

VIKSIT BHARAT: A VISION FOR PEOPLE-CENTRIC GROWTH: GOVERNANCE: PAPER II



The concept of *Viksit Bharat* represents a transformative vision for India's future, one that shifts the national discourse from aggregate economic metrics to improving the lives of every citizen. At its heart, *Viksit Bharat* is about building an India where economic growth serves as a tool for broad-based prosperity, ensuring opportunities and upward mobility for all.

This vision encapsulates a promise: to redefine success as not just achieving global rankings but as fostering the potential of all Indians to drive and benefit from economic growth.

Defining Viksit Bharat

Viksit Bharat, which translates to "Developed India," envisions a nation where the benefits of growth are equitably distributed. It emphasizes creating an environment in which every citizen has access to opportunities, decent living standards, and the ability to realize their potential. Unlike earlier development models that often focused on uplifting weaker sections as a special strategy, Viksit Bharat aims to integrate everyone into the mainstream of growth. It aspires to make India a nation where economic development is synonymous with people's development.

This vision challenges the conventional focus on aggregate growth and global rankings, shifting attention to what those metrics mean for individuals. It calls for a nation where GDP growth is not an end in itself but a means to improve lives and build the capabilities of all its citizens.

Nature of the Shift

The shift proposed by *Viksit Bharat* is both ideological and practical. Traditionally, India's development narrative has been tied to global metrics like GDP growth, stock market performance, and ease of doing business rankings. While these achievements are a source of national pride and



have helped attract global investments, they often tell only part of the story.

The benefits of this growth have largely been concentrated among a small segment of the population, leaving much of India's vast socio-economic pyramid untouched.

Viksit Bharat seeks to transcend this narrow perspective. It promotes a holistic view that recognizes:

- The importance of global competitiveness but not at the cost of domestic equity.
- The need to measure success by how it uplifts all citizens, not just those at the top of the income pyramid.
- The potential of India's large population as an asset, not a liability, when equipped with the right tools, education, and opportunities.

This vision reminds us that the purpose of economic growth is not merely to improve global rankings but to create a nation where every citizen feels included, empowered, and valued.

Relevance of Good Governance

Good governance acts as the bridge between vision and reality. The core of *Viksit Bharat* is the principle of good governance. Achieving this ambitious vision requires effective policies, transparent execution, and a government that prioritizes the welfare of its people. Key aspects of governance that are critical to realizing *Viksit Bharat* include:

- **1.** Law and Order: Ensuring safety and justice is foundational to creating an environment conducive to growth and investment.
- 2. Education Reform: Revamping outdated educational systems is essential to harness the potential of India's youth. The vision demands innovation, skill development, and institutions that prepare individuals for the challenges of a global economy.
- 3. **Inclusive Policy-Making**: Policies must cater to the diverse needs of India's population, from urban entrepreneurs to rural farmers. *Viksit Bharat* emphasizes broad-based reforms that leave no one behind.
- 4. **Technology-Driven Solutions**: Leveraging technology for governance—such as singlewindow systems for business approvals—streamlines processes and reduces barriers to growth.

Good governance ensures that *Viksit Bharat* is not just a slogan but a reality that improves lives at every level of society.

Achievements of Viksit Bharat

Since its conceptualization, the principles of Viksit Bharat have been reflected in several national



achievements:

- 1. **Improved Global Rankings**: India's rising GDP, enhanced ease of doing business scores, and increased global investment inflows highlight the country's growing prominence.
- 2. Support for Traditional Industries: Initiatives like *One District, One Product* (ODOP) have rejuvenated traditional industries. For example, Moradabad's brass industry and Bhadohi's carpet manufacturers have seen increased exports, creating jobs and preserving heritage.
- 3. **Infrastructure Development**: India's network of expressways, the operationalization of waterway projects, and urban Metro expansions have significantly improved connectivity and economic activity.
- 4. **Broad-Based Reforms**: The focus on digital governance, streamlined tax structures, and skill development programs has positioned India as a competitive global economy.
- 5. **Reduction in Poverty:** a significant reduction in poverty levels driven by programmes of access to electrity, sanitation, housing and financial inclusion like Jan Dhan yojana, Swach Bharat & Jal Jivan Mission.
- 6. Social Progress: Programs in agriculture, dairy, and rural entrepreneurship have empowered communities and contributed to self-reliance.

These achievements demonstrate the potential of *Viksit Bharat* to unify development efforts across sectors and geographies.

Challenges and Problems

Despite its promise, *Viksit Bharat* faces several hurdles:

- 1. **Inequitable Distribution of Benefits**: Much of the economic growth still benefits a small segment, leaving large parts of the population with limited access to opportunities.
- 2. Weak Education Systems: Outdated educational institutions and insufficient reforms hinder the full realization of India's demographic dividend.
- 3. **Inadequate Execution**: Early implementation of *Viksit Bharat* has been criticized for emphasizing what citizens can do for the vision rather than what the vision will deliver for them.
- 4. **Over-Reliance on Rankings**: While global rankings are useful, excessive focus on them risks diverting attention from grassroots issues that impact the majority of citizens.
- 5. **Bureaucratic Inefficiencies**: Slow and inconsistent execution of policies can undermine the vision, particularly in critical sectors like health, education, and agriculture.



Addressing these challenges requires sustained effort, innovative thinking, and accountability at every level of governance.

The Conscience of Viksit Bharat

The conscience of *Viksit Bharat* lies in its people-first approach. It challenges the notion that economic progress and social equity are mutually exclusive. Instead, it views them as complementary goals. At its heart, the vision is about ensuring that every citizen, regardless of their socio-economic background, can contribute to and benefit from India's growth story.

This conscience emphasizes:

- Empowering individuals through education and skills.
- Creating systems that are transparent, fair, and accessible.
- Building a society where economic growth uplifts all, rather than entrenching inequalities.

Viksit Bharat reminds us that true development is measured not by where a nation stands on global rankings but by the quality of life it offers its people.

Conclusion

Viksit Bharat is more than a vision—it is a call to action. It urges India to redefine success as inclusive and equitable development, transcending traditional measures like GDP growth and global rankings. By focusing on the potential of every citizen, it positions people as the drivers and beneficiaries of economic progress.

The journey to achieving *Viksit Bharat* is not without challenges, from ensuring equitable distribution of growth to overhauling critical systems like education and governance. However, its promise lies in its clarity of purpose and its emphasis on good governance and holistic development.

As India marches toward 2047, the centenary of its independence, *Viksit Bharat* serves as a beacon of hope and aspiration. If implemented with determination, innovation, and inclusivity, it can transform India into not just a global power but a nation where every citizen thrives, contributing to and reaping the rewards of its progress. The dream of *Viksit Bharat* is not just to grow but to grow together, ensuring no one is left behind.



Main Practice Question

Critically analyze the concept of *Viksit Bharat* in terms of its focus on inclusive development, governance, and reforms. Highlight its achievements, challenges, and its significance in India's development trajectory. (250 words)

Answer Guidelines:

Introduction (40-50 words):

- Define *Viksit Bharat* as a vision for a developed India focused on inclusive growth and improving the quality of life for all citizens.
- Emphasize its shift from aggregate economic metrics to people-oriented development.

Body (160-180 words):

- 1. Achievements:
 - Improved global rankings (GDP, ease of doing business).
 - Infrastructure development: expressways, waterways, urban metros.
 - **Revival of traditional industries through initiatives like** *ODOP*.
 - Poverty reduction: over 135 million people lifted out of poverty.
 - Reforms in governance, taxation, and skill development.

2. Challenges:

- Uneven distribution of economic growth benefits.
- Outdated education systems require urgent reform.
- Criticism of overemphasis on citizen contributions over government accountability.
- Slow implementation of broad-based reforms.
- 3. Significance:
 - Aims to empower every citizen and utilize India's demographic potential.
 - Bridges the gap between economic growth and equitable development.
 - Supports India's goal of becoming a \$5 trillion economy and a global leader by 2047.

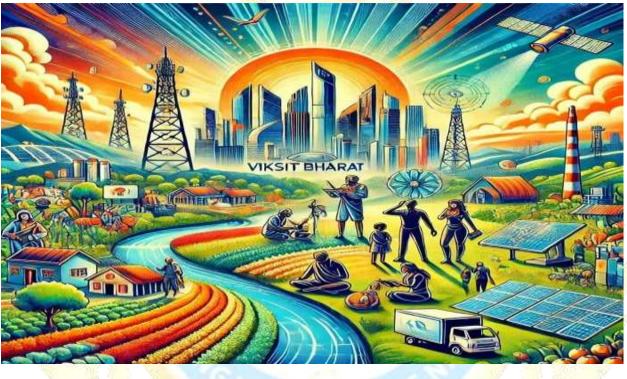


Conclusion (20-30 words):

• Conclude by highlighting that *Viksit Bharat* has laid a strong foundation for India's progress but requires continued efforts in governance and reform to achieve its ambitious goals.

Viksit Bharat

• Viksit Bharat is about building an India where economic growth serves as a tool for broadbased prosperity, ensuring opportunities and upward mobility for all.







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