



# UNLOCKING WOMEN'S POTENTIAL: GENDER EQUITY AS THE ENGINE OF SDGS, VIKSIT BHARAT 2047 FOR FEMPRENEURS

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## ABSTRACT

*Viksit Bharat 2047 vision focuses on making India a developed, inclusive, and sustainable country by its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of independence. This paper offers a multidimensional and sequential model of incorporating the major pillars of development including human rights, empowerment of women, social development and skill improvement with special emphasis on fempreneurs as the economic growth agents. Gender Equity as underlined in SDG 5- Gender Equality, is a main pillar towards sustainable development since they will be able to enjoy equal rights, opportunities and access to resources as women (Jameel, 2025). It is an important move beyond development to women to development with women where women are seen as the agents of development both economic and social. The availability of good education under SDG 4 Quality Education reinforces this process by empowering women with knowledge, skills and decision-making power, which results in better family and societal performance. This is then illustrated by economic empowerment which is in line with SDG 8 (Decent work and Economic Growth) in which financial independence via fempreneurship, innovation and financial literacy increase the contribution of women to national productivity. As a result, SDG 3 Good Health and Well-being is improved in terms of maternal and child health, which enhances human capital. With the empowerment, women are now actively involved in decision making process, which also consists of reduced inequalities according to SDG 10 Reduced Inequalities. Nevertheless, the key to the development of their full potential lies in reducing social barriers like discrimination and gender-based violence. In this regard, gender equity is relevant in providing inclusive business environments to fempreneurs to ensure sustainable development and social equity. Its effect goes beyond generations, with empowered females investing in education, food, and health of children, so that the development of society is guaranteed in the long term. In summary, gender equity on these SDGs should be enhanced to achieve the Viksit Bharat 2047 vision and create an inclusive, sustainable and resilient country.*

**KEYWORDS:** Gender-Equity, Financial Literacy, SDGs, Sustainable and Viksit Bharat 2047.

## INTRODUCTION

The Viksit Bharat 2047 vision is becoming increasingly important, as India is nearing the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its Independence. This is a wide-ranging national vision which is to uplift India to be developed, inclusive and sustainable economy through innovation, equity and social development. At the core of this vision is an appreciation of the fact that it is not possible to have real development without realizing the full potential of women. Being female, empowerment is not only a type of social goal, but a strategic necessity of national development (Aslam, 2024). Viksit Bharat is anchored on four main pillars by the name Garib, Yuva, Annadata and Nari, which have been packaged as the GYAN Framework. Simultaneously, Gender equity has become a key facilitator in goal attainment of the Sustainable Developmental Goals particularly, SDGs 3,4,5,8. These differences need to be brought down to create a resilient and inclusive economy that is in tandem with Viksit Bharat dreams (Agarwal et al., 2024). Fempreneurs in this case are an unprecedented change in India socio-economic situation. Enterprises that are run by women do not only fail to create employment and innovative processes but are also important in the development and transformation of communities. Nevertheless, some obstacles to their full potential remain, including lack of access to finance, social conventions, and social constraints of work-life balance (Singh & Kumar, 2025).

Moreover, the gender equity alignment with the national development policies and international frameworks such as SDGs supports the significance of inclusive growth. The Viksit Bharat 2047 is highly interwoven with the pathway, proficiency development, and cooperation facilitating institutional structures (Chavan, 2024). By unleashing the potential of women, India will speed up its sustainable development, and at the same time, make sure sustainable growth is achieved by all quarters in the society. Thus, the paper examines the role that gender equity plays as an effective driver to the implementation of the SDGs and the implementation of the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047, and especially the role of fempreneurs. It aims to put on the limelight the opportunities, challenges and strategic interventions needed to empower as a key player to the developmental journey of India (Archana Sharma,

2025). Viksit Bharat has a core role which is played by the National Institution of Transforming India (NITI Aayog) which is the highest-level public policy thinks tank of the Government of India. NITI Aayog has played a significant role in the development of the guiding document, which is the Vision for Viksit Bharat @ 2047: An approach Paper, that develops the strategic direction of becoming a developed nation. The project focuses on a participatory pattern with the state governments and a culture of Team India to be taken to achieve a coordinated action to the shared vision.

### Conceptual Framework

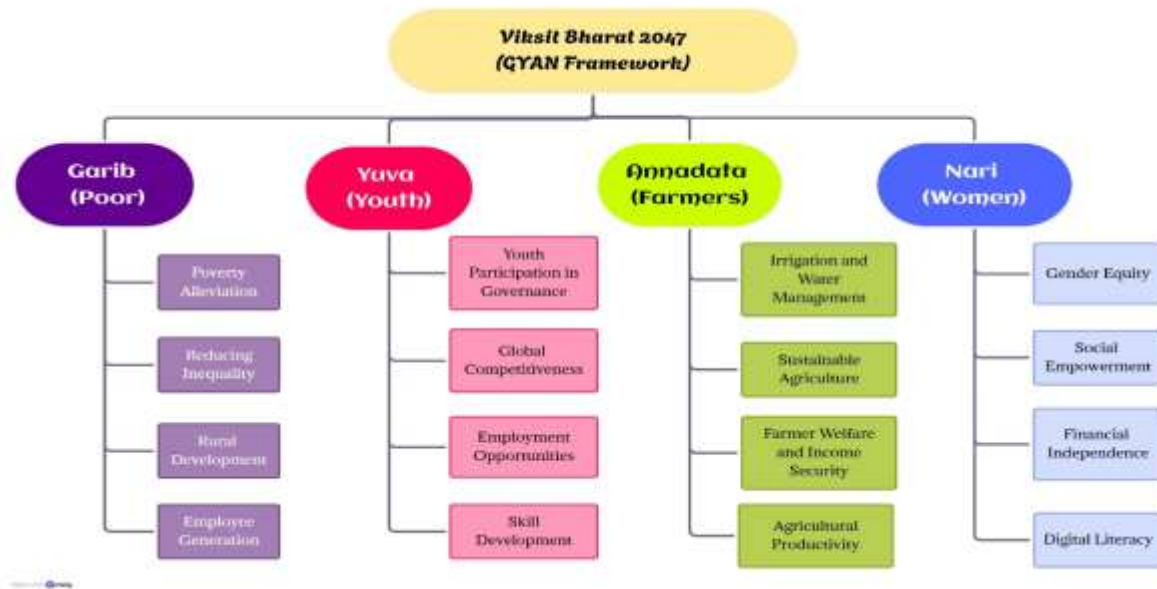


**Figure 1 Gyan Framework, Viksit Bharat 2047**

### OBJECTIVES

- ✓ To study the achievement of vision Viksit Bharat 2047 in the light of gender equity.
- ✓ To examine how gender equality can contribute to the progress of the major SDGs 3,4,5 and 8.
- ✓ To establish the key issues associated with fempreneurs such as financial, social and institutional challenges.

### SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The present study focuses on the importance of gender equity towards the realization of the Viksit Bharat 2047 vision on the role of empowering women on the inclusive and sustainable national development. It discusses the connection between gender quality and the most important SDGs 3,4,5 and 8 that include such spheres as health, education, gender equality, and decent work. The paper also examines the position of women in the GYAN (Garib, Yuva, Annadata and Nari) from a perspective of women as a primary axis of India development agenda. Moreover, it assesses the escalating role of fempreneurs in economic growth, innovations, creation of employees and social change. This paper defines some of the key challenges that fempreneurs will face such as inaccessibility to finance, socio-cultural barriers and insufficiency in institutional support. It demonstrates the existing reviews of the policies and initiatives that facilitate gender equality, financial inclusion and fempreneurship. Lastly, the paper suggests strategic solutions and policy recommendations that can be used to enhance the presence of women in the field of entrepreneurship and enable the nation to realize Viksit Bharat 2047 and SDGs.

### REVIEW OF LITERATURE

**Riya Agarwal, 2024** examines the SDG-5 gender inequality in India in terms of such indicators as maternal mortality, adolescent fertility, female literacy, parliamentary representation and the rate of labor force participation. The methodology will involve quantitative analysis of census and government reports, time forecasts of good life health up to 2035 and regressions disclosing powerful literacy health associations of reproductive health. The report on findings has optimistic changes, but it also notes the disparities; some suggestions focus on teaching and enablement, and the conclusions dwell on the multi-pronged approaches to the equity.

**Preeti Oza, 2024** on Viksit Bharat beyond HDI/GDI which includes health, education, equality, sustainability. Literature review of concepts of inclusive green growth, financial inclusion. Results highlight SDI to measure equity, Recommendations put education/health access, social mobility, infrastructure, and Conclusions back to define progress as holistic and inclusive growth.

**Faugoo, 2024** focused on discussing the role of women in leadership and its importance to enhance sustainable development outcomes and gender equality. The research took a qualitative design with secondary data, empirical research and case studies as



the means of analysing the correlation between female leadership and sustainable development. The findings point to the fact that the role of women leaders in economic development, innovation and social welfare is important, yet women remain to overcome such obstacles as gender stereotypes, lack of opportunities and underrepresentation in leading posts. The paper highlights that in order to fulfill the gender equity and sustainable development objectives, it is necessary to empower women with inclusive policies, leadership opportunities and institutional support. It concludes that women need to be more actively involved in the process of leadership to improve the socio-economic development and have a more inclusive and sustainable future.

**Pal, 2024** examined the importance of the institutions of higher learning in enhancing Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and national development. The research adopted a conceptual and descriptive approach that was guided by the secondary data, policy documents and world development models regarding SDGs and education. The results suggest that higher education institution is very important in creation of knowledge, innovation and community involvement leading to sustain development. The paper also emphasizes the fact that the inclusion of SDGs into the academic programs, research and community practices could play a big role in raising awareness and encouraging the practical use of the sustainability principles. It concludes that academic institutions and universities can significantly deliver on SDGs through skill-building of human resources, research and enhanced collaboration between the academia and the society.

**Rizvi et al., 2024** analyzed how digital literacy and women empowerment are related in realizing Sustainable Development Goals. The paper set out to examine how digital skills and gender gap in technology can be minimized and women improve their socio-economic participation. An in-depth interview as a qualitative research methodology was used, with case studies and thematic analysis of a group of women with various socio-economic statuses, policymakers, and NGOs and private organisations representatives. The results showed that digital literacy has a strong positive impact on the economic opportunities of women, their access to education, health awareness and political engagement, thus also affecting a number of SDGs such as poverty eradication, access to quality education, gender equality and decent work. Nevertheless, the socio-cultural obstacle, financial restrictions and insufficient technological networks still restrict access of women to digital technologies. The research finds the conclusion of enhancing digital technologies. The paper concludes that enhancing digital literacy initiatives, inclusive policies and joint programs among governments, NGOs and the private sector could be critical toward women empowerment and harnessing sustainable development.

**Yoganandham et al., 2024** measures how financial inclusion affects the women empowerment in Northwestern India. The main purpose of the research was to examine the role of the access of financial services, financial literacy and microfinance programs in the economic independence and social empowerment of women. In the study, the conceptual and secondary databased approach was adopted to investigate the correlation between women empowerment and financial inclusion with the use of journal, books, reports and empirical data. The observations indicate that the women are confronted with a number of obstacles to accessing financial services such as, social cultural norms, inadequacy in financial awareness and institutional support. Nevertheless, programs like microfinance, digital banking services and financial literacy education can greatly increase the inclusion level of women in economic endeavors. This research concludes that empowerment of economically through a stronger financial inclusion policy and greater access to formal banking systems can lead to inclusive socio-economic development.

**Dharmalingam & Upadhyay, 2025** it stressed on holistic development of the individual (body, mind, intellect, soul) in relation to the society, nature and other moral principles such as, Antyadaya, Swadeshi and Dharma. It uses the conceptual analysis, case studies of such initiatives (Digital India, Skill India, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Mission LiFE), mapping of UN SDGs, and critiquing western materialism, and matching the indigenous principle with the contemporary policy. Results show that there are powerful convergences. As an example: Antyodaya with SDG 1/10 (poverty/inequality), Swadeshi with Atmanirbhar Bharat demonstrating the Integral Humanism increases self-reliance, rural renewal and ecological balance above GDP indicators. Recommendations are the policy incorporation of aspects of ethics, reforms in civic education, decentralized governance and institutional think tanks of implementation and Conclusion suggest that this is a distinctive Indian model that can provide global leadership in ethical inclusive development by 2047.

**Priya & Raj, 2025** measured the ITI-MSME connections, gender models and apprenticeships, analyze the skill ecosystem of Viksit Bharat 2047 in India. Mixed methods involve surveys (200 ITIs, 1000 trainees) and cases such as Project Aadika. Results indicate 35 percent increase in earnings of pilots in Gujarat and 25 percent in female STEM enrolments in Kerala. The suggestions include decentralization, AR/VR inclusion and 50% women ITI goals and Conclusions promote inclusive AI-based reforms.

**Nayak & Nayak, 2025** have reviewed the role of empowered women in Viksit Bharat under life-course approach (Childhood to geriatric) and GYAN Framework, which is connected to maternal/child health. The narrative review is based on the NFHS-5, WHO data. The results indicate the influence of educations on mortality (5-10% fall in child mortality per maternal year) and MMR to 93/100,000. Prominently, recommendations combine life-course interventions, tech, male engagement and Conclusions make empowerment an intergenerational investment towards development.

**Mishra et al., 2026** used a systematic review to investigate the connection between digital literacy, financial literacy and women empowerment as far as sustainable development is concerned. The aim of the research was to examine the available literature on



the relationship between literacy in financial and digital spheres and their impacts on economic decision making and business opportunities among women. The methodology used in the research was the systematic literature review, which first identified 1045 articles and then a final sample of 85 articles was analysed on the basis of their thematic classification and focus of the research. The results show that digital literacy has a beneficial effect on the access of women to information, social networks and entrepreneurship opportunities, whereas financial literacy has a beneficial effect on the economic independence and making financial choices. Other key impediments based on the study include the absence of education, limited infrastructure, and access to online facilities. The study comes up with the conclusion that women empowerment through integrated literacy programs that embrace both digital and financial literacy are necessary to achieve reduced poverty and sustainable development objectives through inclusive national development policy.

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The present study is supported by the literature review of the available literature to examine the role of gender equity in the fulfillment of the vision Viksit Bharat 2047 and development of SDGs 3,4,5 and 8. The research relies on secondary sources of data, such as research papers, state reports, and policy papers, publications of organisations: NITI Aayog, The United Nations, The World Bank. The relevant literature on women empowerment, gender equality and fempreneurship was gathered through scholarly databases such as Google Scholar and Scopus- Hosted Journals. The gathered research was critically examined and assessed to grasp critical themes, issues and prospects of women-led development and sustainable growth.

## FINDINGS

Fempreneurship contributes to growth in the SDGs 3 (health), 4 (education), 5 (gender equality), 8 (decent work), and 10 (reduced inequalities) not as development of women but with women as key economic participants. The review of literature indicates close connections, including education improves maternal/child health outcomes, financial/digital literacy increases entrepreneurial opportunities. Policy gains are still faced by certain barriers such as access to finance, socio-cultural norms and infrastructure gaps. The contribution of fempreneurs in Viksit Bharat GYAN framework (Garib, Yuva, Annadata, Nari) is the innovation, job creation and inter-generational gains through empowered women making investments towards family welfare.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Give preference to integrated literacy initiatives (financial/digital) and skill systems like example 50% female ITI goals and policy change to access finance, work life balance support and anti-discrimination policies. Use GYAN pillars such as Skill India, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao and integrated ecosystems, encourage males, technology integration (AR/VR) and decentralized governance to implement ethically and on values. NITI Aayog is advised to promote Team India cooperation with the states, NGOs and private sectors to expand the piliferous fempreneurship and track the SDGs alignment.

## CONCLUSIONS

The development of female potential through gender equity is critical to Viksit Bharat 2047 and makes fempreneurs the facilitators of sustainable development even without GDP indicators. The hierarchical empowerment training to entrepreneurship to societal contribution guarantees the strength of human resources, decreased disparities and leadership in global morality, harmonizing indigenous models such as Integral Humanism with SDGs.

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