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THE PATH TO VIKSIT BHARAT BY 2047: PRIORITIZING COST MANAGEMENT

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----------ABSTRACT----------

This article examines how important cost control is to India's goal of becoming a "Viksit Bharat" (Developed India) by 2047. It draws attention to the various issues that India suffers as a developing country, such as inequality, poverty, and inadequate infrastructure. A $30 trillion economy that is distinguished by social justice, environmental development, and technological innovation is the goal of the 2047 vision. Increasing openness and accountability, encouraging financial stability, encouraging innovation, and resolving social injustices are some of the main tactics covered. Effective cost management can promote human development, lessen income inequality, and promote sustainable economic growth by allocating resources optimally and giving priority to high-impact initiatives. In the conclusion, the article makes the argument that effective cost management techniques will be crucial to making India a robust, successful, and inclusive country by the time it celebrates its centennial of independence.----------

CONTEXT

Economic, social, political, and infrastructure factors are among the characteristics used to distinguish between developed and developing countries. High GDP per capita, diverse economies with sizable industrial and service sectors, low rates of poverty, and sophisticated infrastructure are characteristics of developed nations. Better health, education, and living standards are reflected in their frequently high Human Development Index (HDI) scores. Developing nations, on the other hand, typically have lower income levels, a greater reliance on agriculture, higher rates of poverty, and inadequate infrastructure. Generally speaking, industrialized countries have better governance, political stability, and human rights protection. These standards are used by a number of institutions, including the United Nations and the World Bank, to categorize nations and evaluate their level of development. India is under the category of developing nations. Even while it has achieved great strides in a number of areas, including infrastructure development, economic growth, and technological improvement, it still faces issues common to developing countries, such as poverty, inequality, and access to high-quality healthcare and education.

India's goal of "Viksit Bharat" (Developed India) is an ambitious road map for the country's future as it approaches its centennial of independence in 2047. This vision includes sustainable development, social justice, technical innovation, and overall economic prosperity. A $30 trillion economy with a per capita income of $18,000–$20,000, sound state finances, and a thriving financial sector are the goals of the 2047 vision. Building top-notch infrastructure, advancing the digital economy, creating global champions, achieving defense and space independence, encouraging green growth, empowering young people, and collaborating with international R&D institutions are all part of it. The NITI Aayog, India's top policy think tank, launched the Vision India@2047 project to draft a development roadmap for the country over twenty-three years from now.

The potential of sliding into the Middle Income Trap is one of the major issues facing India's economy. This situation arises when a middle-income nation finds it difficult to rise to the status of a high-income nation, frequently as a result of rising expenses and declining competitiveness. The demographic transition that is anticipated as India's population reaches a peak of 1.64 billion people by 2048 adds to this complexity by raising healthcare costs, requiring pension payments, and possibly creating a labor shortage. India has to maintain a strong GDP growth rate of 7% for the next ten years in order to achieve its goals. Furthermore, one important aspect affecting India's economic performance is the rupee-dollar exchange rate. The country also faces geopolitical challenges, such as growing hostilities with its

neighbors and changing ties with superpowers. In order to promote growth and guarantee economic resilience, it is imperative that both the manufacturing and agricultural sectors increase productivity and competitiveness.

Importance of Cost Management in Transforming a Developing Nation into a Developed Nation
Cost management plays a pivotal role in the transformation of developing nations into developed ones by ensuring efficient resource utilization, promoting economic stability, and fostering sustainable growth. Here are key reasons highlighting its importance:

Promoting Accountability and Transparency Putting in place strong cost management systems improves government spending accountability. Stakeholders can learn more about how public funds are allocated by keeping track of costs and results, which promotes civic involvement and trust.

Encouraging Financial Stability The economy is better equipped to withstand shocks like natural disasters or economic downturns when costs are managed effectively. India can improve its resilience and recovery capacities by concentrating on effective resource management and spending.

Promoting Innovative Methods An atmosphere that is favorable to innovation is produced via cost management. India can propel technical developments that boost productivity in a variety of industries by making judicious investments in R&D.

Supporting Initiatives for Social Equity Inequalities can be lessened by allocating resources to underserved communities through effective cost management. A more inclusive society is a result of focused efforts in social welfare, healthcare, and education.

Encouragement of Entrepreneurial Development An atmosphere that is conducive to entrepreneurship is produced by a significant emphasis on cost control. Simplified procedures and reduced compliance expenses contribute to lowering obstacles for new and small enterprises, which promotes economic growth and job development.

Optimizing Resource Allocation The strategic allocation of resources is made easier by cost management, which guarantees that money is allocated to initiatives and projects with a significant impact. India can make the most of its limited resources by giving priority to projects with the highest returns.

Driving Sustainable Economic Growth By supporting methods that reduce waste and maximize resource utilization, effective cost management encourages sustainability. This is crucial for preserving environmental harmony and fostering economic expansion, especially in the fields of infrastructure, energy, and agriculture.

Role of cost management in multi-dimensional growth approach for Viksit Bharat@2047
To realize the vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047, India must adopt a multi-dimensional growth approach that encompasses various critical areas. This comprehensive strategy aims to elevate the nation to a developed status while ensuring sustainable and inclusive progress. Here are the key components of this approach:

1. Higher Per Capita Income
India is ranked at 141 among 192 nations in terms of GDP per capita in 2024 by IMF with GDP per capita of only $2698. Improving the level of living requires raising the per capita income. Economic policies that encourage innovation, entrepreneurship, and the development of jobs in a variety of industries can help achieve this.
Strategic investment in entrepreneurship programs is made possible by cost management, which guarantees that money is directed toward high-impact projects that promote economic expansion and job creation. ROI is increased by using efficient budgeting techniques.

2. Eradicating Hunger
Presently India is at 105th place out of 127 countries in global hunger index with a score of 27.3 considered to be serious. Eradicating hunger is vital for "Viksit Bharat" by 2047 as it directly impacts human development, ensuring better health and productivity, which leads to a more capable workforce. Addressing hunger enhances economic growth by improving workforce efficiency and lowering healthcare costs, contributing to economic stability. It also fosters social stability by promoting food security and preventing unrest.

To eradicate hunger, effective cost management is essential. It optimizes food security programs to maximize outreach and minimize waste, while investing in sustainable agriculture ensures a stable food supply and boosts rural livelihoods. Streamlined logistics further enhance distribution efficiency, reducing food wastage and ensuring timely delivery to underserved areas. These strategies collectively create a strong foundation for addressing hunger in India.

3. Reducing Corruption

With a score of 39 on the Corruption Perception Index, India ranks 93rd out of 180 nations in 2023. A nation with a higher score is thought to be less corrupt. Somalia received the lowest score of 11, while Denmark received the highest score of 90. In order to ensure that resources are spent effectively and to increase public faith in governance, corruption must be addressed. Strengthening accountability systems and increasing process openness are essential at all governmental levels. We can build a system that better meets the needs of citizens and advances the growth of the country as a whole by encouraging honesty and moral behavior.

By putting in place strong cost management systems, public spending becomes more transparent and traceable, reducing the danger of corruption and guaranteeing that allotted funds are used efficiently.

4. Promoting Gender Equality

Reproductive health, empowerment, and the labor market are the three components that make up the Gender disparity Index, a composite measure of gender disparity. The range of GII values is 0 for equality and 1 for extreme inequality. Having a score of 0.437, India is ranked 108th out of 193 nations in GII. Encouraging inclusion and gender equality is crucial for economic expansion. In order to enable women to actively participate in the workforce, policies should prioritize establishing equal opportunities for them.

By guaranteeing that financial resources result in quantifiable outcomes in gender equity, strategic cost management makes it possible to establish and fund programs targeted at increasing the workforce participation of underrepresented groups.

5. Improved ranking in Human Development Index

The report released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) indicates that the Human Development Index (HDI) is a composite measure that evaluates average achievements in human development based on three indicators: life expectancy, education, and gross national income (GNI) per capita. In 2022, India attained an HDI score of 0.644, placing it at 134 out of 193 countries in the UN's 2023-24 report. This categorizes India under the "medium human development" category, highlighting the need for continued efforts to improve health, education, and economic well-being as part of the vision for "Viksit Bharat" by 2047.

Cost management can enhance India's ranking on the Human Development Index (HDI) by optimizing resource allocation in health, education, and social welfare, ensuring effective use of funds for maximum impact. By streamlining operations and investing in essential infrastructure, service delivery improves significantly. Robust monitoring and evaluation allow for data-driven adjustments, while sustainable practices address long-term challenges.

6. Environmental and Ecological Balance

The importance of environmental and ecological balance for "Viksit Bharat" (Developed India) by 2047 is crucial for sustainable development, ensuring that economic growth does not deplete natural resources for future generations. A balanced ecosystem is vital for biodiversity, stability, and essential services like pollination and climate regulation. Addressing environmental issues is also key to mitigating climate change and enhancing resilience. According to the 2024 Environmental Performance Index (EPI), which ranks 180 nations on various environmental criteria, India scored 27.6, placing it 176th, just ahead of four other countries, highlighting the urgent need for improvement in environmental health and sustainability.

In order to minimize ecological footprints and maximize long-term financial and environmental advantages, cost management techniques assist in identifying and prioritizing investments in sustainable practices and renewable energy.

7. Rational Adoption of Technology

It is important to logically pursue the integration of technologies like blockchain, AI, IoT, and DeFi, making sure that they improve efficiency and productivity while taking ethical considerations into account. India rose impressively from 81st place in 2015 to 40th place in the most recent Global Innovation Index 2023.One of the best tools for assessing the performance of an economy's innovation ecosystem is GII.

Justification for Investment: Innovations like artificial intelligence (AI) and the Internet of Things (IoT) are integrated in a way that maximizes operational efficiency while lowering implementation and maintenance costs thanks to careful cost analysis of technology adoption.

8. Simplified Regulations and Laws

A more business-friendly atmosphere will result from the reform and simplification of rules. An easily navigable legal framework lowers barriers to entry and promotes compliance. India was ranked 79th out of 142 countries with a overall score of 0.50 on the World Justice Project's 2023 Rule of Law Index.

Businesses bear less of the financial burden when regulatory frameworks are streamlined through cost management, which fosters an atmosphere that is more favorable to economic activity and innovation.

9. Reducing the Gap of Income and Wealth Inequality

Reducing income and wealth inequality is vital for achieving "Viksit Bharat" (Developed India) by 2047, as it promotes social stability, economic growth, and inclusive development. Addressing disparities can mitigate social unrest and boost consumer spending, while ensuring access to quality education and healthcare empowers marginalized communities. Targeted policies can help break the cycle of poverty and promote sustainable growth. According to the "World Inequality Report 2022," India faces significant inequality, with the top 10% controlling 57% of the nation’s total revenue, while the bottom 50% holds only 13%.

Cost management is essential in this context, as it helps identify high-impact investment areas and ensures that government funds effectively support underprivileged communities. By streamlining operations in public sectors and reducing administrative costs, resources can be redirected to social welfare initiatives. Additionally, effective cost management fosters partnerships with private entities, leveraging their expertise and funding to enhance the reach and impact of development programs.

10. Creating Better Logistic Infrastructure

The World Bank Group created the interactive benchmarking tool known as the LPI (Logistics Performance Index). It assists nations in determining the opportunities and difficulties they encounter when performing trade logistics as well as the steps they can take to enhance their performance. According to the World Bank's Logistics Performance Index Report 2023, India is ranked 38th out of 139 nations, up sixteen spots from 54th in 2014. Investing in transportation and logistics infrastructure will increase supply chain efficiency, lower costs, and improve connections. This is essential for promoting trade and economic activity.

Analyzing costs and benefits for infrastructure projects By using strict cost management procedures, investments in logistics infrastructure are guaranteed to be supported by thorough cost-benefit assessments, optimizing connectivity and economic efficiency.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the strategic prioritization of cost management across several sectors is closely related to the road towards "Viksit Bharat" by 2047. India can successfully address pressing issues like poverty, inequality, and infrastructure gaps by fostering an environment of accountability, encouraging innovation, and guaranteeing equitable resource distribution. Adopting a framework for holistic growth that incorporates social justice, technical innovation, and environmental practices will improve the lives of the country's citizens while simultaneously advancing its economy. Strong cost control will ultimately be a revolutionary factor that guides India toward a prosperous, inclusive, and resilient future for everybody.

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