

## Focus on the Role of Local Traditions and Indigenous Knowledge Systems in Achieving the Viksit Bharat Vision

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**Abstract:** *The vision of Viksit Bharat aims to renovate India into an industrialized, broad, and defensible nation by 2047. Achieving this vision involves not only industrial advancement and commercial growth but also the effective combination of local traditions and indigenous knowledge systems that have progressed over centuries within various communities across India. These knowledge systems encompass traditional performs in agriculture, healthcare, environmental organization, crafts, and community governance, reflecting deep environmental understanding and cultural knowledge. Traditional health systems such as Ayurveda and herbal medicine contribute to precautionary healthcare and full well-being. In addition, traditional crafts and cultural performs support local economies, maintenances, and social unity, establishment community sharing in development. local traditions and indigenous knowledge systems act as a powerful catalyst for justifiable and broad development, empowering India to balance innovation with cultural tradition. Recognizing and documenting local traditions, encouraging community participation, and promoting research on indigenous practices are essential for connecting this knowledge for national development. Descriptive survey research design was used for this study. The study mainly focuses on Cultural values and ethics in Indian society, social cohesion and community participation, their contribution to reaching the vision of Viksit Bharat.*

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**Keywords:** *Industrialized-Commercial, Defensible-Sustainable, Precautionary-Protective, Catalyst-Encouragement, Reaching-Achieving, Broad-Comprehensive.*

**Introduction:** India has a rich civilizational heritage rooted in diverse cultural traditions and indigenous systems of knowledge. As India moves toward the vision of *Viksit Bharat 2047*, development is increasingly understood not only in economic terms but also through sustainability, inclusion, social justice, and cultural preservation.

Indigenous knowledge systems represent locally evolved wisdom accumulated through generations. These systems guide agriculture, health, education, conflict resolution, environmental conservation, and social organization. In many rural and tribal communities, these knowledge systems continue to influence daily life and livelihood.

The Viksit Bharat vision seeks self-reliance, innovation, social harmony, and environmental sustainability. Local traditions and indigenous knowledge contribute significantly to these goals by offering context-

specific, low-cost, sustainable solutions. Therefore, integrating traditional wisdom with modern development frameworks is crucial for achieving national progress.

**Significance of the Study:** The significance of the study on the Indian Traditional Knowledge System (ITKS) in Viksit Bharat is immense. This study strongly reinforces the potential of ITKS as a contributor to sustainable development, health, and cultural preservation. The research conducted to examine the contributions of ITKS to sustainable agriculture, reducing public health issues, and preserving cultural heritage provides insight into the necessity to preserve and comprehend indigenous traditional knowledge systems. The findings of this study can also serve as a useful reality check for public health plans and broader social planning or policymaking. The submissions may also stimulate more innovation and entrepreneurship, an area strongly endorsed in public health and Indian prosperity. The findings of this study can sustain cultural diversity and mutual cultural understanding in society. Finally, if this study amplifies the relevance of ITKS in general, then there exists the possibility of preserving aspects of India's cultural heritage, as well as reducing unsustainable development pressures, while also contributing to broadly shared social development. The first way to ensure that ITKS contributes systematically to the preservation and acknowledgment of ITKS is to acknowledge the contributions of ITKS as possible contributors towards a kind of inclusive sustainable development that appreciates and utilizes traditional knowledge systems and practices as a viable way of knowing or doing development interventions. In conclusion, the contribution of the study on ITKS ultimately lies in the potential advantages of sustainable development initiatives, cultural preservation and responding to what are likely to be significant unresolved questions about the future developments of India, making the study and the study significant and ultimately relevant to academic studies related to sustainable development, social diversity, cultural diversity, and importantly cultural preservation.

**Statement of the Problem:** Modern development models often prioritize industrial and technological solutions while overlooking traditional knowledge and community-based practices. This has led to erosion of indigenous systems despite their relevance for sustainable development. There is a need to examine how local traditions and indigenous knowledge can contribute to realizing the Viksit Bharat vision.

**Objectives of the Study:** The study aims:

1. To examine the role of local traditions in achieving Viksit Bharat.
2. To study the contribution of indigenous knowledge systems to sustainable development.
3. To analyse the role of cultural values and ethics in national development.
4. To explore the importance of social cohesion and community participation.
5. To suggest measures for integrating indigenous knowledge into development policies.

### **Research Questions**

1. How do local traditions contribute to the Viksit Bharat vision?
2. What role do indigenous knowledge systems play in sustainable development?
3. How do cultural values promote inclusive national growth?
4. How can traditional knowledge be integrated into modern development planning?

## Review of Literature:

**Emadi (1998)** the context of indigenous knowledge is the local environment, in all its cultural, social, economic and physical aspects. To meet demands of the ever-changing nature of local conditions, people have had to be creative and resourceful.

**Gupta (2000)**, local knowledge has a tremendous potential for restoring the economic and ecological balance.

**Parvathi et al. (2000)** recorded that indigenous knowledge in post-harvest operations is highly valued, since in many cases the new tools and techniques are not available or are beyond the means of farmers.

**Chelala (2002)** observed that women are traditional protectors of the environment. A world survey on public attitudes toward the environment sponsored by the United Nations Environment programme showed that women, when compared to men, are more likely to choose a lower standard of living with fewer health risks over a higher standard of living with more health risks. The platform for action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995, identified the need to involve women more actively in environmental decision - making at all levels, as well as to incorporate their perspective in all strategies leading to sustainable development.

**Singh et al. (2020)** have suggested that ITKS can serve as a key to sustainable development: "it supports 'green development'.... providing an alternative to unsustainable modern economic paths," and that it can "understand sustainable, eco-friendly practices through community-based development".

## Methodology

**Research Design:** Descriptive survey method was adopted.

**Population:** Community members, educators, local leaders, and traditional knowledge holders constituted the population.

**Sample:** Sample of respondents selected through random sampling.

## Bar Diagram (Sample)

Mean		Scores
Cultural	Values	4.32
Indigenous	Knowledge	4.41
Community	Participation	4.38
Viksit Bharat	Achievement	4.45

## Tools Used

- Questionnaire
- Interview Schedule
- Observation

**Data Analysis:** Data analysed using percentages, mean scores and descriptive interpretation.

**Data Analysis and Interpretation:**

**Table 1: Perception on Contribution of Indigenous Knowledge**

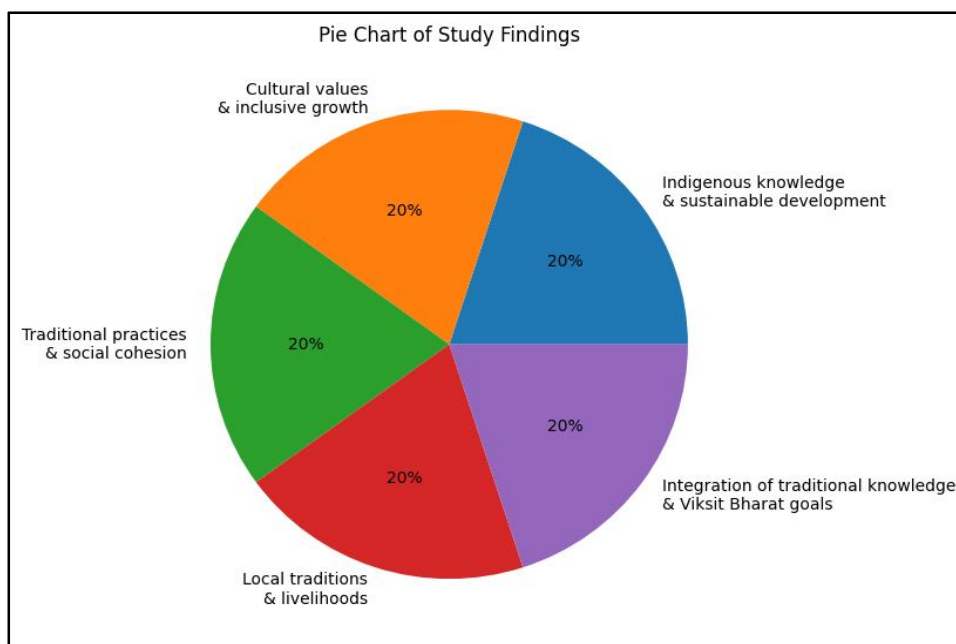
Response	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	92	46%
Agree	70	35%
Neutral	20	10%
Disagree	12	6%
Strongly Disagree	6	3%

**Interpretation:** 81% respondents agreed indigenous knowledge contributes significantly to Viksit Bharat.

**Table 2: Role of Local Traditions in Sustainable Development**

Dimension	Mean Score
Agriculture Sustainability	4.35
Environmental Protection	4.20
Community Participation	4.42
Cultural Preservation	4.50

Interpretation shows strong perceived contribution.



**Findings:** The study found that:

- Indigenous knowledge contributes significantly to sustainable development.
- Cultural values promote ethical and inclusive growth.
- Traditional practices strengthen social cohesion.
- Local traditions support self-reliance and livelihoods.
- Integration of traditional knowledge can accelerate Viksit Bharat.

**Suggestions:**

- Document indigenous knowledge systematically.
- Integrate traditional knowledge into education curricula.
- Promote research on indigenous innovations.
- Support traditional artisans and local enterprises.
- Incorporate indigenous practices into policy planning.
- Encourage community participation in development programs.
- Protect intellectual property rights of indigenous communities.

**Conclusion:** Local traditions and indigenous knowledge systems are invaluable assets for achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat. They contribute to sustainability, self-reliance, cultural preservation, and inclusive development. Integrating traditional wisdom with modern innovation can create a balanced model of development rooted in India's civilizational strengths. Thus, indigenous knowledge is not merely heritage to preserve but a strategic resource for building a developed India by 2047.

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