



## Education for Sustainable Development: A Road map to Vikshit Bharat @ 2047

**Dr. Ashok Kumar Digal**

*Assistant Professor of Education,  
P.G. Department of Education, Rama  
Devi Women's University, Vidya Vihar,  
Bhubaneswar, Odisha.*

**Ms. Anasuya Rath**

*M.A. in Education Student, P.G.  
Department of Education, Rama Devi  
Women's University, Vidya Vihar,  
Bhubaneswar, Odisha.*

### ABSTRACT:

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) has emerged as a transformative approach to empower learners with the knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes necessary to address global challenges while fostering inclusive growth. In the context of Viksit Bharat 2047, ESD serves as a guiding framework to integrate sustainability principles into India's educational policies, curricula, and pedagogical practices. By embedding environmental consciousness, social responsibility, cultural values, and economic resilience into learning systems, ESD paves the way for creating responsible citizens and innovative leaders. This roadmap emphasizes strengthening teacher capacity, promoting green skills, encouraging research and innovation, and integrating traditional knowledge with modern advancements. The main objective of this paper is to identify strategies and policies that strengthen the implementation of ESD for achieving long-term sustainability in India. The research methodology is explanatory in nature. In this paper, it has been highlighted the role of digital technologies, community participation, and policy reforms in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) while aligning with India's vision of becoming a developed nation by 2047. Thus, Education for Sustainable Development acts not only as a tool for academic excellence but also as a catalyst for ecological balance, social equity, and economic prosperity—ensuring a holistic transformation towards a sustainable and empowered Viksit Bharat.

**KEYWORDS:** ESD, Sustainable, Vikshit Bharat @2047 etc.

### Introduction

Viksit Bharat envisions a progressive and inclusive India that balances economic growth with environmental protection, social equity, and cultural values. Sustainable development plays a pivotal role in this journey, as it emphasizes responsible use of resources, renewable energy, quality education, digital empowerment, and social justice to ensure prosperity for both present and future generations. By integrating innovation, traditional wisdom, and global best practices, Viksit Bharat aims to create a resilient economy, reduce inequalities, promote green

initiatives, and build a society rooted in harmony with nature. Thus, the roadmap to Viksit Bharat is not only about infrastructural and technological advancement but also about achieving holistic and sustainable growth for a better tomorrow.

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) is a vital pathway to achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047, a developed and inclusive India that thrives on sustainability, equity, and innovation. It empowers learners with the knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes necessary to address global challenges such as climate change, social inequality, environmental degradation, and economic imbalance, while fostering responsible citizenship. By integrating sustainability principles into curricula, teaching practices, and community participation, ESD nurtures critical thinking, innovation, and eco-conscious behavior among youth. In the context of Viksit Bharat 2047, ESD serves not only as a tool for academic excellence but also as a transformative force to build a society that is environmentally resilient, socially just, and economically self-reliant, ensuring prosperity for present and future generations.

## **Current Education landscape in India**

India's educational system is currently undergoing a dramatic change to better reflect the goals of Viksit Bharat 2047, which place a strong emphasis on inclusive development and sustainable growth. The system is moving away from rote learning and toward competency-based, holistic, and multidisciplinary approaches that are grounded in Indian values and prepare students for global issues, as directed by the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. To make sure students are prepared for the knowledge-driven and sustainability-oriented economy, there is an increasing emphasis on combining digital learning, skill development, vocational training, and environmental education. The gap between education and employment is being closed by initiatives like skill hubs, mixed learning models, digital classrooms, and industry partnerships. Additionally, a focus on access, equity, and inclusivity—particularly for vulnerable and rural areas.

### **Vision for India @ 2047**

- To build an enlightened society where education fosters sustainability and inclusivity for all.
- To nurture environmentally responsible citizens who contribute to India's growth and global leadership.
- To create a future-ready generation empowered with knowledge, values, and skills for sustainable living.
- To establish an education system that harmonizes tradition with innovation for holistic national development.
- To envision India as a Viksit Bharat where sustainability, equity, and prosperity go hand in hand.

### **Mission for India @2047**

- To integrate sustainability principles across all levels of the education system.
- To equip learners with critical thinking, problem-solving, and eco-friendly innovation skills.
- To promote community participation and local solutions through education for sustainable practices.
- To ensure equitable access to quality education that empowers marginalized groups.

- To foster global citizenship and partnerships for achieving sustainable development goals by 2047

### **Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)**

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) is an approach to teaching and learning that equips learners with the knowledge, values, skills, and attitudes needed to build a sustainable future. It emphasizes critical thinking, problem-solving, and decision-making to address global challenges such as climate change, poverty, inequality, and environmental degradation. ESD promotes awareness about the interconnectedness of society, economy, and environment, encouraging learners to take responsibility for creating a just and sustainable world. It moves beyond traditional education by focusing not only on academic knowledge but also on practical life skills and ethical values.

Fundamentally, ESD enables people to become engaged citizens who can support sustainable development in their social, professional, and personal spheres. It incorporates ideas such as global citizenship, gender equality, human rights, sustainable lifestyles, and cultural diversity into the educational process. ESD equips students to make wise decisions and take significant action by encouraging creativity, innovation, and a sense of duty to future generations. As a result, it is a process of lifelong learning rather than merely a subject that turns educational systems into effective instruments for constructing an inclusive and sustainable future.

### **Need for ESD in India @2047**

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) is crucial for India as it empowers citizens with the knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes needed to make responsible decisions for present and future generations. India, with its vast population and diverse socio-economic challenges, faces issues like climate change, environmental degradation, poverty, inequality, and unsustainable consumption patterns. ESD provides the foundation to address these issues by integrating sustainability concepts into education, encouraging critical thinking, problem-solving, and responsible behavior. It aligns with India's vision of Viksit Bharat 2047, ensuring inclusive growth, environmental protection, and social equity. By fostering awareness, innovation, and action among youth, ESD becomes a vital tool for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and building a self-reliant, resilient, and sustainable India.

### **Purposes of ESD in India @2047**

- To create awareness about environmental challenges and climate change.
- To promote responsible consumption and sustainable lifestyle.
- To reduce poverty and inequality through skill-based education.
- To support India's vision of Viksit Bharat 2047 with sustainable growth.
- To strengthen social values, ethics, and cultural heritage with modern needs.
- To prepare youth as global citizens with sustainability competencies.
- To integrate SDGs into national development and education policies.
- To encourage innovation, green technologies, and eco-friendly practices.
- To empower communities for resilience against disasters and risks.
- To balance economic growth with environmental protection and social justice.

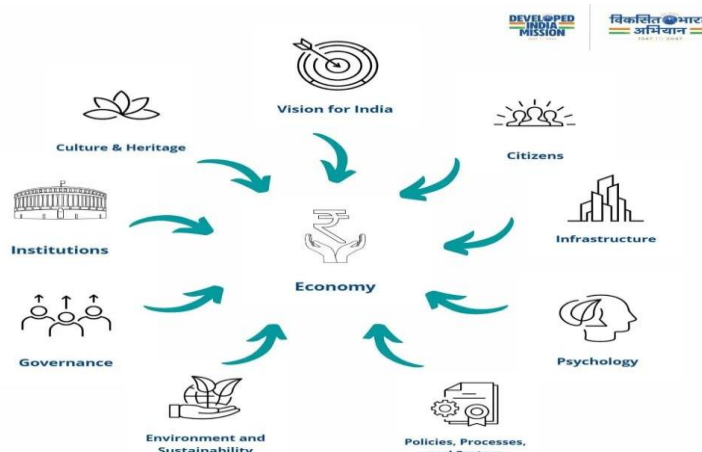
## Objectives

1. To explore the role of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in shaping the vision of Vikshit Bharat 2047
2. To identify strategies and policies that strengthen the implementation of ESD for achieving long-term sustainability in India

## Key Pillars of ESD for Vikshit Bharat

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) is the foundation for building a Viksit Bharat by 2047, as it equips learners with knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes required to create a sustainable and inclusive future. The key pillars of ESD focus on environmental awareness, economic responsibility, social equity, and cultural preservation. They ensure that education not only imparts academic excellence but also develops critical thinking, problem-solving, and responsible citizenship among learners. By integrating sustainability into the curriculum, pedagogy, and community engagement, these pillars guide India towards an empowered, innovative, and resilient society, ultimately shaping a nation that balances development with sustainability. Following pillars are key areas of ESD :-

- **Environmental Sustainability** – Promoting awareness, conservation, and responsible use of natural resources.
- **Social Equity & Inclusion** – Ensuring equal opportunities and reducing disparities in education and society.
- **Economic Responsibility** – Fostering skills for green jobs, innovation, and sustainable economic growth.
- **Cultural Values & Ethics** – Preserving traditions while nurturing respect, empathy, and global citizenship.
- **Quality Education & Innovation** – Integrating sustainability into curriculum, pedagogy, and research.
- **Critical Thinking & Problem-Solving** – Encouraging creativity, innovation, and responsible decision-making.
- **Community Participation** – Engaging learners in local problem-solving and social responsibility.
- **Lifelong Learning** – Building capacity for adaptability and resilience in a changing world.



## **Roadmap Strategies of ESD in India @2047**

The goal of Vikshit Bharat's Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) road map strategies is to create an inclusive, equitable, and progressive educational system that fosters students' critical thinking, creativity, and sense of social responsibility. India may produce responsible people that support social harmony, economic progress, and environmental preservation by incorporating sustainability into curricula, empowering educators, encouraging digital literacy, and connecting education with skill development. In order to guarantee that education becomes a transforming vehicle for attaining a sustainable and developed Bharat by 2047, the policies also place a strong emphasis on research-based learning, community involvement, and international connections.

Following things are strategies of ESD :-

- Integrate sustainability themes into school and higher education curricula.
- Empower teachers through training in ESD methods and innovative pedagogy.
- Promote skill-based and vocational education aligned with green jobs and industries.
- Encourage research and innovation in sustainability solutions.
- Enhance digital literacy and equitable access to technology for all learners.
- Foster critical thinking and problem-solving skills among students.
- Strengthen community participation in school and college sustainability projects.
- Encourage collaboration between academia, industry, and government for ESD.
- Promote values of equality, peace, and inclusiveness through education.
- Develop global partnerships to align Indian education with international sustainability goals.

## **Role of Stakeholders in Vikshit Bharat**

A comprehensive and inclusive educational system is necessary to achieve Viksit Bharat 2047, and all stakeholders must be actively involved in incorporating sustainability into practice, instruction, and learning. For sustainable education, governments must establish supportive settings, guarantee financing, and draft progressive legislation. By transferring information, values, and abilities that support sustainable living, educators and teachers serve as catalysts. By implementing sustainable practices in their communities and daily lives, students are the main change agents. Communities and parents need to promote eco-friendly conduct and lifelong learning. Private organizations, NGOs, and civil society can offer resources, ideas, and awareness campaigns. In the meanwhile, companies and industries can work with educational institutions to incorporate training that is future-ready and green. Media and digital platforms amplify awareness, while international organizations bring global perspectives and best practices. Together, these stakeholders ensure that ESD becomes a transformative tool to build an equitable, innovative, and environmentally conscious Viksit Bharat.

These Stakeholders are:-

- Government: Formulates sustainable education policies, frameworks, and funding support.
- Teachers: Integrate sustainability concepts into pedagogy and inspire eco-conscious behavior.
- Students: Adopt sustainable practices and act as ambassadors of change.

- Parents & Families: Encourage responsible lifestyles and community-based sustainability.
- Educational Institutions: Promote research, innovation, and green campus initiatives.
- NGOs & Civil Society: Conduct awareness campaigns and community-driven sustainability programs.
- Private Sector & Industry: Provide skill-based training, green jobs, and CSR support.
- Media & Technology Platforms: Disseminate knowledge and foster digital literacy for sustainability.
- International Organizations: Share best practices and global frameworks for sustainable education.
- Local Communities & Panchayats: Integrate traditional wisdom with modern ESD initiatives.

### **Expected Outcomes by 2047**

India aims to become a Viksit Bharat—a fully developed, independent, and welcoming country—by 2047. Strong democratic ideals, gender equality, a thriving economy with sustainable sectors, and universal access to high-quality healthcare and education are among the anticipated results. Ecological balance will be guaranteed by climatic resilience, renewable energy uptake, and environmental sustainability. Key objectives include social justice, poverty reduction, youth empowerment, and worldwide leadership in innovation and knowledge.

This vision aims to transform India into a nation that harmonizes tradition with modernity, ensuring prosperity, equity, and dignity for every citizen.

The expected outcomes are:-

- India as a \$30+ trillion economy with equitable growth.
- 100% literacy and skill-based education accessible to all.
- Elimination of poverty and extreme hunger through inclusive policies.
- World leader in renewable energy and green technologies.
- Universal healthcare system with advanced medical innovation.
- Gender equality and women empowerment in all sectors.
- Digital-first nation with strong AI, robotics, and innovation ecosystem.
- Climate-resilient and sustainable agriculture ensuring food security.
- Urban-rural balance with smart cities and empowered villages.
- Global leader in science, technology, and space exploration.
- Cultural preservation with modern innovation for holistic growth.
- Youth-driven workforce leading global knowledge economy.
- Zero carbon emissions target with sustainable industrialization.
- Strong democratic, ethical, and transparent governance.
- Inclusive society ensuring dignity, equality, and justice for all.

### **Conclusion**

The foundation for achieving the goal of Vikshit Bharat 2047 is Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). Through equipping students with sustainability-related knowledge, beliefs, skills, and attitudes, ESD empowers people to actively support social justice, environmental conservation, and economic development. It fosters responsible citizens as well as social creativity, inclusivity, and resilience. In order for education to become a vehicle for



societal advancement, ESD must be incorporated into all levels of education—formal, non-formal, and lifelong—in a well-organized roadmap for Vikshit Bharat. India can make sure that development is not only quick but also fair, environmentally friendly, and prepared for the future by coordinating our educational objectives with sustainable practices. Thus, ESD is not just an academic agenda but a national mission to build a self-reliant, prosperous, and sustainable India.

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