main issues and challenges include: Economic and Growth Challenges, in this sustaining high economic growth is main one. To achieve high-income status, India needs to maintain a high average annual growth rate. (Estimated by some sources, it would be around 6-8% over two decades). Another major issue is, Job-Creation and Employment, creating sufficient high-quality jobs for large population, particularly millions entering workforce annually, remains formidable challenge and the low share of manufacturing sector in employment and GDP is a structural hurdle. Increasing total investment as percentage of GDP is crucial to fuel sustained growth. Maintaining the Fiscal stability one of major challenge, in this managing the high public debt and fiscal deficit is necessary to ensure macro-economic stability. A large proportion of the labour force still in the informal sector, which often lacks social security and stability.

In Social and Human Development Challenges, Poverty and Income Inequalities and Regional Disparities, Unequal access of quality education and health care, Low Female Labour Force Participation (FLFP), Rural-Urban Divide and Demographic Shift are major social-human development challenges still existed in India. In Environmental and Climate Challenges, Sustainability of Environment is important one, in this balancing rapid economic growth with environmental conservation, including tackle Air, Water and Sound Pollution, Deforestation and Waste Management. In climate change vulnerabilities, protecting nature, reducing reliance on polluting fuels and transitioning to clean energy sources like solar, wind, tidal etc., are essential to ensure the sustainable development.

In the Governance and Institutional Challenges, Corruption and Bureaucracy is the main issue, in this streamlining administrative process, reducing red tape and promoting transparency and efficiency in governance are continuous hurdles that affect the doing business and living. Another major constraint is Judicial and Regulatory hurdles. In this, delays in conflict resolution and policy inconsistency can discourage domestic and foreign investments. One more crucial issue in this domain is, Digital Divide, in this bridging the gap between population that has access to proficiency in digital tools and those who do not necessary for leveraging technology for development. Social Cohesion is one of major and important challenge in this front. In this, ensuring the social unity and addressing issues like illegal immigration is also crucial for stable developed nation.

Conclusion

In the path of 'Vikasit Bharat@2047', India will face to be multi-dimensional, a wide variety of issues and challenges like to Economic, Social, Environmental and Governance constraints. In these, socio-economic disparities, including unequal access of quality education, health care and Socio-Economic problems like Poverty, Unemployment and Income Inequalities, Regional Disparities, Corruption, Lack of Transparency, Pollution, Climate Change, Resource Depletion and Energy Transition, building World Class Infrastructure in Transport, Energy, Digital Connectivity, Massive Upgradation in Quality of Education and Health Care, Changes in Mindset of People, Electoral Reforms, Transparent Funding and Strong Political Will and Peoples' Participation are Major Challenges in the way of Vikasit

Bharat 2047. Unless, properly address the Population, Agriculture, Industrial, Service Sector, Infrastructural, Technology, Environmental and Governance issues, we cannot achieve Vikasit Bharat by 2047.

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