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EDITORIAL

We feel honoured and privileged to present the Bi-Annual Peer Reviewed Refereed Journal, ISSN (Online): 2583-5203, Volume 3, No. 02, December, 2024 among our esteemed readers and academic fraternity.

This Journal is the outcome of the contributions of insightful research-oriented papers/articles by various eminent academicians, and research scholars in a highly organized and lucid manner with a clear and detailed analysis related to the emerging areas in the fields of Social Sciences and Allied Areas.

The views expressed in the research-oriented papers/articles solely belong to the paper contributor(s). Neither the Publisher nor the Editor(s) in any way can be held responsible for any comments, views and opinions expressed by **paper contributors**. While editing, we put in a reasonable effort to ensure that no infringement of any intellectual property right is tolerated.

We also express our sincere thanks and gratitude to all the contributors to research papers/articles who have taken pain in preparing manuscripts, incorporating reviewer(s) valuable suggestions and cooperating with us in every possible way.

We also express our heartfelt gratitude to all the esteemed members of the Editorial Board, Esteemed Reviewer(s) who despite their busy schedules have given their valuable time, suggestions and comments to enrich the quality of the contributory resears paper(s) in bringing to light this December issue.

Last, but not least, we revere the patronage and moral support extended by our parents and family members whose constant encouragement and cooperation made it possible for us to complete on time.

We would highly appreciate and look forward to your valuable suggestions, comments and feedback at editorbr2022@gmail.com

December 31, 2024
West Bengal, India

PEMA LAMA
Editor-in-Chief

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RESEARCH ARTICLE

Charting the Course: Overcoming Hurdles in the Journey towards Developed India

Utpal Sarkar¹ | Asim Kumar Roy² | CMA Dr. Samyabrata Das³

¹Assistant Professor, Dept. of History, New Alipore College, Kolkata, India

²Associate Professor, Dept. of Commerce, Dr. Kanailal Bhattacharyya College, Howrah, India

³Associate Professor, Dept. of Commerce, New Alipore College, Kolkata, India

Corresponding Author: CMA Dr. Samyabrata Das (samyabrata1@gmail.com)

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ABSTRACT

The ambitious goal of a “Developed India” by 2047 will require genuine dedication and active engagement from all citizens. On the international economic scene, India has achieved great progress, but enduring social and economic inequalities remain a serious obstacle. One alarming sign of these disparities is the large percentage of people who are still under the poverty threshold level. The lack of qualified workers makes this situation much more difficult. COVID-19 brought to light the shortcomings of India’s healthcare system, especially in villages and isolated regions, demonstrating long-standing difficulties in delivering high-quality, easily accessible healthcare. Furthermore, environmental problems like depletion of ozone and declining biodiversity have been brought on by unrestrained development and accelerated commercialisation.

In addition to endangering ecological equilibrium, this environmental deterioration also poses a hazard to livelihood and public health. Trust among the public and efficient administration are further hampered by governance issues, especially corruption. This analysis, which is based on secondary data, aims to highlight the challenges facing India as it moves towards development. There are encouraging paths forward despite these obstacles. India has many advantages, including a large, active youth population, attention to green energy, and the digital revolution and initiatives. By combining these resources, India can become a developed nation by 2047, resulting in inclusive growth.

1. INTRODUCTION

The vision of ‘Developed India’ is pervasive. The government of India’s plan to make India a fully developed country by 2047 is called ‘Viksit Bharat 2047.’ The 21st century brings several hopes for the nation. The nation has achieved significant strides in the global economy. Millions have joined the formal sector due to the endeavour for financial inclusion, giving them access to credit, insurance, and pensions, all of which contribute to greater economic stability.

The government has helped local businesses, boosted foreign investment, and fostered industrial

development through several measures. Infrastructure is constantly developing, digitalisation is changing day-to-day activities, innovations are happening fast, transparency in government activities is increasing and citizens are paying serious attention to environmental issues. The Indian government has recently taken several actions to fight climate change, limit pollution, and foster sustainable development. With such changes taking place India is well-positioned to transform itself from a developing country to a developed nation by 2047. However, challenges are there that act as hurdles in this journey. Addressing these challenges is critical for the government to reach its destination in the time set.

2. BRIEF SURVEY OF RELATED LITERATURE

Satyanarayana and Rao (2023) highlight several critical challenges that could hinder India's path toward becoming a developed nation by 2047. Among these, they identify brain drain, rapid population growth, income inequality, infrastructure deficiencies, corruption, and environmental concerns as significant obstacles. They argue that addressing these issues requires a proactive approach involving ongoing policy evaluation, strategic adaptation, and responsiveness to emerging challenges. Such efforts, the authors suggest, are essential if India is to maintain its growth momentum and ultimately achieve its 'Developed India' vision. To achieve the lofty objective of a developed India by 2047, Mundhe (2024) emphasised the need for governance reforms, the need for strong policy applications, and judicious investments in infrastructural facilities and human resources. Mehta & Boltwala (2024) stated that focusing on infrastructural development is significant in India's quest to become a developed nation in 2047. Pandya (2024) focused on how educational establishments might stimulate social and economic change and equitable growth in India using innovation, research, and cooperation. The study also looked at how important academics are to guiding India towards its ambitious goal of becoming Viksit Bharat by 2047.

Singh (2024) examined the state's many welfare programmes and efforts to achieve equitable development in the nation by 2047. According to Thakkar (2024), the Indian Knowledge System (IKS) can play a significant role in India's attempts to improve education and skill development, especially in the context of Vision 2047, which aims to make India a developed, equitable, and green nation. Chopra & Bisht (2024) examined economic strategies, welfare programs, green initiatives, governmental reforms, and technological advancements with an emphasis on India's track under Viksit Bharat. In the opinion of Kumar & Sirohi (2024), as the country works to realise the 2047 vision, advancing the economic status of its women becomes a prerequisite for creating a future characterised by diversity, wealth, and group advancement. Desai (2024) noted that a

key challenge to achieving the 2047 development goal is generating sufficient employment opportunities for surplus workers in agriculture and for new entrants to the labour market.

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The study has the following objectives -

- To highlight the challenges before the Viksit Bharat 2047 agenda
- To analyse the strategic initiatives taken by the Government
- To explore further actions needed.

4. METHODOLOGY

The present study examines the major roadblocks that India must get past to realise this objective (Developed India), such as economic inequities, infrastructure limitations, educational deficiencies, healthcare difficulties, sustainability issues, and governance concerns. By analysing these issues, the study provides information about the strategic initiatives required to implement the Viksit Bharat 2047 vision. The analysis incorporates secondary data from different sources, such as journal articles, magazines, periodicals, books, and web materials.

5. DISCUSSION

This section is divided into three parts. The first part identifies the challenges existing before the Viksit Bharat 2047 agenda. The second part looks at the initiatives taken by the Government. The third and last part highlights the further action required to accomplish the mission of 'Developed India' by 2047.

a) Challenges

India's economy has grown significantly, but the country still faces significant disparities in earnings. A sizeable fraction of people continue to live below the poverty line, while the gap in wealth between the wealthy and the impoverished has expanded. To achieve equitable development and an equitable society, income disparity must be addressed. With a large percentage of the workforce employed, agriculture is

still a vital sector. It does, however, confront difficulties like low production, poor infrastructure, and rising environmental susceptibility. Ensuring environmentally friendly procedures like emphasising organic farming and modernising agriculture are essential for growth in rural areas and food safety.

High unemployment rates, especially among young people, remain a pressing issue in India. Additionally, a large segment of the workforce is engaged in informal jobs that offer low wages and lack job security. This instability affects individuals' financial well-being and limits overall economic growth. Creating a thriving economy relies heavily on generating ample employment opportunities and ensuring quality workplaces with fair compensation and job stability. To address these challenges, policies should focus on skill development, fostering entrepreneurship, and encouraging sectors with high job-creation potential, such as technology, manufacturing, and sustainable industries. Additionally, transitioning workers from informal to formal employment can provide them with better protections, benefits, and income stability. By prioritising job creation and improving work conditions, India can build a more inclusive and resilient economy that supports the aspirations of its workforce, empowering individuals and driving sustained national prosperity. The requirement for accommodation has increased due to accelerated urbanisation, placing stress on the services and facilities provided by cities. To cope with the expanding populations in cities, housing issues must be addressed and city planning must be improved.

Enhanced connectivity is essential for driving a nation's economic progress. However, transportation and logistics infrastructure in rural and remote areas remain inadequate. While urban regions have seen significant improvements in these services, rural areas continue to lag behind. Inadequate transportation links in villages hinder access to markets, education, and healthcare, limiting economic opportunities for residents. Strengthening infrastructure in these areas is crucial for fostering inclusive growth. By improving road networks, transportation systems, and logistics facilities in rural regions, we can enhance access to resources,

stimulate local economies, and promote overall national development. Bridging this urban-rural infrastructure gap will create more balanced and sustainable economic growth. While access to education has increased, challenges related to the quality of education persist. Ensuring that students receive a high standard of education at every level is crucial for developing a skilled and knowledgeable workforce. To build a strong labour force capable of meeting the demands of a modern economy, it is essential to maintain and improve educational standards across all stages of learning.

To make the workforce employable as per the requirements and address the skill gap issues proper programmes on skill development are needed. The cost and availability of healthcare continue to be major obstacles, especially in the countryside. Ensuring inexpensive services and bolstering medical facilities are essential for the well-being of society. Strong efforts to promote public health and preventative strategies are needed to tackle the rising cost of infectious and non-communicable diseases. Corruption impedes growth. It is a significant barrier to good governance. It is critical to bolster anti-corruption initiatives to effect meaningful change. Promoting accountability and openness in governmental operations is part of this. Stern actions are needed for the public servants involved in corruption to enhance the trust of the common man in the system and governance. Effective project and regulatory execution is frequently hampered by administrative difficulties and bureaucratic hold-ups. Enhancing the governance structure is crucial to achieving development objectives. This involves making certain that regulations are applied effectively and without needless delays. Initiatives will proceed more smoothly and get the intended results if procedures are streamlined and bottlenecks are removed. Achieving development goals and making progress depend on effective governance.

The pursuit of 'Developed India' by 2047 faces significant challenges due to rapid population growth and shifting demographics, which put added pressure on resources and systems. This growing population demands expanded infrastructure, requiring India to address gaps in transport, energy, and urban facilities. At

the same time, regulatory and taxation frameworks must adapt to evolving economic and social needs, allowing for more efficient systems that can support sustainable growth. Another concern is that the traditional focus on GDP as a measure of progress often overlooks critical social indicators. While GDP growth reflects economic expansion, it does not capture essential aspects like quality of life, social equality, or individual well-being. This narrow approach can obscure issues such as access to education, healthcare, and equitable income distribution—factors that are fundamental to meaningful development. For India to realize the vision of *Viksit Bharat*, the country must adopt a broader perspective on progress, one that values human and social dimensions equally alongside economic achievements. By focusing on holistic indicators of development, India can aim for a future that is not only prosperous but also inclusive and attuned to the well-being of its people.

India's Comptroller and Auditor General, Girish Chandra Murmu, has underlined the importance of developing India's rural areas as a cornerstone for achieving the nation's goal of becoming a developed country by 2047. He noted that for real progress, a greater emphasis on empowering and developing the hinterlands is essential. Murmu observed that decentralisation has not advanced as expected, leaving gram sabhas and other rural governance bodies with less significance than they deserve within India's federal structure. He stressed that empowering these grassroots institutions is vital to achieving balanced and inclusive growth. Strengthening local governance, according to Murmu, will create pathways for economic and social advancement in rural areas, which will, in turn, contribute to national prosperity. His statement highlights the need for a more robust governance framework at the local level to ensure that rural development keeps pace with India's vision for an equitable future.

b) Strategic Initiatives

The Government of India initiated *Atmanirbhar Bharat*. Its aim is to increase exports, strengthen domestic industries, and reduce reliance on imports. In other words, the objective is to promote self-reliance. This initiative of the government puts emphasis on

improving the country's economic independence. Similarly, the government initiative named 'Make in India' facilitates the production of goods within the country. It seeks to increase manufacturing output. Another purpose is to create more job opportunities. Further, an important objective of this campaign is to attract foreign and local companies to invest in Indian production. These initiatives, if properly implemented, have the potential for improving India's economy by facilitating industrial growth and making the country less reliant on external sources for goods and services. Regarding financial reform, the Government endeavours to make sure that all citizens have the opportunity to utilise financial and banking services by fostering financial inclusion through programmes like the *Jan Dhan Yojana*. The creation of smart cities with cutting-edge amenities and environmentally friendly urban design is a component of infrastructure development, as is the significant financial outlay for infrastructure projects like ports, airports, railroads, and roadways that enable efficient transportation and supply chain management. Regarding healthcare, the Central Government's "*Ayushman Bharat*" programme offers coverage for healthcare to thousands of families and guarantees their access to quality medical care. The maximum citizens of the nation still live in rural areas and lack quality healthcare facilities. Providing quality infrastructure and medical care is of utmost importance.

The Governments are focusing on primary healthcare by attempting to make the same robust. Schemes like *Beti Bachao* and *Beti Padhao* have been introduced to promote equality between genders and enhance the social standing of women to strengthen their position. The government agenda continues to place a high premium on supporting research in emerging fields including the fields of biotechnology robotics, and artificial intelligence (AI) to maintain competitiveness worldwide. The government's implementation of strong safety precautions to safeguard digital infrastructure as well as privacy is an important step in the cybersecurity field. The government's decision to increase the capacity of sources of clean energy, especially sunlight and wind power, is a positive step towards lowering reliance on petroleum and coal. Priority has been devoted to

improving resilience and readiness for catastrophes to lessen the effects of catastrophic events. To guarantee both environmental preservation and food safety, the government supports sustainable agriculture techniques. Industries are urged to implement strategies to lessen their carbon footprints at the same time.

c) Further Action Needed

To create a more flexible and responsive labour market, India's labour laws require reforms that can enhance workforce adaptability. Modernising land and agriculture policies is equally crucial, as these reforms would increase productivity and support the transformation of traditional agricultural practices. Decentralisation is another vital step; empowering state governments with the autonomy to design development plans tailored to local needs can improve the effectiveness of these initiatives. Strengthening local self-governance also fosters community involvement, ensuring that development resonates from the grassroots level.

Streamlining governmental procedures is essential for efficiency. Reducing bureaucratic delays and simplifying administrative processes can improve the business environment, making it easier for domestic and international businesses to operate. On the global front, India must actively engage in organisations like BRICS, the G20, and the United Nations, leveraging these platforms to influence international policies and foster beneficial alliances. Forging strong economic connections with global partners is also crucial to encouraging foreign investment, expanding trade, and driving technological collaborations, which are key growth drivers in a globalised world.

Additionally, aligning domestic policies with global environmental agreements is essential to address climate change responsibly. Equally, reducing socioeconomic disparities through focused social programs is crucial, particularly for marginalized communities. Both

federal and state governments must prioritize social schemes that provide support and opportunities for vulnerable populations. This multi-pronged approach - spanning economic reform, social equity, environmental responsibility, and global engagement - will be fundamental in shaping a prosperous and sustainable future for India.

6. CONCLUSION

The government views 'Developed India' as a comprehensive and dynamic strategy for the progress of the country. The realisation of the nation's ambitious goal of 'Developed India' by 2047 requires a long-term effort involving sustained dedication and coordination between the government and other stakeholders. The vision of *Viksit Bharat* rests on four foundational pillars: youth, poor, women and farmers. These groups form the backbone of India's future, and empowering them is essential to achieving sustainable development. Beyond economic growth, however, the true measure of progress is happiness. Development loses its significance if it does not improve the quality of life and well-being. This highlights a critical irony observed worldwide-nations may achieve high levels of development, yet their people are not necessarily happier.

In India's journey to becoming a developed nation, a holistic approach is essential, one that prioritizes happiness alongside tangible goals in sectors such as education, healthcare, the environment, agriculture, technology, and infrastructure. Ensuring quality education, accessible healthcare, and sustainable practices within agriculture and the environment will contribute to a healthier, more resilient population. Likewise, advancements in technology and infrastructure can support efficient systems that serve the diverse needs of the people. By addressing these goals, India aims not only to achieve economic milestones but also to foster a society where happiness and well-being are central, creating a truly developed and content nation by 2047.

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