



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND THE INDIAN ECONOMY

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India is a country that has a rapidly growing population. With its increasing population India faces many challenges in its development Because of this growth. Two major problems poverty and unemployment have arisen. These problems obstruct development.

In the present time, the world is shifting toward sustainable development and a growing economy. It is also essential for India to navigate a way that fosters long term and lasting prosperity and also promotes the well-being for the rapid and healthy growth of country, rapid industrialization, development of rural areas, and tackling the two main problems poverty and unemployment.

✚ The Concept of Sustainable development

Sustainable development is a type of development that promotes the economic and material well-being of country's people. It refers to **long-term economic development and growth**. Sustainable development involves long-term economic growth, social well-being, environmental the basic problems of the country.

✚ In Current Scenario

India has done remarkable economic growth and development over the past few years. Let's understand the remarkable economic growth of India through **India's GDP over the last 7 years**.

Year	GDP(USD Trillion)
2018	2. 703
2019	2. 836
2020	2. 675
2021	3. 167
2022	3. 353
2023	3. 550
2024	3.913

Source:-Federal Reserve Bank of St.Louis

India's GDP was approximately \$2.703 trillion in 2018, which increased to \$2.836 trillion in 2019. In 2020 because of COVID – 19 GDP was decreased due to lockdown and came to \$2.675 trillion. And then after the 2020 the economy gradually came back on track and then continuously increased, and lastly in 2024 it reached \$3.913 trillion.

✚ Some Initiatives Taken by Government for Sustainable development

1) Make In India

A major Initiative of Indian Government launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi **on 25 September, 2014** with the aim of making India global manufacturing hub. Make in India programmed is also helpful in prevention of poverty and unemployment and also reduced dependence on other country.

2) Digital India

Digital India a second major and important initiative launched by Government Of India **on 1 July, 2015** with the aim of build a strong digital infrastructure, and making government service online and easy.



3) Skill India

Skill India is also Indian government initiative started in 2015 before startup India programmed. The objective of skill India are to prepare youth for job and new startup, to increased the skilled worker in country and create new employment opportunities.

4) Startup India

Skill India is an Indian Government initiative started in 2016 with the object of Promote new startup and innovation. It promote youth for new startup and providing new employment opportunities to other.

✚ The Role Played by Gujarat in Achieving Sustainable Development

According to Wikipedia Gujarat is fourth richest state of India and one of the faster growing states. NSDP (Net State Domestic Product) of Gujarat Over the last 8 years.

Year	Rs. Trillion
2016-'17	Rs. 10.17
2017-'18	Rs. 11.66
2018-'19	Rs. 13.23
2019-'20	Rs. 14.37
2020-'21	Rs 14.39
2021-'22	Rs. 17.01
2022-'23	Rs. 19.46
2023-'24	Rs. 21.44

Source: - Directorate of Economics and Statistics Gujarat.

In 2016-'17 Gujarat's NSDP was Rs. 10.17 trillion which is a continuous increased year after year. But in 2020-21 there was no significant increase due to COVID-19. This continues increasing number refers Gujarat's Contribution to Sustainable development.

✚ Notable Contribution in Sustainable Development

- 1) Gujarat played a major role in all these industries like textile, cement, chemicals and petrochemicals.
- 2) Gujarat Boost country's **import export through Kandla and Mundra port.**
- 3) In dairy industry **Amul** transformed our country into the largest dairy and milk producer at world level.
- 4) Gujarat has also played a key role in establishment of SEZs.

✚ Ways to Achieve Sustainable Development

- ❖ Invest heavily in entrepreneurship, innovation and technology.
- ❖ Create more job opportunities for youth.
- ❖ Development of rural areas.
- ❖ Up skill the youth.
- ❖ Industrialization.
- ❖ Because India is an agricultural country, it is important to enhance the field of agriculture.

✚ Roll of Various Field in Sustainable Development

a) Entrepreneurship

Entrepreneurship plays a crucial and vital role in India's sustainable development. Entrepreneurship is best option for settlement of unemployment. It generates new employment opportunities, providing notable regional development, improving the infrastructure and also Promote innovation. Entrepreneurship also boosts country's GDP.

b) Rural Areas

According to recent government source, India has approximately **6.65 lack** villages as of early 2025. And according to **2011 census 833 million people** lives in rural area and in villages which is **68.8%** of total country's population. So, for the country's sustainable development rural development is crucial.

C) Roll of Agriculture



In rural areas, most of people depend on agriculture for their livelihood and employment. India is an agricultural country because significant portion of economy comes from agriculture and its related activities like animal husbandry, fisheries and forestry. Approximately 47% people dependent on agriculture for livelihood. So, Agricultural development is also crucial for sustainable development.

✦ Sustainable Development of Different Country

Index given below are based on country's progress toward the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Country	Index Rank	Score
India	99	66.95
Finland	1	88.10
Sweden	2	87.70
Denmark	3	87.30
Germany	4	83.70
France	5	83.10
Australia	6	83.00

Source: - Sustainable Development Report 2025

According to these data which is given by sustainable development report 2025 India ranks 99th out of 167 countries with 66.95 score.

CONCLUSION

According to the vision of our Prime Minister Narendra Modi Sustainable development is very important to making India **developed country in 2047**. Sustainable development is essential for our country's long-term economic growth and to boost a well-being of country's people.