

Role of Advancing Sustainable Development Goals and Viksit Bharat@ 2047: Review of Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand

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ABSTRACT

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) contains a group of 17 global goals adopted by United Nations member states in 2015 as a subset of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. These goals are framed to address global challenges like climate change, environmental degradation, poverty, inequality, peace and justice. The SDGs play a crucial role in Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh, helping the states align their local development priorities with global goals. As per the SDGs 2023-2024 report, released by NITI Aayog, Uttarakhand has topped in the country for SDGs, having risen from 9th place in 2019.

Uttarakhand scored 79 out of 100 in the SDG India Index 2023-24, sharing the top spot with Kerala. The state's scores, ranging from 72 to 85 in different areas, show its dedication to sustainable development. This success is due to good governance, targeted actions in various sectors, and involving local communities in planning.

Uttar Pradesh, often referred to as the "Heartland of India" is accommodating more than 220 million people, named it a most populous state in the world. This state, with its rich history and diverse population, has shown the world what can be achieved through dedicated efforts towards the SDG 2030. Uttar Pradesh scored 67 out of 100, which improved its overall position to finish at 11th position in NITI Aayog SDGs India Index 2023-2024, has been ranked as a 'front runner' in six goals, making it a fastest moving state from 2018.

Key words: Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Environmental degradation, Viksit Bharat, Green Development.

Introduction:

Uttar Pradesh was established in 1950 after India had become a republic. On 9 November 2000, a new state, Uttaranchal (now Uttarakhand), was created from Uttar Pradesh's western Himalayan hill region. Since Uttar Pradesh is itself a very big state in terms of population and landscape and all

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- **Infrastructure Development:** Expressways (e.g., Purvanchal, Bundelkhand, Ganga), new airports, and smart cities are transforming UP into a logistics and trade hub.
- **Religious & Cultural Tourism:** Cities like Varanasi, Ayodhya, Prayagraj, and Mathura are boosting tourism and employment. For example- **Maha Kumbh@ 2025**

Role of Uttarakhand in Viksit Bharat:

- **Hydropower & Energy Security:** With abundant rivers, Uttarakhand is a major contributor to India's hydropower generation.
- **Tourism & Spiritual Hub:** The Char Dham Yatra, adventure tourism, and eco-tourism are key economic drivers.
- **Organic Farming & Herbal Industry:** Uttarakhand is promoting organic farming and herbal medicine under Aroma Mission and AYUSH initiatives.
- **Defence & Strategic Importance:** Being a Himalayan state, Uttarakhand is crucial for national security with military bases and border security concerns.

Conclusion:

It can be concluded the both states must integrate green technology, eco- friendly urban planning, and community- led conservation efforts to achieve long- term sustainability. Uttar Pradesh with high population density, industrial pollution, and rapid urbanization require better environmental regulations and sustainable infrastructure. Whereas Uttarakhand is exposed to climate change-induced disasters and unplanned tourism demand stronger environmental policies and sustainable tourism strategies. Government initiatives, private sector investments, and public participation will be key to driving sustainable development in both the states.

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Arthashastra to Atmanirbharta: Reimagining Indian Commerce and Trade through the Lens of the Indian Knowledge System (IKS)

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ABSTRACT

"Centuries of accumulated wisdom, known as the Indian Knowledge System (IKS), provide a comprehensive framework for understanding diverse fields, including the economic dimensions of commerce and trade. This study examines the multifaceted nature of IKS, specifically focusing on its enduring relevance to contemporary Indian commercial activities. By meticulously analyzing historical texts such as the Arthashastra, Manusmriti, and other relevant scriptures, this research aims to systematically extract the inherent economic principles embedded within IKS. This involves a detailed exploration of the philosophical and practical underpinnings of trade as articulated in these texts, investigating concepts like Dharma, Nyaya, and Niti to understand their influence on ethical commercial conduct. Furthermore, the study analyzes the historical impact of Varnashrama Dharma on economic roles and trade networks, and scrutinizes ancient notions of taxation, resource allocation, and governmental regulation. Subsequently, this investigation evaluates the practical application of IKS in current economic contexts, assessing its potential to address pressing issues such as sustainable development, inclusive economic growth, and responsible consumption. It investigates how traditional knowledge can be integrated into modern business structures, supply networks, and financial systems, and analyzes its contribution to strengthening rural economies and artisanal sectors. The research further delves into the potential of IKS to foster Atmanirbharta (self-reliance), examining its guidance in the development of domestic technologies and market strategies, the promotion of local resource utilization, and the creation of a robust economic infrastructure. Practical applications are illustrated through case studies of contemporary Indian enterprises that have effectively incorporated IKS principles, and by analyzing its potential in sustainable agricultural practices, traditional crafts, and ethically grounded financial practices. Finally, this analysis addresses the obstacles associated with integrating IKS into mainstream economic discussions, proposes a structural framework for its inclusion in educational curricula and policy formation, and explores the development of contemporary economic models inspired by the principles of IKS."

Keywords: Indian Knowledge System (IKS), Arthashastra, Atmanirbharta, Sustainable Development, Indigenous Knowledge

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