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# WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT: A KEY TO ACHIEVING VIKSIT BHARAT 2047

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#### ABSTRACT

Women empowerment is an essential foundation for realizing the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047, which aims for a fully developed, equitable, and progressive India. This research paper investigates the vital contributions of women to national development, highlighting the necessity of achieving gender equality across various domains such as education, economic engagement, leadership, healthcare, and digital access. It assesses current policies, socio-economic obstacles, and the transformative effects of empowering women in diverse sectors. The paper illustrates how women's involvement in STEM fields, entrepreneurship, governance, and environmental sustainability can greatly enhance India's GDP, foster innovation, and promote social advancement. It emphasizes the critical need for policy reforms, legal structures, and grassroots initiatives to eradicate gender inequalities. Furthermore, the study examines how technology, financial inclusion, and education can serve as powerful enablers of women's empowerment, facilitating their complete integration into India's developmental framework. This research paper highlights a gender-equal India by 2047 will not only elevate women but also propel sustainable development, strengthen governance, and improve global competitiveness. Realizing this vision necessitates collaboration among multiple stakeholders, including government actions, corporate strategies, and community-led initiatives. Empowering women is not merely a social imperative; it is the key to unlocking India's full potential and ensuring a future that is inclusive, resilient, and prosperous. Key Words: Women empowerment, Viksit Bharat 2047, vision Development, Education Dimensions, Challenges

#### INTRODUCTION

The 2024 elections in India drew global attention to its changing politics. These elections align with Prime Minister Modi's 'Amrit Kaal' vision. This era aims to transform India into a developed nation. A \$30-trillion economy is at the heart of this plan. Modi's "Developed India," or Viksit Bharat, is a guide to economic

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progress. This vision seeks an inclusive economy that benefits all. The government works to create a businessfriendly space. Initiatives like Make in India promote growth and innovation. Digitization and local manufacturing are key to these goals. Modi wants to lift millions from poverty and boost India's economy. Better infrastructure is vital, with projects for roads and digital access. Initiatives like Smart Cities and Bharatmala show commitment to growth. Viksit Bharat prioritizes inclusive development and social welfare. Programs like Ayushman Bharat and Swachh Bharat Abhiyan offer important services. These efforts aim to empower communities and improve access. Environmental care is another focus. Projects like Jal Jeevan Mission promote clean energy. Viksit Bharat uses technology to improve governance and service delivery. Programs like Aadhaar streamline aid, ensuring direct help. Modi's vision stresses gender equality for national progress. India is progressing under Viksit Bharat, showing tech growth and cultural revival. Modi's plan seeks to unlock India's potential. He aims to drive growth and enhance India's global role.

Viksit Bharat promotes women's empowerment through representation and financial access. It seeks to improve their lives. The Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam reserves 33% of Lok Sabha and state assembly seats for women. This ensures quotas for SC and ST women, boosting women's leadership. Triple talaq is now illegal, increasing Muslim women's rights and safety. Financial inclusion efforts are also underway. Over 28 crore women now have Jan Dhan accounts. Most PM Mudra Yojana and Stand Up India beneficiaries are women. Programs like Jal Jeevan Mission and Swachh Bharat Mission help. Increased maternity benefits under PMMVY promote inclusion. These steps empower women across India.

Gender equality is keys to Viksit Bharat. It is more than just words; it is a basic idea. This idea supports the complete growth of India. Viksit Bharat wants India to grow in all ways: money, society, and culture. Gender equality is a must for this to happen. Women must have power, and gender bias must end. Only then can India reach its full potential.

#### **OBJECTIVE**

- 1. To Analyze the Role of Women's Empowerment in National Development
- 2. To Explore the Role of Education and Skill Development in Women's Empowerment
- 3. To Provide Recommendations for Achieving Gender Equality in Viksit Bharat 2047
- 4. To Examine Women's Role in Economic Growth and Workforce Participation
- 5. To Identify Challenges Hindering Women's Empowerment
- 6. To Assess Government Policies and Initiatives for Women's Empowerment

### METHODOLOGY

This study uses a qualitative method. It uses content analysis to study writings on women's empowerment. This empowerment helps achieve "Viksit Bharat 2047's" goals. The study looks at articles and government reports. It also reviews policy papers and global scores. This review finds what helps or hurts women's empowerment in India. The GYAN plan guides the analysis. This plan supports India's growth goals. The focus is on the 'Nari' pillar. 'Nari' stands for women's empowerment.

#### **REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

Salman Dokadia (2024): This study seeks to investigate the technical complexities associated with achieving a 5 trillion-dollar economy. It highlights the significance of advanced technologies in propelling India into a new phase of economic significance, crafting a narrative that transcends traditional economic limits. The paper intends to elucidate the complexities of India's economic ambitions, offering insights into the various dimensions that characterize its path toward global economic leadership.

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V. Darling Selvi (2018) This study investigates the complex notion of women's empowerment, addressing its various forms, significance, and particular emphasis on India. It reviews the historical context of women's empowerment within the nation, tracing its development in conjunction with the Indian Constitution and relevant legislation. The study analyzes a range of government policies and programs designed to promote women's empowerment, underscoring shifts in the roles of women in society. It outlines essential features of empowerment, initiatives specifically aimed at women in India, and evaluates their effectiveness.

Rajalaxmi V (2017) conducts a study aimed at examining the empowerment of women, along with the related issues and challenges, as well as the effects of the MGNREGA scheme in India during the period from 2005 to 2015. The findings indicate that the economic empowerment of women facilitated by the MGNREGA scheme promotes increased independence and boosts self-esteem. This scheme is recognized as a crucial driver in the empowerment of rural women, leading to notable improvements in their quality of life and economic conditions.

The article titled "Women's Economic Participation and Empowerment in India" by Uma Shankar Jha, published in the Indian Journal of Gender Studies in 2016, explores the various factors affecting women's economic involvement in India. It presents empirical data and analytical insights that are crucial for formulating strategies aimed at enhancing women's participation in the workforce.

#### **DIMENSIONS OF WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT**

#### Economic empowerment

1. Access to Employment: Equal employment access is vital for women. It includes equal chances in the workforce. Reducing the gender wage gap is also key. Maternity benefits must be provided as well.

2. Entrepreneurship and Financial Independence: Microfinance empowers women starting businesses. Selfhelp groups offer vital support. Financial literacy programs build essential skills. These initiatives help women entrepreneurs succeed.

3. Property Rights and Asset Ownership: Securing women's economic stability requires promoting ownership. Women should have land and property rights. Financial assets are also important. This ensures their long-term financial security.

4. Workplace Equality: Establish gender-sensitive policies. Ensure safe work environments for all staff. Enforce anti-harassment laws to protect employees. These actions foster a respectful and fair workplace.

#### Educational empowerment

1. Access to Quality Education: Girls must have the same chances for school and college. Education helps them succeed. It is important to give girls these chances. This promotes fairness in society.

2. STEM and Digital Literacy: It is vital to support women in STEM fields. Science, tech, engineering, and math jobs need more women. We must also close the digital divide. Everyone should have access to tech and internet.

3. Skill Development and Vocational Training: We deliver programs to boost job skills. Our training also enhances leadership abilities. We provide education for future business owners. These programs empower individuals to succeed. They gain skills for employment and beyond.

4. Eliminating Gender Stereotypes in Education: It is vital to inspire girls to explore varied career options. We must fight against bias in society. Girls should feel free to choose any job they want. Obstacles that stop them must be removed. This change can help them reach their full potential.

#### Social empowerment

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1. Health and Well-being: Healthcare access is essential. This includes maternal care and reproductive rights. Mental health support is also vital. These services promote individual and public well-being.

2. Eliminating Gender-Based Violence: Enhance laws to fight domestic violence, harassment, and trafficking. Also, launch campaigns to increase public knowledge. These actions aim to protect vulnerable people. They also strive to prevent these crimes from happening.

3. Women's Role in Society: It is important to fight against old ideas about male power. We must help women take part in making choices. This should happen in their families. It should also happen in their towns.

4. Media Representation: Media should show women in a positive light. Entertainment and ads must tackle gender bias.

#### Political empowerment

1. Representation in Governance: Policies that reserve spots for women can boost their roles in politics. Leadership training programs also help women engage in political life. These efforts promote women's involvement. They help women gain a stronger voice in government.

2. Women in Decision-Making Roles: More women must take part in making key decisions. This includes roles in policy creation and on corporate boards. Local leadership should also see more women involved. Increasing female participation leads to better outcomes.

3. Legal Rights and Advocacy: It is vital to reinforce women's legal rights. Laws should ensure equal inheritance for women. Protection against discrimination is also key. Women must have open access to justice systems.

4. Grassroots Leadership: Encourage women to take leadership roles. Support their involvement in local selfgovernment bodies. Strengthen women's presence in Panchayati Raj institutions.

#### Psychological and Personal Empowerment

1. Self-Confidence and Leadership Skills: It is vital to promote female leadership. Women should be empowered to make choices. These actions can help women grow. They also bring fresh views to leadership roles.

2. Awareness of Rights and Legal Protections: It is vital to teach women about their legal rights. They should know how to get legal help. Women must also understand ways to seek justice if their rights are violated.

3. Breaking Societal Stereotypes: We must question old ideas about gender. Everyone should have the same chance to succeed. This applies to every part of life.

4. Encouraging Women's Networks and Mentorship: Establishing robust support networks via mentorship initiatives, women's associations, and peer groups.

#### CHALLENGES TO WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Women empowerment in India presents a multifaceted challenge influenced by socio-cultural, economic, and political dimensions. It is crucial for attaining gender equality, yet several significant obstacles impede progress, including:

1. Discriminatory Social Norms: The historical context has resulted in persistent socio-cultural norms that discriminate against both men and women, particularly in rural areas. While men are often encouraged to be assertive, women are typically expected to be demure and reserved.

2. Role Stereotyping: A considerable portion of Indian society still adheres to the belief that women's roles should be confined to domestic responsibilities, with financial duties and external employment viewed as the domain of men.

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3. Low Literacy Rates: Traditional customs, such as dowry, contribute to the perception that educating girls is not economically viable for many families. Consequently, the literacy rate among women, especially in rural regions, remains alarmingly low.

4. Safety Concerns: Women in India frequently endure gender-based violence, including female feticide, domestic abuse, sexual assault, trafficking, forced prostitution, honor killings, and workplace harassment, often in silence.

5. Limited Employment Opportunities: Gender role stereotypes lead to biases and discrimination against women in the workforce. For instance, women may be perceived as less dependable employees due to their responsibilities related to child-rearing and household management.

6. Glass Ceiling: The existence of the "Glass Ceiling Effect" signifies that women, both in India and globally, encounter unspoken barriers that hinder their advancement to higher levels of professional achievement.

7. Economic Disparities: Limited job opportunities and restricted access to financial resources result in significant economic disparities between women and men in India, posing a substantial obstacle to women's independence.

8. Low Political Representation: The representation of women in various legislative bodies, including Parliament, remains insufficient, further limiting their influence in decision-making processes.

### SUGGESTED MEASURES FOR WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN INDIA

1. Evolving Social Perspectives: The ongoing nature of this issue, despite numerous legislative efforts, indicates that social challenges cannot be resolved solely through laws. A continuous initiative aimed at transforming societal attitudes is essential.

2. Enhanced Educational Access: There exists a significant correlation between education and the empowerment of women. Facilitating access to education serves as a powerful mechanism for empowering women, ultimately enhancing their status in India by fostering self-confidence that enables them to shape their own futures.

3. Guaranteeing Women's Safety: The effective enforcement of current laws through a robust judicial system and law enforcement agencies is crucial in mitigating the gender-based violence that women encounter.

4. Skill Development: Equipping women with skills that are relevant to the job market will facilitate their entry into the workforce.

5. Facilitating Access to Financial Resources: Providing access to financial resources, such as micro-financing, can empower women to engage in economic activities, thereby fostering their financial independence.

6. Encouraging Political Engagement: It is vital to promote women in leadership positions, allowing them to become key contributors to India's advancement and development, rather than merely beneficiaries of progress.

7. Leadership Training: Implementing leadership training programs for women will prepare them for influential roles in politics and civil society, significantly reducing gender inequality in India and enhancing the status of women.

Empowering women in India is not merely an objective in itself; it is essential for the overall development and prosperity of the nation. As India moves towards its vision of "Viksit Bharat @2047," it is imperative for the government, civil society, communities, and individuals to collaborate in creating an environment where every woman has the opportunity to succeed. The aforementioned measures can significantly contribute to this goal.

### **EXISTING GOVERNMENT SCHEMES FOR WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT**

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Women-led development will be pivotal in realizing the vision of Viksit Bharat by the year 2047. Mission Shakti, one of our key initiatives, serves as a holistic framework aimed at ensuring the safety, security, and empowerment of women.

Women's progress is keys to India's 2047 goals. Mission Shakti is our main program for women's safety and strength. One Stop Centres offer quick help to women in need. The Women Helpline is available all day, every day. Beti Bachao Beti Padhao is shifting views and helping girls. Nari Adalat offers local ways to solve problems. These steps create a safe place for women.

The government supports working women and mothers. The Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana gives ₹5,000 for a first child. It provides ₹6,000 for a second girl child. This ensures good care for mothers.Sakhi Niwas offers safe housing for working women. Palna gives good daycare, using Anganwadi places. These help women balance work and family.

Community help is very important. Poshan 2.0 has made nutrition a people's cause. States hold events during Poshan Maah. Anganwadi workers teach about good food. This helps change habits and improves diets. Nari Adalat lets women solve issues locally. These efforts make sure programs reach everyone and make a difference. The government knows women's well-being is vital. Strong rules and new programs build a healthier, safer India. Success depends on everyone working together.

#### VISION FOR WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT IN VIKSIT BHARAT 2047

India's aspiration for Viksit Bharat 2047 envisions the establishment of an inclusive, progressive, and developed nation by the centenary of its independence. Central to this vision is the empowerment of women, which guarantees equal access to education, employment, healthcare, and leadership roles. The realization of a truly developed India is contingent upon achieving gender equality and fostering the active involvement of women across all sectors of society.

1. Economic Empowerment and Equal Workforce Participation

By the year 2047, it is imperative for India to close the gender employment gap by ensuring equitable remuneration, safe working conditions, and enhanced representation of women in corporate leadership, entrepreneurship, and the informal economy. Promoting women-led enterprises, expanding financial inclusion through microfinance and digital banking, and reinforcing self-help groups (SHGs) will be pivotal in advancing economic independence.

2. Education and Skill Development for Future Readiness

To cultivate a knowledge-driven economy, it is essential that women have equal access to high-quality education, especially in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). Initiatives in digital literacy, vocational training, and upskilling will equip women for emerging industries and the global job market. Policies should aim to dismantle gender stereotypes in education and foster lifelong learning opportunities.

3. Women in Governance and Leadership

A Viksit Bharat necessitates robust female representation in political and administrative leadership roles. Enhancing women's participation in Parliament, state legislatures, Panchayati Raj institutions, and corporate governance will facilitate gender-sensitive policymaking and inclusive governance. It is vital to promote leadership training and mentorship programs to cultivate the next generation of women leaders.

4. Social and Legal Reforms for Gender Equality

By the year 2047, India aims to establish a society devoid of gender-based discrimination, violence, and stereotypes. Enhancing legislation concerning domestic violence, workplace harassment, equal property rights, and maternity benefits will afford women both legal and social protection. The implementation of awareness

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campaigns alongside more rigorous law enforcement will be essential in safeguarding the safety and dignity of women.

5. Health, Well-being, and Reproductive Rights

A progressive India must place a high priority on women's healthcare, encompassing maternal health, reproductive rights, menstrual hygiene, and mental health services. Ensuring universal access to healthcare, along with gender-sensitive policies and awareness initiatives, will empower women to lead healthier lives and make meaningful contributions to society.

6. Bridging the Digital and Technological Divide

Empowering women through technology is vital for India's advancement. Increasing internet accessibility, promoting women's involvement in technology-driven sectors, and fostering digital financial inclusion will guarantee women's active engagement in the digital economy. Initiatives focused on artificial intelligence (AI), coding, and cyber security will equip women for future employment opportunities.

7. Contribution of Women to Sustainable Development and Climate Initiatives

Women should be at the forefront of India's sustainability objectives. Promoting women's involvement in environmental protection, green business initiatives, and rural development is essential for achieving sustainable and inclusive progress. It is imperative that policies are designed to empower women in sectors such as agriculture, renewable energy, and environmentally sustainable enterprises.

8. Aspiration for a Gender-Equitable Society

By the year 2047, India should evolve into a nation where women possess full control over their lives, careers, and decisions. Transforming societal attitudes, enhancing media portrayals, and reshaping cultural views will be crucial in establishing gender equality in every facet of life.

#### CONCLUSION

In conclusion, Women's empowerment is vital for India to become a developed nation by 2047. A developed India ensures women have equal chances and financial security. They also need access to education, health care, and personal safety. Empowering women strengthens the economy and improves society. It also leads to better government and speeds up India's growth. India must include women in politics, business, science, and tech. This will help India reach its full potential. Education, skills, and fair laws will help women and improve families. This promotes progress for all. To achieve Viksit Bharat 2047, women's empowerment must be part of India's core values. Investment in education, business, leadership, and safety will boost the country. India can then lead the world in equality and growth. A gender-equal India is needed for a truly advanced Bharat. To reach this vision by 2047, the government, business, and people must work together. When women lead and succeed, Viksit Bharat will be achieved. This means a fair, rich, and developed India for everyone.

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