INDIA'S ECONOMIC RISE: A CASE STUDY OF G20 NEW DELHI SUMMIT (2023) AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR INDIAN ECONOMIC GROWTH

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this thesis to my beloved Father and Mother.

List of Abbreviations

ACTEAST	Act East Policy
ADB	Asian Development Bank
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
AU	African Union
BBIN	Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal Initiative
BIMSTEC	Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation
BRICS	Brazil Russia India China South Africa
CEPA	Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement
CPI	Consumer Price Index
DMIC	Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor
DPI	Digital Public Infrastructure
EIC	East India Company
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
G20	Group of Twenty
GBA	Global Biofuels Alliance
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GST	Goods and Services Tax
IBC	Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code
IBSA	India, Brazil, South Africa
IMF	International Monetary Fund
INSTC	International North-South Transport Corridor
IOR	Indian Ocean Region

IORA	Indian Ocean Rim Association
IoT	Internet of Things
ISI	Import Substitution Industrialization
LPG	Liberalization, Privatization, Globalization (Reforms of 1991)
MEA	Ministry of External Affairs (India)
MSME	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
NAM	Non-Aligned Movement
NHDP	National Highways Development Project
NIC	National Informatics Centre
NIP	National Infrastructure Pipeline
NITI	National Institution for Transforming India
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
PMJAY	Pradhan Mantri Jan Aarogya Yojana
PMJDY	Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana
PM-KISAN	Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi
PPPs	Public-Private Partnerships
PSE	Public Sector Enterprises
QUAD	Quadrilateral Dialogue
RBI	Reserve Bank of India
RCEP	Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SAFTA	South Asian Free Trade Area
SCO	Shanghai Cooperation Organization
SEDI	United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
UN	United Nations
UPI	Unified Payments Interface
USSR	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
WTO	World Trade Organization

ABSTRACT

India's rise to economic power is one of the most significant economic development of today's global politics. India's mark able rise has many potential measures both at domestic and diplomatic levels that led the country to make its place at global economic stage and holding G-20 New Delhi Summit in 2023. This research investigates the domestic, regional and systematic factors driving India's economic growth, tracing its transformation from a colonially oppressed economy to a liberalized and internationally connected powerhouse. It examines the historical background of Indian economy during British colonialism, to further post-independence economic policies, concentrating on the transition from a mixed-model framework to the 1991 liberalization reforms that resulted in exceptional economic development. The study also identifies the implications of G-20 New Delhi Summit on further Indian Economic growth. This research argues in the framework of Neo Liberalism which advocated for free markets, privatization and deregulation to ensure economic stability and individual freedom. The G-20 New Delhi Summit in 2023 promoted open market competition and expansion by highlighting India's economic progress through expanded trade and open markets. India pledged to adopt digital solutions, collaborate with international partners, and put investor-friendly policies into place. India drew in foreign investment, improved its standing in the global market, and guaranteed a key position in creating a liberal world economic system by focusing on public-private partnership and leadership in the Global South. This enabled India to host the international G-20 summit, which empowered the Indian economy on the one hand and allowed the international community to find greater economic and investment opportunities in India on the other. This is qualitative, descriptive and analytical research. Data was collected from secondary sources such as books, articles published in journals, research papers, Indian official websites and newspapers. This research has been done to investigate implications of G-20 New Delhi Summit on Indian Economic growth. The research argues that India's economic growth is influenced by domestic, regional and global factors. These factors have enhanced Indian diplomatic exposure and successfully contributed to India's confidence to host such huge event. As a result, G-20 summit, brought India at the forefront of global stage through providing both India and international community with greater economic and investment opportunities.

Introduction

India has emerged as one of the world's fastest-growing economies, transforming significantly from its historical roots of prolonged British colonial rule. Despite inheriting widespread poverty and recurrent famines from the British upon independence in 1947, India adopted several policy reforms to improve its economy.[1] At first India went for mixed model economy that emphasized self-reliance through state led industrialization.[2] This brought in some economic growth but this was not sufficient enough to build up the economy. Till 1991, India's economy was mostly closed with strict rules and governed by the state.[3] The change started in 1991 when India had a balance of payments crisis. This crisis made India realize for a change. The major step towards Indian economic progress was its economic reforms, commonly known as the liberalization, privatization and globalization (LPG) reforms.[4] These economic reforms opened up the Indian economy to the world. It embraced market-oriented reforms, deregulating industries, reducing trade barriers and encouraging foreign investments. Following liberalization, India's economy went through considerable diversification, moving from a mostly agrarian based economy to a strong blend of manufacturing, services and technology-driven industries.[5] India has earned international recognition for its IT and software services sector today.[6] India's inventive strength is further demonstrated by progress in industries like medicines, space technology and renewable energy. This success path of India is marked by stages of resilience, reform, national policies and international integration.

India initially had an agrarian economy, but gradually many other sectors such as manufacturing and services etc. have contributed to its economic ascent.[7] India's economic rise is also supported by many domestic dynamics including its excellent demographic dividend that is young and generates a great workforce contributing potentially to economic strength. Being educated and skillful, Indian population is potentially contributing in different sectors such as agriculture, manufacturing, services, technology, industry and others. They are drawing international investment in different

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[1] Bardhan, P. "*Reflections on Indian political economy*" (California, Journal Economic and Political Weekly,2015)
[2] Ibid
[3] ISPP. *"Role of Liberalization in India's Economic Growth"* (Indian School of Public Policy, 2023)
[4] Ibid
[5] Anamika Pundir. *"Rise of India and Its future Global Vision"* (Madhya Pradesh: International Journal for Multidisciplinary Research (IJFMR). 2022)
[6] Ibid
[7] Bardhan, P. *"Reflections on Indian political economy"* (California, Journal Economic and Political Weekly,2015)

sectors, especially manufacturing and services excelling in industrial development and information technology. This has made India world reliable source of investment and brought growth to Indian domestic economy. India has great geographic location in South Asia and in the world. In South Asia it has great importance because of its access to sea and the trade opportunities with neighbors and major powers. It has collaborative initiatives and projects with its neighbors and around the world. These initiatives and projects have brought in increased economic growth for India. India has experienced significant growth in its middle class, reflected by improvements in lifestyle standards and increased domestic consumption, both of which have substantially contributed to the economic expansion of its nation. The startups and small businesses by Indian population have expanded within India and around the world. These are contributing significantly in Indian GDP and its economic growth. The country's reputation as a global hub for IT and software services is attributed to skilled professionals and cost-effective labor. Key cities like Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Pune have become IT hubs.[8] Software services, including application development, systems integration and IT consulting, significantly contribute to India's exports and foreign exchange. The sector has expanded to include emerging technologies like artificial intelligence, cloud computing and cyber security. These domestic contributors along with some other like exceptional democratic institutions and political stability have helped India become the next economic superpower.

India's economic growth has also been influenced by the external competitive environment and international factors. Since initiating economic liberalization in 1991, these market-oriented reforms have enabled its integration into global markets.[9] Regional and International factors of Indian economic rise include Geographical location, access to sea, regional and global alliances, globalization, geopolitical shifts, international trade and foreign investment trends.[10] India's excellent location in the south Asian region has got it many benefits. This has enabled it to connect with neighbors and around the world through land and sea as it is the only major power here. India's regional alliances and partnerships with different neighbors particularly with smaller regional countries is benefiting both to India and to these regional economies. Infrastructural projects such as roads, rails within region and around the world has connected it with the world. Trade and economic

[8] ISPP. *"Role of Liberalization in India's Economic Growth"* (Indian School of Public Policy, 2023)

[9] Anamika Pundir. *"Rise of India and Its future Global Vision"* (Madhya Pradesh: International Journal for Multidisciplinary Research (IJFMR), 2022)

[10] Ibid

partnerships have been enhanced through WTO membership, bilateral and multilateral agreements and diaspora networks. Geopolitical and strategic shifts have benefited India, positioning it as a key player in regional economic growth. Strengthened strategic and economic ties with the United States have boosted investments in defense, energy and technology. Participation in global forums like BRICS and G20 has expanded India's influence and provided avenues for economic cooperation.[11] Global financial institutions and assistance have played pivotal roles in India's economic crisis, providing structural adjustments and financial support.

India's economic growth is also influenced by its integration in global economic structure. G-20 is one example of it. The Group of Twenty (G-20) was formed in 1999.[12] It comprises the world's major advanced and emerging economies. It has emerged as a key forum for coordinating international economic policies in the aftermath of the 2008 global financial crisis.[13] The G-20 summits are held annually and provide a platform to major business tycoons and world leaders to discuss pressing economic issues, coordinate policy responses and shape the track to further expand global economy. India with its global ambition of investment opportunities and access to global economy joined the G-20 and got the presidency in 2022. G-20 New Delhi Summit held in 2023 stands out as a significant milestone in India's engagement with global economic system. It provided India with a platform to exert its influence on global economic decision-making.[14] As the host country, India had the unique opportunity to showcase its economic achievements, articulate its policy priorities and shape the agenda of the summit. The New Delhi Summit provided a platform for India to assert its position on key economic issues, form partnerships with other major economies and influence the direction of global economic policies. This research study discusses the contribution of internal and systematic factors that played pivotal role over time in India's economic growth. It also elucidates the hosting and implications of New Delhi Summit which became a milestone India's economic fortune. Within the neo-liberalism framework, the research concludes that the growth in Indian economic credentials is a result of its priority and ambitions to adjust its position within the global economic framework.

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[11] Priyanka Dubey. *"G20 and its Significance: India Takes over G20 Presidency"* (Delhi. International Journal of Political Science and Governance. 2023)

[12] Rinkeshkumar G. Mahida, Sani Pramodkumar Chauhan. *"A study on presidency of the g20 in India: SWOC analysis"* (Gujarat, Peer-Reviewed, Multidisciplinary & Multilingual Journal. 2023)

[13] Priyanka Dubey. *"G20 and its Significance: India Takes over G20 Presidency"* (Delhi. International Journal of Political Science and Governance. 2023)

[14] Ibid

Additionally, India has worked on the lines towards that achievement. Furthermore certain domestic liberalization reforms have led India to host G-20 summit that volume India’s economic track.

Statement of the Problem

This research focuses upon examining the Indian economic contours with particular focus on New Delhi G-20 Summit (2023). India's economic growth has been a topic of significant academic and policy discussions, especially in the context of its growing influence in global economic governance. India's economic growth is mark able, influenced by domestic policy reforms, regional and global trade dynamics and the trends of globalization. The hosting of the G- 20 New Delhi Summit in (2023) is a critical milestone, reflecting India's strengthened economic position and its role in shaping international economic policies. However, the factors contributing to India's economic ascent and the extent to which the G-20 summit (2023) has impacted its growth require deeper investigation. India's economic growth can be attributed to domestic, regional and global factors, but the interplay between these elements remains underexplored. Domestically, structural economic reforms, digital advancements, industrial growth and economic policy initiatives have played a vital role in positioning India as an emerging global economic leader. Regionally and globally, globalization, shifting geopolitical dynamics, trade partnerships, bilateral & multilateral alliances and foreign direct investments have further accelerated India's economic rise. The G-20 New Delhi Summit (2023) provided India with an opportunity to advance its economic diplomacy, attract investment and strengthen its global trade networks. This study aims to analyze the key drivers of India's economic rise, examine the role of domestic and international factors and assess the implications of the G-20 New Delhi Summit (2023) on India's economic trajectory.

Objectives of the Study

- To identify and assess the factors both internal and external contributing to India’s economic rise
- To examine the interplay of Indian economic dynamics on Indian economic growth
- To comprehend the implications of the G-20 New Delhi Summit, 2023 on India’s economy

Major Research Question

What are the drivers / factors of India's economic rise enabling it to host New Delhi G-20 Summit (2023) and how it contributed to Indian economic growth?

Sub-questions:

1. How the domestic Indian factors contributed towards Indian economic growth?
2. How the regional and global factors played their role in rising India as an economic power?
3. How the India's G-20 (New Delhi Summit 2023) contributed towards economic growth?

Literature Review

The review covers a wide range of academic discussions that explores the domestic, regional and structural factors contributing to India's economic emergence to power, its integration in G-20 and how G-20 New Delhi summit impact on India's economic rise to power. It also looks at the research gaps, highlighting the need for additional comprehensive studies that centre economic rise of India with special focus on G-20 New Delhi summit.

India's economic growth has been significant, with a 40% increase in GDP per capita from $5,000 in 2014 to over $7,000 in 2022.[15] This growth was accelerated by liberalization and openness in the 1980s, leading to a rise in GDP from less than 3% in the 1970s to over 7% in recent years.[16] The Indian government initiated the "New Political Economy" in the 1990s, stimulating private sector participation and reducing public regulation.[17] Goldman Sachs predicts India to become the world's second-largest economy by 2075, and Martin Wolf suggests its purchasing power will be 30% larger than the U.S. by 2050.[18] India's real GDP expanded at an estimated 6.9% in FY22/23, driven by robust domestic demand, strong investment activity, and buoyant private consumption.[19]

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[15] Bardhan. P. *"Reflections on Indian political economy"* (California, Journal Economic and Political Weekly,2015)
[16] Arvind Panagariya. *"India in the 1980s and 1990s: A Triumph of Reforms"* (New York, Columbia University press. 2004.)
https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/wp/2004/wp0443.pdf
[17] Akhil Gupta. *"The Political Economy of Post-Independence India"* (Michigan, JSTOR, 2019)
[18] Bhaskar Chakravorti, Gaurav Dalmia. "Is India the World's Next Great Economic Power?" (US. Harvard business Review. 2023)
[19] Ibid

As mentioned in the article *“Rise of India and Its future Global Vision”* by Anamika Pundir. Published under International Journal for Multidisciplinary Research (IJFMR), 2022.[20] There has been a shift in global dynamics from dictatorship to democracy, innovation and economic prowess in the 21st century. India is urged to transition from a non-alignment stance to a multi-alignment strategy, using its strengths and resilience despite challenges like COVID-19. India's geographical location, population, economic growth and military strength have allowed it to lead world nations. India's democratic system and values, along with its large army, have allowed it to survive despite cultural diversity and political instability. India's moralistic diplomacy and realistic foreign policy, based on ancient Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam philosophy, have made it an efficient diplomat power.[21] India seeks permanent membership in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) and actively engages with the UN system. India's soft power, leveraging its cultural heritage, pluralism, and historical values, is being utilized through diplomatic channels under Prime Minister Narendra Modi. India's economic growth under Modi has reached 7.46%, making it the world's third-largest economy.[22] India is advancing towards global prominence, focusing on independent decision-making and visionary leadership. It aims to ascend to superpower status by 2030, contributing to global governance and inclusive growth. India is a major player in technology, digital transformation and AI, but this aspect is missing. The role of initiatives like “Digital India” and AI-driven economic growth should be acknowledged.

The book *“India: Emerging Power”* by Stephen P. Cohen, published under Brookings Institution Press is a comprehensive analysis of India's post-independence trajectory.[23] It has examined Indian historical legacies, India’s economic policies and its security concerns that have shaped its global aspirations. The book discusses India's non-alignment policy during the Cold War and its gradual shift towards pragmatic diplomacy in the 1990s. It also examines India's complex relationships with major powers like the US, China, Pakistan and Russia, as well as its leadership in the developing world. Cohen introduces India as a rising power with significant potential but deep-rooted challenges. He discusses India's historical reluctance to engage in global power politics due to its non-alignment

[20] Anamika Pundir. *“Rise of India and Its future Global Vision”* (Madhya Pradesh: International Journal for Multidisciplinary Research (IJFMR), 2022)
[21] Ananya Gupta. *“Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam G20- Meaning, History, Significance and Importance”* (New Delhi: 2023)
[22]Ibid
[23] Stephen P. Cohen *“India: Emerging Power”* (US: Brookings Institution Press. 2004)

policy and internal constraints. The book critiques bureaucratic inefficiencies, slow policy implementation and social disparities as barriers to India's rise. Further in the book, India's military modernization and security concerns are examined, including its nuclear weapons program (Pokhran-II, 1998) and its defense sector, conventional military capabilities and arms procurement. The book also discusses India's complex border disputes with Pakistan and China and its internal security issues. Moreover Cohen explores India's role in regional and global politics, focusing on its leadership in South Asia and its ambitions for global influence. The book analyzes India's engagement with multilateral institutions like the UN, NAM, SAARC and WTO. While India aspires for great power status, its domestic and regional challenges such as unemployment, poverty and Kashmir issue limit its influence. The book concludes with scenarios for India's future, discussing whether it can sustain its economic and strategic rise. Cohen suggests that India's ability to reform its economy, strengthen governance and modernize its military will determine its global standing. Cohen offers a well-researched and analytical assessment of India's foreign policy, military strategy and economic direction. However, because the book was released in 2001, it lacks emphasis on India's post-2000 economic growth, its digital revolution and increase in multilateral diplomacy (BRICS, G20).

According to the analysis of the article *"The Political Economy of India"* by Mallika Das and Hari Das (2015), published by: Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi; Springer says that India's economic growth is projected to reach USD 10 trillion by 2030, making it the fastest-growing global economy.[24] The IMF has ranked India as the 'bright spot', contributing 15% of global growth in 2023.[25] India is the fifth largest economy globally and is set to be the third largest by 2027.[26] To achieve this target, India must sustain and accelerate its positive momentum over the next seven years. Growth drivers include encouraging investments and nurturing businesses, which requires large capital expenditure by public and private sectors in traditional industries and scaling up Research & Development. India's digital economy, IT sector, fintech and AI-driven industries play a significant role in economic expansion. The article does not sufficiently highlight India's growing technological capabilities and digital infrastructure as key growth drivers.

[24] Malika Das, Hari Das. *"The Political Economy of Development in India"* (Delhi: Springer, 2015)
[25] Ibid
[26] Ibid

According to the World Bank report of 2024, published in World Bank in India website. It predicts that; "With a population of more than 1.4 billion, India is the world's largest democracy. Over the past decade, the country's integration into the global economy has been accompanied by economic growth. India has now emerged as a global player.[27] India, a fast- growing economy, aims to achieve high middle-income status by 2047, marking its centenary of independence.[28] The country has made significant progress in reducing extreme poverty, but the pace of poverty reduction has slowed, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. To achieve high income status by 2047, India needs to focus on climate-resilient growth, expanding good jobs and addressing gaps in economic participation, including bringing more women into the workforce. The World Bank is partnering with the government to strengthen policies, institutions and investments for green, resilient and inclusive development. India's real GDP expanded at an estimated 6.9% in FY22/23, supported by robust domestic demand, strong investment activity and buoyant private consumption.[29] However, since Q3 FY22/23, there have been signs of moderation, although overall growth momentum remains robust. Persistent headwinds, such as rising borrowing costs, tightening financial conditions, and ongoing inflationary pressures, are expected to weigh on India's growth in FY23/24. The government has remained committed to increasing capital spending, particularly on infrastructure, to boost growth and competitiveness.

According to the article *"India's Emerging Economy: Sector by Sector"* by Persis Khambatta and Amb. Karl F. Inderfurth. Published under Center for strategic and international studies (CSIS), 2012.[30] Discusses that the nature of India's economic growth is multifaceted. While there is a general perception, particularly in the United States, that India's economic dynamism is primarily driven by the IT sector, this article emphasizes that other sectors such as sectoral transformation, growing GDP, trade integration, technological and industrial advancement, domestic reforms, human capital and globalization play crucial roles in India's economy. $1 trillion: The amount of money projected to be spent on infrastructure development over the next five years, nearly half of which is expected to come

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[27] World Bank. "The World Bank in India" (2023)
[28] Ibid
[29] Ibid
[30] Persis Khambatta, Amb. Karl F. Inderfurth. *"India's Emerging Economy: Sector by Sector"* (Washington DC, Center for Strategic and International Studies | CSIS. 2012)

from the private sector.[31] 600–650 million Indians expected to be living in cities by 2030.[32] 100 million manufacturing sector jobs the government hopes to create over the next decade.[33] 800 million Indians currently under the age of thirty five, a demographic dividend that could help spur further economic productivity and growth.[34] The shift in economic structure over years, transition from agrarian to services and manufacturing sectors. This was evident from declining share of agricultural and more share of services and manufacturing sectors in India's GDP. India is increasingly joining global economy through expanding trade volume. While the article discusses India's transition from agriculture to manufacturing and services, it does not adequately address the challenges faced by the manufacturing sector, such as: Lack of ease of doing business (bureaucratic hurdles, regulatory constraints), Infrastructure bottlenecks that slow industrial expansion. The article highlights the declining share of agriculture in GDP but does not discuss the need for agricultural reforms to enhance productivity. With 800 million people under 35, India's demographic dividend is a major asset, but the article does not address this aspect. The article does not explore how India’s digital revolution (UPI, fintech, e-commerce, AI and automation) is shaping economic growth and financial inclusion.

Romesh Dutt's book *"The Economic History of India in the Victorian Age"* published under Routlege is a critical analysis of British colonial economic policies in India during the 19th century.[35] The book provides a nationalist perspective on the economic exploitation of India under British rule, focusing on land revenue policies, taxation, industrial decline, infrastructure development and recurring famines. Dutt argues that British rule led to a systematic drain of wealth from India through excessive land taxes, unfavorable trade policies and the transfer of Indian wealth to Britain. Dutt also discusses the agricultural crisis caused by British land revenue policies, such as the Permanent Settlement (1793) in Bengal, the Ryotwari system in Madras and the Mahalwari system in northern India. High land taxes left peasants in debt and forced many into extreme poverty. The traditional Indian agrarian economy declined under British rule. Dutt also discusses the deindustrialization and collapse of Indian crafts, particularly textiles, as the British flood the Indian market with cheap, mass-produced British goods. Indian artisans and weavers lost their livelihoods as the colonial government

[31] Ibid
[32] Persis Khambatta, Amb. Karl F. Inderfurth. *“India’s Emerging Economy: Sector by Sector”* (Washington DC, Center for Strategic and International Studies | CSIS. 2012)
[33] Ibid
[34] Ibid
[35] Romesm Dutt. *“The Economic / History of India. In the Victorian Age”* (Google books. London, 1906)

prioritized exporting raw materials to Britain rather than supporting local production. Dutt also criticizes British economic policies for failing to implement effective famine relief measures, contrasting this with the policies of pre-colonial Indian rulers who managed agricultural crises more effectively. He also compares British policies with earlier Indian economic structures, where local industries, agriculture and trade were more self-sustaining. Dutt's work is one of the earliest and most influential critiques of British economic policies in India, challenging the British narrative that colonial rule brought economic prosperity. His work influenced nationalist economic thought and later leaders like Dadabhai Naoroji, Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru. Since the book was produced prior to Indian independence, it does not comment on how colonial economic policies influenced India's post- 1947 economy. Modern academics contend that colonial-era economic infrastructure (railways, land tenure laws and taxation policies) continued to have an impact on India's economy even after independence, which Dutt's study does not address.

Harshwardhan Sharma's article *"Key Outcomes of the 2023 G20 Summit Held in India"* published in India Briefing magazine discussed that, The 18th G20 Summit of 2023 took place in New Delhi, India.[36] It was the first-ever G-20 summit hosted by the India. The theme of the summit was "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" or "One Earth, One Family, One Future" rooted in ancient Sanskrit texts and the goal of sustainable development. The author talks about some of the outcomes of the G20 Summit 2023. Firstly he elaborated that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has viewed this G-20 New Delhi summit as diplomatic platform, to amplify the Global South's concerns. Modi was someway successful in his mission to bring attention of the world to global south. At the Summit, India leveraged its economic significance to garner support from all G20 member nations for a Leader's Declaration recognizing the conflict in Ukraine without specifying any aggressor. Modi also advocated for reforming global institutions like the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) to align with the changing world dynamics, which received backing from the United States. Further Sharma has discussed that the timing of the G20 Summit was also opportune, following India's successful moon landing under the Chandrayaan-3 program. All 83 paragraphs of the 2023 G20 New Delhi Leader's Declaration were unanimously approved, achieving a remarkable 100% consensus, even with China

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[36] Harshwardhan Sharma. *"Key Outcomes of the 2023 G20 Summit Held in India"* (India Briefing. 2023) https://www.india-briefing.com/news/key-outcomes-of-the-2023-g20-summit-held-in-india-29483.html/

and Russia in agreement.[37] The declaration stressed the urgency of mobilizing "US$5.8-5.9 trillion in the pre-2030 period for developing countries" and "US$4 trillion per year for clean energy technologies by 2030" to attain net-zero emissions by 2050.[38] Furthermore the article discussed the Global leadership participating at the G20 Summit. These included Azali Assoumani, the President of the Union of Comoros and Chairperson of the African Union, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, French President Emmanuel Macron, British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol and Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva. This article does not discuss how India leveraged the G20 presidency to boost its global image, strengthen bilateral ties and position itself as a leader of the Global South.

The article *"History of Indian economy"* by Mathew Joseph, published at Consulate General of India, Jeddah, says that, the Indian economy has undergone significant transformations from ancient times to the present.[39] The trade of terracotta pots, beads, gold, silver, colored gem stones such as turquoise and lapis lazuli, metals, flints, seashells and pearls has played a dominant role in early economic growth and development. Agriculture has also played a central role in early economic growth and development. Further it discusses that the Maurya and Gupta periods enhanced economic stability through infrastructural development and trade expansion. By the 1st to 17th centuries AD, India was one of the largest economies globally.[40] At this moment it was contributing up to 25% of the world's GDP.[41] The Mughal Empire further solidified India's economic dominance with high agricultural productivity, a uniform tax system and an extensive trade network. However, the British colonial era (1757-1947) marked a significant economic decline, leading to deindustrialization, stagnant growth and widespread poverty. Furthermore this article discusses the Post-independence economic policies. It tells us that the Post-independence economic policies emphasized state-led development through Five-Year Plans, focusing on industrialization, infrastructure and agricultural expansion. Despite modest growth, India's economic progress was hampered by inadequate capital

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[37] Ibid
[38] Ibid
[39] Mathew Joseph. *"History of Indian economy"* (Consulate General of India. Jeddah) https://cgijeddah.gov.in/web_files/267622636-History-of-Indian-Economy.pdf
[40] Ibid
[41] Ibid

formation and infrastructural bottlenecks. This article highlights the main step of Indian economic growth that was "The 1991 economic liberalization." The 1991 economic liberalization introduced market reforms that accelerated growth, making India a global economic powerhouse. By 2012, India's GDP surged to $1.85 trillion, with key industries including IT, pharmaceuticals and manufacturing.[42] India is projected to become one of the world's leading economies with strong growth in services, manufacturing and technology, accounting for over 20% of global output by 2040.[43] The article provides a comprehensive overview of India's economic transition from a manufacturing economy to an exporter of raw materials, but lacks detailed discussion on British economic policies like deindustrialization, the Permanent Settlement Act and the Drain of Wealth. It also overlooks the severe famines and their economic causes. The article discussed on Five-Year Plans, but lacks debate on recent government initiatives like "Make in India", "Digital India", Start-up India and GST. These details are crucial for understanding India's current and future economic trajectory.

Ashok Kapur's book *"India: From Regional to World Power"* published under Routlege provides a comprehensive analysis of India's transformation from a regional player to an emerging global power.[44] The book examines India's foreign policy, military strategies, economic growth and geopolitical ambitions while situating its rise within the broader international system. Kapur traces India's journey from post-independence struggles to its current status as a significant actor in global affairs. The book begins by introducing the central argument that India is no longer a passive participant in international politics but an active power shaping global affairs. He argues that India's economic growth, strategic partnerships and military modernization have allowed it to move beyond its historical role as a regional power in South Asia. However, India's rise is not without obstacles, as it faces both domestic and external constraints that influence its ability to project power effectively. Kapur examines India's foreign policy evolution from independence in 1947 to the present, highlighting three major phases: the Nehruvian Non-Alignment (1947–1990s), post-Cold War Realignment (1990s–2000s) and India as an Emerging Global Power (2000s– Present). India's engagement in multilateral forums like BRICS, the Quad, G20 and the UN has strengthened its global position. Strategic partnerships with the US, Japan and Europe signal India's shift from a regional

[42] Mathew Joseph. *"History of Indian economy"* (Consulate General of India. Jeddah) https://cgijeddah.gov.in/web_files/267622636-History-of-Indian-Economy.pdf
[43] Ibid
[44] Ashok Kapur. *"India-From Regional to World Power"* (Abingdon. Routlege. 2006)

player to a global actor. India's economic transformation and global influence are discussed, including liberalization, foreign direct investment and the role of India in global trade. However, challenges to economic growth include income inequality, unemployment and infrastructural deficits. India's reliance on the service sector rather than manufacturing has created an imbalance in sustainable growth.

India's military modernization and strategic capabilities are crucial factors in its rise as a global player. The country became a nuclear power in 1998, enhancing its strategic deterrence. Strengthening defense ties with the US, Israel, Russia and France has led to advanced military technology acquisitions and modernized its air force, navy and missile defense systems to counter threats from China and Pakistan. India's relations with major global powers include the United States, China, Russia and the Global South. India seeks permanent membership in the UN Security Council (UNSC) to reflect its growing global influence and actively participates in multilateral organizations like G20, BRICS and the Quad. India's cultural diplomacy is also a key element of its global engagement. However, Kapur identifies several challenges that could hinder India's path to becoming a world power: domestic political and economic issues, regional security threats and limited leadership in major global crises. To overcome these challenges, India should continue strengthening its economic and military capabilities, enhance regional stability in South Asia while countering China's strategic dominance, and develop a clear foreign policy vision that balances strategic autonomy with deeper global alliances. Kapur primarily focuses on India's strategic and military rise, but India's use of soft power through culture, diaspora, Bollywood and historical civilizational influence is not deeply analyzed. Secondly a discussion on India's technological advancements, space programs (like ISRO), digital economy and AI-driven growth strategies could have added more depth.

"Demystifying India's Multilateral Diplomacy and Achievements in G-20 Summit 2023" by Ume Farwa. Published at Institute of strategic studies Islamabad. 2023.[45] The article deliberates that India's multilateralism at the G-20 Summit, 2023 has showed the world, India's excellent use of this platform to advance its national interests & diplomatic objectives. India's emergence as economic power G20 presidency coincided and India used this opportunity to bring out its emerging status as leading power. As a proponent of multilateralism, India chose a topic that promoted global unity,

[45] Ume Farwa, *"Demystifying India's multilateral diplomacy and achievements in g-20 summit 2023"* (Islamabad: Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad. 2023)

collaboration and efforts in tackling challenges related to food, health and climate change, as well as giving poor countries a voice and bringing the AU into the G-20. India used the G20 summit to improve its standing internationally, demonstrate its ability to carry out diplomatic goals and aspirations, and establish itself as a mediator between developing and rich nations. Middle Eastern countries have modified their multilateral balancing approach to resist China's influence by strengthening their connections with Western nations (US, UK, France, EU, NATO), integrating into the QUAD security dialogue framework, and infrastructure diplomacy. The article focuses on India's global positioning but does not deeply analyze: How India's G20 leadership influenced its domestic economy, governance and policymaking.

"The G20 Presidency of India in 2023: Achievements, Challenges and Implications" by Dr. Mohd Akhter Ali and M.Kamraju. Published under International Journal of Business and Management Research (IJBMR), 2023 says that the G20 New Delhi Summit significantly boosted India's economic growth by addressing economic challenges, empowering women, showcasing Global South leadership, and initiating strategic economic initiatives.[46] The New Delhi Leader's Declaration emphasized women's socio-economic empowerment, gender-responsive climate action, food security, and reducing the gender digital gap. India as the host country through this summit brought world attention to global south. Promotion of trade and sustainable development was major agenda of this summit. The article says that along with positive impacts, there are also few challenges of this summit. They were the impacts of strained relations between china and India, India was not able to solve pressing issue of climate change. India raised concerns of global south but consensus could not built due to political tension around the world. In conclusion author says despite challenges India influence was raised. It attracted investments and trade relations boosted with G-20 nations. The article highlights India's role in boosting trade and investment but does not discuss the specific trade agreements or economic partnerships that emerged from the summit. The article highlights India's diplomatic achievements but does not explore, whether India's G20 leadership strengthened its role in other global forums (e.g., BRICS, QUAD and SCO).

The book *"India in the G20: Rule-Taker to Rule-Maker"* by Manjeet Kripalani, published under Routlege explores India's transformation from a passive participant to an influential leader in

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[46] Mohd Akhter Ali, M.Kamraju. *"The G20 Presidency of India in 2023: Achievements, Challenges, and Implications"* (New Delhi: International Journal of Business and Management Research (IJBMR), 2023)

global economic governance.[47] The book highlights India's early role as a rule-taker, adopting policies shaped by dominant economies like the US, EU and China. Over time, India has become a rule-maker, influencing global governance through its economic policies, advocacy for the Global South and leadership in climate action and digital infrastructure. Kripalani examines India's early participation in the G20, particularly during the 2008 global financial crisis. India's role was largely reactive, aligning with policies set by larger economies to stabilize global markets. However, it had limited influence in shaping these policies. India prioritized domestic economic reforms, focusing on growth rather than global leadership. India's economic transformation allowed it to gain a stronger voice in global affairs. Post-1991 Economic Reforms boosted India's global standing, making it a key player in international trade and investment. India's growth rate, averaging 7%+, positioned it as a major contributor to global economic stability.[48]

Technological and digital advancements, such as Aadhaar and UPI, showcased India's innovative capacity. As India's economic strength increased, it began advocating for fairer global financial policies, debt relief for developing nations, and inclusive trade practices. Additionally India's presidency in 2023 marked its transition from rule-taker to rule-maker, focusing on "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" ("One Earth, One Family, One Future") and pushing for the inclusion of the African Union (AU) as a permanent G20 member, digital public infrastructure initiatives, sustainable development and climate financing, and navigating geopolitical tensions. Kripalani concludes by discussing India's future in the G20, emphasizing the need for continued advocacy for Global South interests, strengthening multilateral cooperation and solidifying its global influence through AI, digital economies and green energy. While the book provides a strong analysis of India's rise within the G20, other aspects like India’s multilateral economic engagements and role in other global institutions (e.g., QUAD, BRICS, SCO, UN) could have been explored in greater depth.

“Between Rewards and Risks: India as Host of the 2023 G20 Summit” by Andrew F. Cooper. Published under Sage journals 2023.[49] Debates that besides India's potential for hosting the 2023 G20 summit, there were three main risks: the changing external geopolitical environment, logistical and procedural responsibilities and implications for India's national self-identity. Hosting the G20

[47] Manjeet Kripalani. *“India in the g20: rule-taker to rule-maker”* (United Kingdom: Routlege. 2023)
[48] Ibid
[49] Andrew F. Cooper. *“Between Rewards and Risks: India as Host of the 2023 G20 Summit”* (New Delhi: Sage, 2023)

provided India with an opportunity to enhance its global standing and project itself as a rising power. However, it also brought organizational pressures and the challenge of balancing its dual identity as a member of both the Global South and the G20. India's complex relationship with the G20 was rooted in its history of exclusion from elite international forums and preference for more inclusive institutions like the United Nations. To maintain solidarity with the Global South, India has balanced its G20 engagement with active participation in other multilateral forums. Logistical challenges include improvements in physical infrastructure, investments in electrifying public transport, improving air quality in Delhi, and the Central Vista redevelopment project. Human capital and bureaucratic efficiency are also challenges, with criticism of India's bureaucratic culture for lack of coordination among relevant ministries. Former corporate CEO Amitabh Kant was appointed as India's G20 Sherpa in mid-2022 to improve coordination and communication. This article does not delve into how India leveraged the G20 platform to attract foreign investment and strengthen trade relations. Key economic initiatives like "Make in India", "Digital Public Infrastructure" and infrastructure financing were promoted during the summit, but the article does not assess their impact. The article does not examine how the summit influenced India's bilateral ties with major powers like US, China and Russia.

The article *"The Role of India's G20 Presidency in the New Global Order: Achievements and Challenges"* by Priyanka Singh, published under International Journal for Multidisciplinary Research (IJFMR) deliberates that the India's 2023 G20 presidency marked a significant moment in global governance.[50] Through this India has showcased its rising influence as an emerging power. As the world's most populous democracy and fast-growing economy, India adopted a multi-alignment strategy, balancing relations with major powers while championing the interests of the Global South. India's leadership emphasized multilateralism, sustainable development, climate action and digital transformation, reinforcing its commitment to inclusive economic growth. The article further tells that India also leveraged its presidency to assert its cultural and civilizational heritage through cultural diplomacy. Initiatives such as Digital India and its advocacy for a rules- based international order further reinforced its position as a responsible global stakeholder. India's G20 presidency provided a platform to advocate for a more inclusive and equitable global order while strengthening its

[50] Priyanka Singh. *"The Role of India's G20 Presidency in the New Global Order: Achievements and Challenges"* (Uttar Pradesh. International Journal for Multidisciplinary Research (IJFMR). 2024) https://www.ijfmr.com/papers/2024/3/22669.pdf

geopolitical stature. Furthermore the article discussed few challenges of India’s G-20 presidency. The challenges included geopolitical tensions, such as the Russia- Ukraine war, China's aggressive stance and the absence of key leaders like Xi Jinping and Vladimir Putin from the summit. Global economic disruptions due to COVID-19, inflation, supply chain crises and climate concerns posed difficulties. Despite these hurdles, India managed to position itself as a responsible global stakeholder, advocating for the Global South and ensuring the vitality of the G20 process in an increasingly polarized world. This article provides a solid overview of India's G20 presidency, but a few key aspects are missing. India's key achievement of bringing the African Union into the G20 as a permanent member, strengthening the voice of the Global South, is not mentioned. Secondly, the expansion of tourism and digital public infrastructure, which India actively promoted, is missing. The role of G20 in addressing rural-urban disparities, job creation and economic resilience in rural India is overlooked.

“The Indian Renaissance: India's Rise after a Thousand Years of Decline” by Sanjeev Sanyal, published under World scientific publishing co. is an ambitious narrative of India's resurgence as a global power after centuries of decline.[51] The book explores India's historical trajectory, economic reforms and future potential, making a case for its revival as a leading force in global affairs. Sanyal argues that India experienced a millennium of decline due to repeated invasions, colonial rule and internal stagnation. However, since the late 20th century, India has re- emerged as an economic and cultural powerhouse, signaling a renaissance. The book traces India's golden age, which saw advances in trade, science and governance, followed by the gradual erosion of its influence due to invasions, economic exploitation, and policy stagnation post-independence. Further Sanyal highlights India's remarkable economic growth and entrepreneurial spirit as key factors driving its resurgence. Key factors include liberalization and market reforms (post-1991), IT and technology boom, rising middle class, infrastructure and industrial growth and the role of culture and identity in India's Renaissance.[52] He critiques the colonial mindset that suppressed India's confidence and argues for reclaiming its civilizational identity. However, Sanyal acknowledges challenges that could slow India's rise, such as bureaucratic and political inefficiencies, infrastructure deficiencies, education and human capital and geopolitical tensions. He suggests that India must embrace bold reforms and strategic thinking to

[51] Sanjeev Sanyal *“The Indian Renaissance: India's Rise after a Thousand Years of Decline”* (Singapore. World scientific publishing co. 2018)
[52] Ibid

overcome these hurdles. Additionally Sanyal envisions India as a global leader by the mid-21st century, with a knowledge-based economy, sustainable growth, a stronger global role and cultural confidence. He concludes that if India stays on course, it will reclaim its rightful place as a world leader. The Indian Renaissance is an engaging and thought-provoking book that offers a bold vision of India's future, rooted in history, economics, and cultural revival. While it sometimes oversimplifies historical narratives and underplays challenges, it serves as an inspiring call for India to embrace its potential as a global power. The book highlights India's growth through internal resilience, entrepreneurship and reforms, but neglects external factors like global economic transformations and post-Cold War liberalization. Foreign investments and commercial ties contributed to growth and international institutions like IMF and WTO influenced Indian policy. Further analysis on India's approach to foreign forces is needed.

Research Gap

There is not only one factor but multiple internal and external factors contributing to Indian economic rise. Despite research on India's economic progress and the importance of G20 summits, there is still need to gain knowledge of the domestic, regional and global economic variables surrounding India's hosting of the G20 summit in New Delhi in 2023. Existing academic research usually focuses on diplomatic outcomes, leaving space to investigate the complex interaction between domestic political considerations, economic policies and Indian international relations that shape India's role in the global economy, particularly in light of the G20 summit.

Core Argument

India's economic growth is influenced by a combination of domestic, regional and global factors, including fiscal policies, youthful population, internal market opportunities, industrial and technological development and globalization. These factors collectively positioned India to host India to host G-20 summit, which not only bolstered India's economic standing but also provided international community to find greater economic and investment opportunities within the country.

Theoretical Framework

This research study is described into the framework of "Neo-Liberalism." The theory of Neo liberalism was developed by Milton Friedman in his book: Capitalism and Freedom (1962) Published by University of Chicago Press.[53] In 1938, the word "neoliberalism" was first used at the Colloque Walter Lippmann in Paris, when scholars such as Friedrich Hayek, Ludwig von Mises and Louis Rougier attempted to overcome the shortcomings of laissez-faire economics and reinvigorate classical liberalism.[54] In 1947 or post WWII, Friedrich Hayek established the Mont Pèlerin Society, which brought together economists (including Milton Friedman) to advocate free-market views as an alternative to Keynesianism and state planning. This group established the philosophical foundation for neoliberalism by emphasizing individual liberty, private rights, and mistrust of governmental involvement. The 1970s saw the rise of neoliberalism due to economic crises discrediting Keynesian policies. Milton Friedman and the Chicago School gained influence, advocating for monetarism. Chile implemented radical free-market reforms after Pinochet's coup, while the UK privatized state industries, the US cut taxes, and weakened labor protections. The IMF and World Bank promoted Structural Adjustment Programs (SAPs) in the Global South, enforcing austerity, privatization, and trade liberalization. Furthermore, The Washington Consensus (1990s) led to the rise of neoliberalism as the dominant global economic paradigm. Key policies included fiscal austerity, deregulation, trade liberalization and privatization of state-owned enterprises. Globalization accelerated, with the WTO enforcing free-trade rules. Critics grew due to rising inequality, financial crises, and social unrest. The 2008 Global Financial Crisis exposed flaws in deregulated markets, leading to a backlash against neoliberalism. Governments temporarily returned to Keynesian stimulus policies, arguing neoliberalism exacerbated inequality and financial instability. In contemporary era, neoliberalism is a political and economic ideology that emphasizes free-market capitalism, deregulation, privatization, and individual freedom in the economy.

According to neoliberalism, free markets, if unregulated, can efficiently allocate resources, balancing economies through supply and demand forces. It also asserts that individuals are rational economic actors, making rational decisions that contribute to economic efficiency and growth.

[53] Milton Friedman. *"Capitalism and Freedom"* (University of Chicago Press. 1962.) https://www.google.com.pk/books/edition/Capitalism_and_Freedom/K_NWzQEACAAJ?hl=en
[54] George Monbiot. *"Neoliberalism – the ideology at the root of all our problems"* (The Guardian. 2016)

Privatization improves efficiency by transferring ownership to private sectors, leading to better performance, accountability and innovation. Free trade and capital mobility promote growth by stimulating competition, attracting investment and driving global economic growth. Competition drives innovation, productivity and economic development among firms, nations, and individuals. Global integration is considered necessary for modernization and development through open markets, global supply chains, and international finance. The main beliefs of neoliberalism revolve around treating economic freedom like political freedom, having a trickle-down economy and marketizing society, so everything becomes governed by market principles.

The theory provides a comprehensive explanation for India's economic rise to global power, emphasizes the primacy of free markets, privatization, deregulation and individual freedom. Initially India was non-alignment country, isolated, socialist and more inclined towards Russian block. Under Jawaharlal Nehru, India chose non-alignment to protect strategic autonomy in the face of US-Soviet competition. India pursued a state-led planned economy based on socialist ideas, with a concentration on import substitution, public sector domination and self-reliance. The state-controlled economy resulted in inefficiency, sluggish development ("Hindu rate of growth") and a lack of global economic connectivity. Furthermore the Cold War also hindered India's interaction with Western capitalist countries, impeding economic progress. Despite being legally non-aligned, India relied on the Soviet Union for economic and military support, as well as ideological congruence with communist ideals. The collapse of the Soviet Union and the rise of a U.S.-led liberal economic order and globalization left India without a major strategic partner. This also forced India to reassess its economic strategy. Additionally in 1991, India faced a balance of payments crisis, requiring IMF assistance and market liberalization. Keeping the changing international dynamics, globalization in view, India brought change in its economic dimensions both domestically and globally. PM Narasimha Rao and FM Manmohan Singh introduced reforms, shifting from a state- controlled economy to a market-driven model. India also engaged with the West, moving from Cold War-era suspicion to closer economic and security ties with the U.S., EU and ASEAN. Despite maintaining a commitment to National Autonomous Mission (NAM), India prioritized economic growth and trade partnerships. The economic liberalization of 1991 marked a turning point, opening India's economy to global markets and attracting foreign investment. Moreover China's rise as a global manufacturing hub pushed India to reform its economy to compete in global markets. India launched initiatives like 'Make in India'

(2014) to boost domestic manufacturing and reduce reliance on Chinese imports. Trade and investment liberalization was also implemented, with India engaging with WTO, G20 and free trade agreements (FTAs) to expand market access. India established modern and liberal policies bringing a shift in its foreign policy of non-alignment to a policy of strategic autonomy, where India seeks to maintain its independence while engaging with multiple global powers. Indian leaders also adopted modern and liberal economic policies and upgraded the domestic institutions that brought in investments for India. With this shift, the living standards of Indian society improved life and this gave rise of middle class. The middle class established small business at local and international level resulting in increased GDP of India and increased Indian economic growth.

Neoliberalism asserts that free markets, if left mostly uncontrolled, will distribute resources more effectively than governments. Supply and demand are inherent market dynamics that keep economies in balance. India's economic growth has been largely driven by private sector involvement, as evidenced by the National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) and Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs).[55] The NIP, a ₹111 lakh crore plan, covers over 7,400+ projects, relying on market actors for capital, innovation and efficiency.[56] The privatization of airports and aviation sector growth, such as the Adani Group's operation of six major airports, has improved passenger experience, modern infrastructure and operational efficiency. The Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme offers financial incentives to private manufacturers in sectors like electronics, pharmaceuticals, textiles and semiconductors, leading to better quality services and boosting GDP and employment.[57] Renewable energy sector growth has also been driven by private firms, such as ReNew Power and Adani Green, scaling clean energy with minimal state control. India's pro-market, reform-driven economy during the G-20 New Delhi Summit 2023 positioned itself as a pro-market, reform-driven economy, highlighting the efficiency and success of the private sector in key growth areas. To sum up, India's economic growth is supported by the neo-liberal assumption that private actors, motivated by profit and competition,

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[55] National Infrastructure Pipeline- Building India. https://www.makeinindia.com/national-infrastructure-pipeline-building india#:~:text=Roads%2C%20Urban%20and%20Housing%2C%20Railways,almost%2080%25%20of%20the%20funds.
[56] Ibid
[57] Priyanka Wandhe. *"An Overview on Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme by The Government of India"* (SSRN 2024)
https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=4693578

are more effective in delivering public services, expanding infrastructure, driving innovation and larger returns on investment.

The theory assumes that Removing barriers to trade and allowing capital to move freely across borders will stimulate competition, attract investment and drive global economic growth. India's economic rise, particularly during the G-20 New Delhi Summit 2023, aligns strongly with the neo-liberal principle of "Free Trade and Capital Mobility." Key examples include the launch of the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC), active Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations, increased Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), internationalization of Digital Payments (UPI), expansion of export sectors and liberalization of capital markets. Free trade promotes economic efficiency, competition and growth by reducing tariffs and opening borders. The India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA) is an infrastructure initiative connecting India with the Middle East and Europe through railways, ports and digital cables. These agreements reduce tariffs and non-tariff barriers, creating open market access and encouraging export-led growth in sectors like textiles, pharmaceuticals and IT. India attracted $71 billion in FDI in 2023, remaining among the top five global FDI destinations.[58] Sectors like electronics, retail, renewables, and fintech saw major capital inflows from firms like Apple, Tesla, Amazon, and Google. Liberalized FDI policies were promoted at the G-20 to further improve India's image as a welcoming market. The internationalization of digital payments (UPI) facilitates global capital mobility, digital trade, tourism payments and diaspora remittances, all vital for a neo-liberal economy. India's service exports, especially IT, BPO and software, crossed $325 billion in 2023, making it a top global services exporter.[59] Export-friendly policies like Special Economic Zones, tax exemptions, and digital trade infrastructure support this growth. India's economic ascent, as shown during the G-20 New Delhi Summit 2023, is closely aligned with the neoliberal idea that free trade and open capital flows drive growth. India is integrating with global economic systems by encouraging free trade agreements, creating trade corridors, liberalizing investment rules and increasing fintech integration. These measures immediately benefit export growth, investment inflows, and the economy's structural modernization.

[58] Business Today. https://www.businesstoday.in/india/story/explained-the-fall-in-indias-net-fdi-477803-2025-05-26

[59] Ministry of External affairs. Govt. of India https://indbiz.gov.in/indias-software-exports-reach-us-320-billion-in-fy23/

Neo liberals argue that public firms are seen to be less efficient than private enterprises. Moving ownership to the private sector improves performance, accountability and innovation. This argument matches the Indian economic rise because it emphasizes market discipline, reduced state control, and improved productivity. Key examples of this include the privatization of airports, the strategic sale of Air India to Tata Group, the launch of the National Monetization Pipeline (NMP), the privatization of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL), disinvestment in LIC and other public sector undertakings (PSUs) and the liberalization of the telecom sector. Privatization has led to significant improvements in Indian infrastructure, services and efficiency, as well as reduced fiscal burdens and increased private sector competition. The Indian government has also launched the Asset Monetization Plan (AMP) to lease public infrastructure to private investors, reducing fiscal pressure and promoting private sector efficiency. The government has also partially privatized Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) through a record-breaking IPO, India's largest ever, and is slated for divestment of other PSUs like Shipping Corporation of India and Container Corporation of India. This partial privatization helps modernize public institutions and attract broader investor participation. Telecom sector reforms have also been implemented by the government, reducing regulatory burden and allowing private investment in 5G infrastructure. Companies like Jio and Airtel are driving digital connectivity, while the state gradually withdraws from telecom operations, encouraging competition, innovation, and better services. India's privatization efforts demonstrate a clear alignment with neo-liberal thought, emphasizing market discipline, and improved productivity. These privatization examples highlight how the Indian state is retreating from direct ownership while promoting private sector-led growth, a core feature of its economic rise and strategic messaging during the G-20 New Delhi Summit 2023.

Removing restrictions on businesses fosters innovation and growth. This assumption explains Indian economic growth during G-20 New Delhi summit. It suggests that reducing government control, licensing and regulation encourages private innovation, efficiency and stimulates economic growth. India introduced several FDI policies in key sectors like defense, telecom, insurance, and e-commerce, simplifying labor laws and promoting digital compliance through e-invoicing and GSTN. India has also attempted to deregulation agricultural markets by allowing farmers to sell outside the APMC system and engage directly with private buyers. Although these reforms were later repealed after protests, they reflected a clear neo-liberal effort to reduce state control in agriculture. The

Financial Technology Sector (FinTech) has seen liberalization, creating a regulatory sandbox for fintech startups, allowing experimental business models with minimal interference. This has led to global leadership in payments innovation, financial inclusion, and massive sector growth. Startup India and MSME deregulation have made it easier to register, finance, and scale small businesses, reducing compliance burdens and encouraging innovation. Energy sector deregulation has removed price controls on petrol and diesel, allowing market pricing for natural gas and coal auctions, and opened access reforms for large consumers to purchase directly from private producers. The neo-liberal idea that the state's removal of undue control promotes private innovation, entrepreneurship, and competitiveness is supported by India's deregulation initiatives in the areas of taxes, labor, agriculture, finance and industry. These changes promote India's ascent to prominence in the global economy by fostering a more efficient and liberalized economic environment.

India's economic agenda at the G-20 New Delhi Summit 2023 embraced a neo-liberal approach, aiming to boost growth through market mechanisms, global integration, and attracting private and foreign investment. The country promoted infrastructure development through public-private partnerships, with the National Infrastructure Pipeline and Asset Monetization Plan being key examples. The privatization of airports in cities like Delhi, Mumbai, and Lucknow demonstrated the benefits of private investment. India also promoted free trade agreements and facilitated cross-border capital flows, aligning with neo-liberalism's emphasis on globalization and open markets. The launch of the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) emphasized India's commitment to trade connectivity and multinational investments in logistics, transport, and energy. India's Asset Monetization Plan aimed to lease public sector assets to private investors, while its push for digital financial inclusion, particularly the internationalization of its Unified Payments Interface, emphasized financial liberalization and global capital mobility.

Research Methodology

This is a Qualitative research. It is descriptive and analytical. Data has been collected primarily from secondary sources, including books, article published in journals, newspaper articles and data from web sources. Analyzing systemic vs. domestic factors, Indian government leadership ideology and perception of global economic environment, analyzed India’s economic capacity and global projection strategies that helped India to shift economic strategies from socialist system into global trade partner and examined the G-20 Summit's implications on India's economic growth for its economic and diplomatic status.

Significance of Study

Exploring India's economic progress through the lens of the G-20 New Delhi Summit is relevant for numerous reasons, firstly, it highlights the determinants of India's economic growth, providing awareness into India's domestic policy and India's foreign participation. Secondly G- 20 New Delhi summit analysis helps in understanding of India's impact on global economic system. Thirdly, the findings help policymakers devise effective economic measures to sustain growth. Fourthly, it looks at how India's economic goals interact with its diplomatic relations and regional dynamics. Lastly, this study contributes to the literature on international economy, increasing our understanding of this discipline.

Delimitation

This study has focused specifically on the G-20 New Delhi Summit and its implications for India's economic emergence. Although India's broader engagements in international forums are recognized, the scope remains limited to this G-20 New Delhi Summit 2023 event, and its subsequent outcomes.

Organizational Structure

The study is structured across the following chapters:

Chapter One: Historical overview of Indian Economic Growth comprehend the Indian economic growth from colonial economy to global economic powerhouse. In doing so it provides a quick summary of the British East India Company and the colonial influence on Indian economic growth. British colony exploited Indian resources leaving it poor, underdeveloped and in famine. Secondly it examines the Post-Independence Period and the economic state of the Indian economy at that time. India adopted mixed model economy but it failed forcing India to change its policy. However, 1991 liberalization brought growth to Indian economy. Thirdly it discusses modern Indian economy from 1991 to the present day. India's departure from closed economy to a liberalized and modern economy, the current economic initiatives and projects of India such as Digital India, make in India and others.

Chapter Two: The Domestic Factors Contributing to Indian Economic Growth deliberates several internal Indian variables that have influenced India's economic success. These include India’s great geographical location, exceptional young workforce, government initiatives and projects, infrastructural development with country and around the world, the growth of the middle class, starting of small business, service producing industries that accelerate employment opportunities and others.

Chapter Three: Regional and Global dynamics and Indian Economic Rise reflects on regional contributors of Indian economic assent such as India’s strategically important geographic location in south Asia, its trade partnerships within region and around the world, its importance and access to Indian Ocean, South Asian regional cooperation and infrastructural development of India. It also discusses global factors behind Indian economic growth, including its integration in global economy, geopolitical alliances with major powers and neighbors, partnerships within south Asia and around the world, participation in global institutions, technological leadership and global investments of India and globalization and global market integration.

Chapter Four: India's Hosting G-20 New Delhi Summit (2023) provides a brief overview of G- 20 and its Significance for Indian economic growth. It discusses India’s role in G-20 summit and the key themes and declarations adopted at the summit and played a key role in boosting Indian economic stature. It also focuses upon the implications of the Summit for Indian economic development in future prospects.

Chapter Five: Implications of G-20 New Delhi Summit (2023) for Indian Economy reveals implications of G-20 New Delhi summit (2023) on domestic Indian economy, impact on geopolitical and foreign relations and G-20 New Delhi Summit (2023) impact on Indian economic rise.
A conclusion of the whole study is provided at the end.

Chapter One:

Historical Overview of Indian Economic Growth

Over the past decade, India has experienced a significant increase in economic output which is driven by a combination of strategic reforms, internal and external dynamics. The liberalization policies of 1991 opened the economy to international trade and investment, laying the groundwork for economic growth in different sector. India aims to double its annual GDP from USD 3.5tn to USD 7tn by 2027 and 10tn by 2030.[60] International monetary fund projects India's growth to be 7.3 percent in 2024 and 6.5 percent in 2025.[61] India's growing middle class, rising consumer spending and entrepreneurial spirit have all boosted this development.[62] Some of the government efforts such as "Digital India" and "Make in India" have also been instrumental in establishing India as a worldwide manufacturing and technology powerhouse.[63] This economic success requires sustainable development with continuous focus on inclusive growth measures to sustain and improve India's economic trajectory in future.

The main objective of this chapter is to understand the gradual economic rise of Indian economy from agrarian to global economic power. To understand this we should have knowledge about historical Indian economic development and process of evolution of Indian economy since British colonial era till date. The first section discusses, the brief overview of British East India Company and British colonial impact on Indian economic development. The second section discusses the Post-Independence Period and economic condition of Indian economy at that time. The third section deliberates the contemporary Indian economic developments since 1991 till today.

The India's economic rise is product of several domestic, regional and global factors, government policies and economic development movements since British rule till present day India. In 1600, the British colonized India to counter Dutch and Portuguese commercial forces in Asia.[64] As relative newcomers to colonialism, the British wanted to gain a place in Indian sub- continent through their exploitative and extractive policies. This brought famine and droughts in India besides fulfilling

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[60] Ajay khana. *"View: Growth drivers to drive India story"* (The Economic times. 2023)
[61] World economic outlook *"Policy Pivot, Rising Threats"* (IMF. 2024)
[62] Stephen P. Cohen. *"India: Emerging Power"* (US: Brookings Institution Press. 2004)
[63] Amit Ranjan. *"India's foreign policy: shift, adjustment and continuity"* (Taylor & Francis, Singapore. 2022)pg-1
[64] Mathew Joseph. *"History of Indian economy"* (Consulate General of India. Jeddah. 2008)

British interest. The post-independence India adopted such policies that could recover the exploited Indian economy. In this regard Indian leaders formulated government policies, agricultural reforms, industrial development and economic reforms and liberalization which resulted in Indian economy recovery.[65] The current state of India's economy is result of many progressive policies and programs such as "Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana" (2014), "Make in India" (2014), "Digital India" (2015), "Goods and Services Tax (GST)" (2017), "Pradhan Mantri Jan Aarogya Yojana" (2018), "PM-KISAN" (2019), "New Income Tax Regime" (2020), "PM Gati Shakti" (2021), "Developed India@2047" (2022) and "Sun, Moon & Stars" (2023).[66] These initiatives were designed to support Indian economic development. These efforts of Indian leaders are a base for India on its path to become global economic power. These efforts were made within the context of major domestic, regional and global economic concerns.[67] At the domestic level, the concern was to recover Indian economy after independence, inflation control, under development and unemployment. Regional and Organizational alliances and state- level reforms became strategically important at the regional level, where multifaceted trade relations and sustainable development shaped the global context for India. For future development, India's priorities lies in the economic development based on infrastructure development, digitalization and inclusive growth along with policies to reduce inequality and enhance sustainable development.

1. Indian Economic Stature under British Rule

From 1526-1857, India was ruled by Mughal empire.[68] In 1526 India was the largest economy of the world and contributed 20 – 30 % to the world economy.[69] The Indian economy remained rising throughout Mughal Empire. In 1608, British first landed at the port of Surat.[70] They initially came here for trade through East India Company (EIC), which was established by a royal charter granted by Queen Elizabeth I on December 31, 1600.[71] It was made up of one twenty five people and raised seventy thousand pounds.[72] Its main goal was rivalry or competition with Dutch and Portuguese

[65] Amit Ranjan. *"India's foreign policy: shift, adjustment and continuity"* (Taylor & Francis, Singapore, 2022)
[66] Anamika Pundir. *"Rise of India and Its Future Global Vision"* (IJMR. 2022)
[67] Ibid
[68] Mathew Joseph. *"History of Indian economy"* (Consulate General of India, Jeddah, 2008)
[69] Krishna. G. Karmakar. *"Colonial rule and its effects on India's rural economy"* (JSAS. Mumbai. 2015)
[70] Mathew Joseph. *"History of Indian economy"* (2008)
[71] Ibid
[72] Tirthankar *"The British Empire and the economic development of India 1858-1947"* (JILAEH.London.2015)

trading in Asia and trading of spices in South East Asia Spice Island. Initially EIC went to Maluku Island, Malaysia where Dutch were already having strong standing so EIC decided on quickly expanded its influence by establishing trading ports and forts in key locations like Surat, Madras, Bombay and Calcutta. The initial voyages of the company were for the purpose of developing trade in the Indian Ocean as well as to acquire essential products like spices, silks, cottons, tea, and opium. British East India Company continued their efforts to maximize trade, to serve the industrialization process in Britain, control territory and colonize India for many years. In 1757, EIC fought with Mughal of Bengal and got the political control there. The Battle of Plassey of 1757 is considered to be the starting point of practical acquisition of territorial sovereignty.[73] Till 1818, EIC became powerful entity of Indian sub- continent by employing different extractive and exploitative techniques.[74] In 1856, the Indian nationals protested against these extractive and exploitative policies of British and fought the first independence war but failed. Gradually British realized their position here and in 1874, EIC was dissolved and British raj began.[75]

British raj was period of British rule over Indian sub-continent from 1858-1947.[76] The era began after British crown taken away from EIC after Indian rebellion of 1857.[77] The British raj had profound impact on India and influenced political, social and economic structure of India.[78] The British introduced economic political control but these policies caused economic exploitation, the decline of industries, poverty, famine and social corruptions that extended even after the company's shutdown.[79] The British government at this point realized their inability to rule Indian sub-continent. Some of the examples are the rise of Indian nationalism. The Indian national congress was formed in 1885 and it became a significant platform for political dialogue and demand for self-governance.[80] Secondly the economic strain on Britain due to World War II and the pressure from United States and other allies for decolonization made it difficult for Britain to maintain control over India.[81] Thirdly the

[73] Tirthankar "The British Empire and the economic development of India 1858-1947" (JILAEH.London.2015)
[74] Parduman Singh. *"Economic, social and cultural impact of British rule on India"* (International Journal of Research in Economics and Social Sciences (IJRESS), Rohtak. 2016)
[75] Mathew Joseph. *"History of Indian economy"* (Consulate General of India, Jeddah. 2008)
[76] Ibid
[77] Ibid
[78] Tirthankar Roy. *"The British empire and the economic development of India 1858-1947"* (JILAEH. London. 2015)
[79] Ibid
[80] Parduman Singh. *"Economic, social and cultural impact of British rule on India"* (IJRESS, Rohtak. 2016)
[81] Tirthankar Roy. *"The British empire and the economic development of India 1858-1947"* (JILAEH. London. 2015)

royal Indian navy mutiny in 1946 that demonstrated increased unrest and inability of British to control India.[82] Britisher engaged in negotiation with Indian leaders that became the bases of Indian independence from British colonial rule. After prolonged struggle involving various movements and leaders, India gained independence on 15th august 1947.

1.1. Economic Impact of Colonial Rule on Indian Economic Growth

British colonial rule in India had significant economic implications for Indian economy. The exploitative and extractive policies brought drought and famine. British imposed heavy taxation on Indian imports and promoted British manufactured goods. The British supported the import of British commodities and the export of raw materials from India, leading to the decline of India's traditional industries like handlooms and handicrafts.[83] This resulted in India shifting from being a major exporter of textiles to a supplier of raw materials for British industries and loss of India's self-sufficiency.[84] British made agricultural policies that concentrated on growing cash crops rather food crops. This caused agricultural suffering, resulting in recurrent famines in the 19th century. The basic structure of the Indian economy was irreversibly broken. British introduced Land revenue schemes, such as the "Permanent Settlement"[85] "The Permanent Settlement" also known as "Permanent Settlement of Bengal" was an agreement between the East India Company and landlords of Bengal to fix revenues to be raised from land. It was introduced by Governor-General Lord Cornwallis in 1793.[86] The landlords were given perpetual and hereditary rights over the land, so long as they paid the fixed revenue to the British government. This scheme had far-reaching consequences on Indian economy as well as it harmed farmers and resulted in widespread debt. These economic and social changes brought about by British colonialism were primarily driven by their interests in trade, economic exploitation, the drain of wealth and extract infrastructure rather than holistic development for the Indian population. The British policies affected industrialization in India as the traditional industries, such as textiles decreased, resulting in unemployment and the demise of local economies. The methodical flow of money from India to Britain fueled Britain's industrial development while keeping India

[82] Mr. Mathew Joseph. *"History of Indian economy"* (2008)
[83] Ibid
[84] Stephen P. Cohen. *"India: Emerging Power*" (US. Brookings Institution Press. 2004)
[85] Romesm Dutt. *"The Economic / History of India. In the Victorian Age"* (Google books. London. 1906) pg2-7, vol.2
[86] Ajay Khanna. *"View: Growth drivers to drive India story"* (The Economic Times. 2023)

undeveloped. The British also established monopolies in various sectors like banking, plantations, shipping and export trade, following their trading interests.[87] They also introduced systems like the postal service, telegraph and railways to facilitate their economic activities in India. British introduced railways under infrastructure development but their real purpose was extraction of Indian resources. They also intended to serve British economic interests rather than Indian economic prosperity. British policies prevented the development of a strong industrial base in India, preferring to preserve India as a raw material supplier and market for British produced goods.[88] British control intensified economic inequality by concentrating wealth and resources in the hands of a few, mostly British officials and their Indian allies, while the vast majority of the population remained impoverished. These consequences left India with a severe economic problems, including poor infrastructure, limited industrialization and widespread poverty, resulting in unfavorable effects of British colonialism on India's economy.[89]

1.2. Post-Independence India and the State of Indian Economy

India gained independence from colonial rule on 15th august, 1947. Initially the country faced numerous economic challenges, including agricultural backwardness, Industrial underdevelopment, poverty, unemployment and displacement.[90] India also lacked trade balance because Indian exports mainly consisted of raw materials and imports of manufactured goods from around the world. India had weak financial system with limited access to banking, credit facilities and lack of capital. The government addressed these issues through economic reforms, industrialization drives, economic planning, infrastructure development, trade and foreign exchange management.[91]

The process of rebuilding the economy began, soon after independence. Initially India adopted mixed method economy under Nehru's leadership. The mixed economy model included public and private sector participation in key industries, strategic sectors, regulatory framework and economic planning. Secondly Five Year Plans were implemented in 1950s. The Five Year Plans, which transformed the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) were drafted by India's first Prime

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[87] Priyaranjan Jha and Karan Talathi. *"Impact of Colonial Institutions on Economic Growth and Development in India: Evidence from Night Lights Data"* (Cato.org. 2022)
[88] Parduman Singh. *"Economic, social and cultural impact of British rule on India"* (IJRESS. 2016)
[89] Tirthankar Roy *"The British Empire and the economic development of India 1858-1947"* (London. JILAEH. 2015)
[90] Ajay Khanna. *"View: Growth drivers to drive India story"* (The Economic Times, 2023)
[91] Amit Ranjan. *"India's foreign policy: shift, adjustment and continuity"* (Taylor & Francis. Singapore. 2022)

Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru and were made a tool for development in India. The Planning Commission created India's Five-Year Plans, which were a set of unified and integrated national economic policies. These initiatives sought to expedite economic development, alleviate poverty and raise living standards. Agriculture, industry and services were the primary focal areas of the Five-Year Plans. India's Five-Year Plans have developed over time, with varying emphasis to meet the country's changing requirements and goals. Initially, the focus was on agriculture to maintain food security, followed by fast industrialization to establish a strong industrial basis. Over time, the emphasis shifted to include the service sector, eradicating poverty, infrastructure development, modernization and technological innovation, inclusive and sustainable growth. The latest five-year plan is the twelfth five-year plan that focus on high and stable growth in agricultural, industrial and service sectors. On 1st January, 2015 national institute of transforming India (NiTi Aayog) replaced planning commission. India hasn't had a Five-Year Plan since the twelfth plan expired in 2017.[92] Under the NiTi Aayog, the Modi administration shifted away from centralized five-year planning and toward a more flexible three-year action plan.[93]

In the beginning despite efforts on the economic front, the country did not develop at a rapid pace due to lack of capital formation, cold war politics, defense expenditure, rise in population and inadequate infrastructure. From 1951 to 1979, the economy grew at an average rate of about 3.1% a year in constant prices, or at an annual rate of 1.1% per capita.[94] During this period, industry grew at an average rate of 4.5% a year, compared with an annual average of 3.0 percent for agriculture.[95] From 1980-1990, the rate of growth improved, with the economy growing at an annual rate of 5.5% or 3.3 percent on a per capita basis.[96] Industry grew at an annual rate of 6.6%, and agriculture at a rate of 3.6%.[97] Private savings played role in financing Indian investments till 1980's. From mid-1980's more private saving was difficult because they already reached very high level.[98] This trend led to balance of payments crisis in 1990 and also contributed to convince Indian government to agree on to take economic liberalization measures. This commitment to economic reform was reaffirmed by the

[92] Ajay Khanna. *"View: Growth drivers to drive India story"* (The Economic Times. 2023)
[93] Ibid
[94] Ministry of finance year ender 2023: department of economic affairs
[95] Ibid
[96] Ibid
[97] Ibid
[98] Ajay Khanna. *"View: Growth drivers to drive India story"* (The Economic Times, 2023)

government that came to power in June 1991. India has since progressed immensely with GDP progressing at the rate of 6 to 8 % per annum.[99] The GDP (nominal) has grown from $267.52 billion in 1992 to $1.85 trillion in 2012.[100]

Today India is the fifth largest economy of the world.[101] It is a preferred foreign direct investment, foreign direct investment (FDI) destination for world. India's major industries include information technology, telecommunications, textiles, chemicals, food processing, steel, transportation equipment, engineering goods, cement, mining, petroleum, machinery, software and pharmaceuticals. Major agricultural products comprise rice, wheat, oilseed, cotton, jute, tea, sugarcane, potatoes, cattle, sheep, goats, poultry and fish. India's top five trading partners are China, United Arab Emirates, United States, Saudi Arabia and Switzerland.[102] The large contribution of the services and industrial sectors demonstrates the enormous development made by the Indian economy since its independence, when it was primarily agrarian (fifty nine percent in 1951).[103] India's post-1991 growth was attributed to its integration into global capitalism, a surge in IT, services, and manufacturing, FDI, private enterprise expansion, WTO, G20 and BRICS entry and the emergence of a consumer middle class. Neoliberalism thinkers credits these benefits to India's adoption of competition, entrepreneurial freedom and the global market economy.

1.2.1. Agricultural Policies and Reforms and their impact on Indian Economy

The Indian agricultural policies and reforms have significantly impacted the country's economy, aiming to increase productivity, food security and farmer welfare.[104] These policies were implemented in phases, including the pre-Green Revolution (1947-1965), Green Revolution (1965-1980), post-Green Revolution (1980-2000) and economic liberalization (1991 onwards).[105] Before the Green Revolution, India's agriculture was characterized by traditional methods and low

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[99] Anamika Pundir. *"Rise of India and Its Future Global Vision"* (IJMR. 2022) https://doi.org/10.36948/ijfmr.2022.v04i06.1246
[100] Ajay Khanna. *"View: Growth drivers to drive India story"* (The Economic Times, 2023)
[101] Ibid
[102] Anamika Pundir. *"Rise of India and Its Future Global Vision"* (IJMR. 2022) https://doi.org/10.36948/ijfmr.2022.v04i06.1246.
[103] Stephen P. Cohen. *"India: Emerging Power"* (2004) Pg-34
[104] Ibid
[105] Ibid

productivity.[106] Farmers used age-old techniques like bullock plowing and manual labor, leading to low crop yields. Most farmers practiced subsistence farming, growing just enough food for their families with little surplus for trade. Chemical fertilizer and pesticides were used very less and this produced very less crops. There was lack of modern farming technology. This also impacted agricultural produce. In 1960's green revolution was a great shift in agricultural sector.[107] This focused on use of modern farming techniques and growing diverse food crops. As a result, it increased food production, reduced famine and created job opportunities in agricultural sector. As agriculture is backbone of Indian economy, so with advancement in this sector there has been seen a growth in Indian GDP and economy growth.

1.2.2. Industrial Development and its Effects on Indian Economic Growth

Industrial policy resolution was introduced in 1956 to bring industrialization in India.[108] This was introduced keeping in view mixed model of economy and it emphasized role of both public and private sector. The major industries such as defense and atomic energy remained under public sector. With time dominance of public sector increased creating unbalance of public and private sector participation in industrial sector. In 1991, new Industrial policy was introduced.[109] This aimed to reduce government control over industrial development. It also targeted the economic crisis and sought liberalization and deregulation. The policy provided support for small scale industries. The transition from an agriculture-based economy to an industrial and service- based economy has led to higher economic growth rates, forming the basis of heavy industries, SMEs and high-tech industries. This brought economic growth in India. It attracted foreign direct investments (FDI) and contributed to Indian economy recovery and development. Another key decision was, the Industrial policy statement of 1980 that aimed to enhance productivity, improve market performance and technological development.[110]

[106] Ajay Khanna. *"View: Growth drivers to drive India story"* (The Economic Times, 2023)
[107] Stephen P. Cohen. *"India: Emerging Power"* (Brookings Institution Press.US. 2004) pg- 87
[108] Anamika Pundir. *"Rise of India and Its Future Global Vision"* (IJMR. 2022) https://doi.org/10.36948/ijfmr.2022.v04i06.1246.
[109] Stephen P. Cohen. *"India: Emerging Power"* (Google Books. 2004) Pg 195.213
[110] Anamika Pundir. *"Rise of India and Its Future Global Vision"* (IJMR. 2022) https://doi.org/10.36948/ijfmr.2022.v04i06.1246.

1.2.3. Economic Liberalization and Globalization Impact on Indian Economy

As the Indian economy was liberalized it became attractive destination for foreign investments.[111] The improved economic facilities and excellent economic policies also played role to bring India in international completion. This made it a hub of regional and global investments. There has been seen increase in private consumption. Moreover, India's infrastructure development has been a key contributor for economic growth. Further India's technology sector has an important role in its economic ascent.[112] The liberalization of the economy and successive economic reforms led to major shifts in India's economy, transitioning from a highly regulated, centrally planned to a more liberalized and market-oriented one. India has undergone a transition since 1991, focusing on liberalization, privatization and globalization, leading to faster growth, diversification and globalization.[113] Key indicators include economic growth, sectoral transformation, foreign direct investment (FDI), trade liberalization, infrastructure development, banking and financial sector reforms, poverty alleviation, human capital development, the rise of the middle class, technological change and sustainability/environment issues. At the time of its independence in 1947, India faced significant economic challenges. The economic challenges were shaped by nearly two centuries of British colonial rule, which had profound and largely negative impacts on the country's economy.

Since 1947 from being socialist economy to Liberalization, privatization and globalization-LPG reforms till today, India's economy faced many ups and downs in its economic growth.[114] Today India with around three trillion USD is fifth largest economy, leaving behind former colonizer United Kingdom.[115] According to Center for Economic and Business Research, India with 10 trillion USD will become third largest by 2035.[116] Neoliberal reforms in India, including liberalization of trade, privatization of public enterprises, deregulation of markets and reduction of tariffs and import quotas, are seen as the beginning of the country's economic growth.[117]

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[111] Stephen P. Cohen. *"India: Emerging Power"* (Brookings Institution Press. 2004) Pg 92
[112] Amit Ranjan. *"India's foreign policy: shift, adjustment and continuity"* (Taylor & Francis, Singapore, 2022)
[113] Stephen P. Cohen. *"India: Emerging Power"* (Brookings Institution Press. US. 2004) Pg 97
[114] Rajadhyaksha niranjan. *"The rise of India: its transformation from poverty to prosperity"* (Google books. John Wiley & sons: 2007)
[115] Ajay Khanna. *"View: Growth drivers to drive India story"* (The Economic Times, 2023)
[116] Anamika Pundir. *"Rise of India and Its Future Global Vision"* (IJMR. 2022)
[117] Liz Manning. *"Neoliberalism: What It Is, With Examples and Pros and Cons"* (Investopedia. 2024)

1.3. Contemporary Indian Economic Developments

While commending his first budget in 1991, Manmohan Singh had quoted Victor Hugo and said,

"No power on earth can stop an idea whose time has come. The emergence of India as a major economic power in the world happens to be one such idea"[118]

Over the past decade, India's international economic status has significantly changed.[119] This change is due to its economic growth, integration with the international market economy, advancements in business processing, adoption of new communication technologies, the addition of nuclear weapons to national defense strategies and others.[120] India's political leaders now view the country as a global player, rather than a low-income country with weak infrastructure and widespread poverty. India has captured the attention of developed economies around the world and is looking for new investment and trade opportunities there. By some estimates, India's economy will grow from its current $1.8 trillion GDP to be the world's third largest in 2030, with a GDP of close to $30 trillion.[121] Recently Narendra Modi leadership has introduced substantial economic reforms, a robust foreign policy and ambitious infrastructure initiatives which are giving boost to India to become global economic superpower.[122]

A recent report by the National intelligence council states that by 2030, *"India could be the rising economic powerhouse that China is seen to be today"*[123] India's economic growth since 1980 has shifted India from the fiftieth largest economy in the world to the tenth largest in the year 2005.[124] Today it is the fifth largest economy in the year 2024 after overcoming the internal and external challenges.[125] In Between 2022-23 India's GDP grew estimated about seven percent, while the projected GDP growth in 2023-24 is around 6.0 to 6.8 percent.[126] The central government's capital

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[118] *"India to Become $10-Trillion Economy by 2035: CEBR"* (The Economic Times. 2022)
[119] *"History of Indian economy"* https://cgijeddah.gov.in/web_files/267622636-History-of-Indian-Economy.pdf
[120] Anamika Pundir. *"Rise of India and Its Future Global Vision"* (IJMR. 2022)
[121] *"Global Trends 2030: Alternative Worlds"* (USA. National Intelligence Council. 2012)
[122] Rajadhyaksha niranjan. *"The rise of India: its transformation from poverty to prosperity"* (Google books. John Wiley & sons: 2007)
[123] *"Global Trends 2030: Alternative Worlds"* (USA. The National Intelligence Council. 2012)
[124] Forbes India. *"The top 10 largest economies in the world in 2024"* (Forbes India, 2024)
[125] Ibid
[126] *"Ministry of Finance Year Ender 2023: Department of Economic Affairs"* https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1990745

expenditure rose by 64.4% Year over Year during Apr-Nov FY23 and has emerged as one of the main pillars supporting the growth of the Indian economy.[127] The Union Budget has outlined India as a technological and knowledge oriented economy with skilled population and better financial structure of India. The government has increased capital expenditure considerably, the budgeted capital expenditure has risen 2.7 times in seven years.[128] In the Union Budget 2023-24, capital investment spending has raised to Rs.10 lakh crore or 3.3% of the GDP.[129] There are structural changes like the Goods and Services Tax and the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code that have improved the structure of the economy. The implementation of the Union Budget 2023-24 intends to transform India into a technology-capital and knowledge-based economy with a strong public finance framework and financial system to keep up the growing Indian economy.

1.3.1. Recent Economic Policies and Initiatives

Arun Jaitley from 2014-2019 and Nirmala Sitaraman from 2019-till date served as finance ministers of India. Recent Indian economy is governed by Nirmala Sitaraman in coordination with the Modi government. Today India is making steady economic progress with business index from position 142 in the year 2014 to position 63 in the year 2024.[130] India aims to become the third largest economy by 2025 and a developed country by 2047.[131] The country's economic growth is primarily driven by domestic demand and investment, with consumption and investments contributing to seventy percent of economic activity.[132] It is estimated between 7.6% and 7.8% due to the GDP revisions and better than anticipated growth in fiscal 2024.[133] The recent economic policies include "Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyanand" "The National Infrastructure Pipeline" "The New Education Policy 2020" "Digital

[127] Ajay Khanna. *"View: Growth drivers to drive India story"* (The Economic Times, 2023)
[128] Ibid
[129] Larrdis *"Present State of the Indian Economy"*
[130] *"Global Trends 2030"* (USA: National Intelligence Council. 2012)
[131] Ibid
[132] *"Ministry of Finance Year Ender 2023: Department of Economic Affairs"*
[133] Ajay Khanna. *"View: Growth drivers to drive India story"* (The Economic Times. 2023)

India" and "Make in India" [134] [135] [136] [137] [138] These contemporary India's initiatives align with neoliberal logic because they are promoting private innovation and attracting global capital. Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyanand (Self-Reliant India Campaign) was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in May 2020.[139] This was introduced in response to the economic disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The basic aim of this initiative was to make India self-reliant and promote self-sufficiency in various sectors, reducing dependence on imports and enhancing domestic production.[140] Secondly to strengthen Indian industries, encourage innovation and promote competitive practices. Thirdly aiming for sustainable development in industry, agriculture and services while minimizing environmental impact. Through this initiative, India has created job opportunities for its local population. This gave boost to local manufacturing and attracted foreign direct investments. The Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan represents a vision for India's transformation into a self-reliant economy with strong global linkages.

The Digital India initiative was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on July 1, 2015.[141] The goal was to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. The program focuses on key areas like digital infrastructure as a core utility for citizens. Under this program, India has developed digital infrastructure to ensure connectivity and accessibility across urban and rural areas. For digital empowerment of citizens, India through this initiative increased digital literacy among citizens to empower them to use digital technologies effectively. E-Governance was another aim of this initiative.[142] This was introduced to promote the use of digital technology in governance to ensure transparency, accountability and efficient service delivery. The introduction of

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[134] Chaman Lal. *"MSME Policy in India"* (2012)
https://ebooks.inflibnet.ac.in/mgmtp09/chapter/msme-policy-in-india
[135] India government national infrastructure pipeline.
https://www.india.gov.in/websiyte-national-infrastructure-pipeline-nip
[136] Education policy. Government of India.
https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/NEP_Final_English_0.pdf
[137] Digital India initiative
https://www.digitalindia.gov.in/
[138] Make in India initiative https://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/major_initiatives/make-in-india/
[139] Anamika Pundir, *"Rise of India and Its future Global Vision"* (Madhya Pradesh: International Journal for Multidisciplinary Research. 2022)
[140] Lakshmi Varma, Balachandran. *"Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan –Towards Promotion of Entrepreneurship"* (Kerala, Journal of Business and Management. 2021)
[141] Anamika Pundir, *"Rise of India and Its future Global Vision"* (Madhya Pradesh: International Journal for Multidisciplinary Research (IJFMR), 2022)
[142] Digital India initiative
https://www.digitalindia.gov.in/

digitalization in India was also part of this, as it enabled and encouraged a wide range of online services in various sectors, such as education, healthcare and agriculture.[143] Digital India has made a substantial contribution to digitally empowered India. This has brought changes to many facets of life, from governance to business and has established the groundwork for a society that is empowered by technology. As it develops further, the program aims to create a more inventive, inclusive and connected future for the nation.

The Government of India started the "Made in India" campaign on September 25, 2014, with the goal of encouraging manufacturing and drawing in foreign capital.[144] This initiative was a component of a larger plan to strengthen India's manufacturing sector and establish it as a worldwide center for manufacturing in order to stimulate the economy. This initiative targeted to raise the contribution of the manufacturing sector to India's GDP from around 16% to 25% by 2025, secondly to generate millions of jobs by promoting skill development and encouraging entrepreneurship, further to create an investor-friendly environment and encourage multinational companies to invest in India. Finally to foster innovation and research and development (R&D) in various sectors.[145] Under "Make in India", the manufacturing sector expanded significantly, increasing its GDP contribution, foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows have significantly increased, with India becoming as one of the top FDI destinations.[146] The program has helped boost exports, especially in industries like textiles and pharmaceuticals. The growth of the startup ecosystem, as evidenced by an increase in tech companies and business endeavors in a variety of industries.

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) in India, introduced on July 1, 2017, was a significant tax reform that replaced the complex structure of indirect taxes levied by both central and state governments with a unified tax system.[147] GST aim was to simplify taxation, promote ease of doing business and create a common national market. It had several features, including a unified tax structure, a destination-based tax, a dual GST model, comprehensive coverage and input tax credit

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[143] Ibid

[144] Make in India initiative https://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/major_initiatives/make-in-india/

[145] *"Global Trends 2030"* (USA: National Intelligence Council. 2012)

[146] Dr. László Vértesy. *"Make in India – challenges and opportunities*" (Hungary. 2021)

[147] Maruthi. *"A Comprehensive Analysis of Goods and Services Tax (GST) in India"* (International Review of Business and Economics. 2020) Https://Digitalcommons.Du.Edu/Cgi/Viewcontent.Cgi?Article=1228&Context=Irbe

(ITC).[148] GST was levied at multiple rates depending on the nature of goods and services, with zero rates for essential items like fresh vegetables and milk, 5% for basic goods and services, 12% and 18% for most goods and services and 28% for luxury items and sin goods.[149] GST was beneficial for Indian economy because it simplified taxation process and enhanced efficiency in tax administration, doing business was easy with it, it increased revenue collection and improved compliance through the GST Network (GSTN) portal, formalization of the economy, and improved inter-state trade, creating a unified market and fostering economic growth.[150] Continued refinements and policy adjustments will ensure that GST achieves its full potential as a game- changer for India's economy.

The Skill India Initiative was a government-led program launched by the Indian government on July 15, 2015, under Prime Minister Narendra Modi.[151] Its aim was to empower India's youth by providing them with industry-relevant skills to enhance their employability, entrepreneurship and self-reliance. The key objectives of the initiative was enhancing employability, bridging the skill gap, fostering entrepreneurship, improving global competitiveness and focusing on marginalized groups.[152] The initiative comprises several schemes and programs aimed at skill development, including Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), National Skill Development Mission (NSDM), Skill Development in Schools, National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS), Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY), Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), India International Skill Centres (IISCs), Digital India Initiative and Sector Skill Councils.[153] The initiative had its focus on priority sectors such as IT, healthcare, construction, logistics, agriculture, textiles and tourism. It also integrates emerging fields like AI, machine learning and renewable energy into the training curriculum. The goal is to train over 50 million individuals by 2030, with increased collaboration with international organizations like the World Bank and countries like Japan, Germany and the UAE.[154] Future goals of this initiative is achieving the target of skilling 500 million individuals

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[148] Ibid
[149] Ibid
[150] Anamika Pundir. *"Rise of India and Its future Global Vision"* (Madhya Pradesh: International Journal for Multidisciplinary Research (IJFMR), 2022)
[151] Rajadhyaksha niranjan. *"The rise of India: its transformation from poverty to prosperity"* (Google books. John Wiley & sons: 2007)
[152] Ibid
[153] Skill India. Government of India website. https://www.skillindiadigital.gov.in/home
[154] Rajadhyaksha niranjan. *"The rise of India: its transformation from poverty to prosperity"* (Google books. John Wiley & sons: 2007)

by 2030, enhancing global recognition of Indian talent through partnerships and global certifications and strengthening monitoring mechanisms to improve the quality and outcomes of skill training programs.[155] The success of the Skill India Initiative depends on sustained government-industry collaboration, effective implementation and adaptability to emerging trends.

Startup India, government initiative launched in January 2016 to foster innovation, support startups and create a robust ecosystem for entrepreneurship in India.[156] The initiative aimed to empower young entrepreneurs, encourage job creation and drive sustainable economic growth. The main objectives of Startup India was fostering entrepreneurship, simplifying regulations and compliance, providing financial assistance through various schemes and incentives, promoting capacity building and encouraging innovation. Startup India provides several initiatives to create an enabling environment for startups, including simplified compliance, tax incentives, the Startup India Hub, Fund of Funds for Startups (FFS), Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Support, innovation and incubation and sector-specific support.[157] To qualify under the initiative, startups must be registered as a Private Limited Company, Partnership Firm, or LLP, not have completed 10 years since incorporation, have an annual turnover of not exceeding ₹100 crore, work towards innovation, development, or improvement of products/services or processes and not be formed by splitting or reconstructing an existing entity. The program has achieved several achievements, including the recognition of over 100,000 startups by 2023, making India the third-largest startup ecosystem in the world.[158] It is contributing to the rise of over 100 unicorns and is creating over 7.5 lakh jobs, increasing funding and fostering a startup culture.[159] Future goals of startup India is of strengthening the startup ecosystem in smaller cities and rural areas, encouraging innovation in emerging sectors like AI, block chain, space technology and clean energy, increasing collaboration between academia, industry and startups, expanding the Seed Fund Scheme and venture funding opportunities and enhancing global competitiveness of Indian startups. Startup India has significantly transformed the entrepreneurial landscape of India by fostering innovation, simplifying processes and providing financial and

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155 Ibid

156 Ashok Kapur. *"India-From Regional to World Power"* (Abingdon. Routlege. 2006)

157 Arihant Jain. *"Startups restoring the Indian economy"* (2018)

158 Anamika Pundir, *"Rise of India and Its future Global Vision"* (Madhya Pradesh: International Journal for Multidisciplinary Research (IJFMR), 2022)

159 Rajadhyaksha niranjan*. "The rise of India: its transformation from poverty to prosperity"* (Google books. John Wiley & sons: 2007)

infrastructural support. With continuous policy reforms and a growing entrepreneurial spirit, the program is driving India toward becoming a global hub for startups.[160]

The Gati Shakti National Master Plan (NMP) was an initiative launched by the Indian government on October 13, 2021.[161] It aimed at creating an integrated and holistic approach to infrastructure planning and implementation across the country. The plan aims to achieve holistic planning, faster project implementation, cost efficiency, sustainable development, improved connectivity and economic growth by facilitating world-class infrastructure. The NMP features a unified digital platform that integrates data from multiple ministries and departments, enabling better coordination, monitoring and conflict resolution. It also focuses on multimodal connectivity, integrating roadways, railways, waterways, airways and digital infrastructure. Cross-ministerial collaboration between 16 central ministries encourages better communication and alignment of objectives.[162] Data-driven decision making uses technology and data analytics for planning, monitoring, and resolving project challenges. The important areas of focus are transportation, logistics, energy, urban infrastructure and rural connectivity.[163] The plan focuses on developing highways, expressways, rail networks, waterways, public transport systems, port connectivity, air cargo infrastructure, logistics, energy, urban infrastructure, water supply and waste management systems and rural connectivity. The future goals of this initiative is improving India's logistics efficiency index globally, aligning with international infrastructure standards, promoting eco- friendly construction practices and ensuring benefits reach remote and underdeveloped regions. Gati Shakti NMP represents a paradigm shift in India's approach to infrastructure development, aiming to create a world-class infrastructure ecosystem that supports economic growth and improves the quality of life for citizens. Its success will depend on effective implementation, sustained funding, and continued innovation.

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[160] Ibid

[161] "*PM Gati Shakti: Transforming India's Infrastructure and Connectivity"* (Press Information Bureau, Government of India. 2024) https://static.pib.gov.in/WriteReadData/specificdocs/documents/2024/oct/doc20241012415101.pdf

[162] Swaminathan S. Anklesaria Aiyar. *"Twenty-Five Years of Indian Economic Reform A Story of Private-Sector Success, Government Failure, and Institutional Weakness"* (Washington D.C. CATO. 2016)

[163] *"PM Gati Shakti: Transforming India's Infrastructure and Connectivity"* (Press Information Bureau, Government of India. 2024) https://static.pib.gov.in/WriteReadData/specificdocs/documents/2024/oct/doc20241012415101.pdf

India's economic rise over the past few decades has been a remarkable transformation, positioning the country as one of the fastest-growing major economies in the world. India remained colony of British for many years. The British East India Company and British raj exploited the Indian economy for their self-interest, which was to develop Britain. The policies of British rule left India damaged and impoverished. Soon after Indian independence from British, leaders implemented economic policies and reforms to bring economic development in India. The 1991 liberalization reforms are the bases of Indian economic growth today. Before the 1991 economic reforms, India had a predominantly closed economy with heavy regulations and state control. The shift began in 1991 when India faced a balance of payments crisis, leading to significant economic reforms that liberalized trade, reduced tariffs and encouraged foreign investment. Advancement in agricultural sector by introduction of green revolution. Through this modern technology was introduced in agricultural sector and this brought growth in Indian economy. Industrialization was another key factor that gave boost to poor and destroyed economy of India. The economic policies, initiatives and programs of Indian leaders were also instrumental in bringing growth to Indian economy. The current Indian economy is result of different Indian state leader liberal and modern economic policy, economic initiatives, development projects and political stability. Through programs like "Make in India" “Skill India” “Startup India” GST, Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyanand and "Digital India" etc. India hopes to grow its GDP to $5 trillion today.[164] India's economic history is a monument to adaptation and tenacity as it continues to rise, defining its place in the changing world order. Overall, India's long-term growth potential is influenced by demographics, economic reforms and globalization trends. India's economic future will be shaped by a blend of domestic policies, regional dynamics and global shifts. The country's ability to navigate these complex trends will determine its economic trajectory in the coming years.

[164] Ajay Khanna. *“ View: Growth drivers to drive India story”* (The Economic Times. 2023)

Chapter Two

The Domestic Factors Contributing to Indian Economic Growth

India's post-independence economic growth is an outcome of several economic initiatives, economic reforms and several domestic factors. Most important of them are its young and skilled population, country's ambitious infrastructural initiatives, leader's policies and reforms. Together these along with others are considered as contributor to India's excellent economic progress. These domestic Indian factors are positioning India as one of fastest growing economy in the world. The previous chapter discussed the historical overview of Indian economy, since British colonial rule till date. To comprehend the overall picture, the chapter begins by explaining the underlying domestic dynamics that contributed in Indian economic progress.

1. Domestic Factors Driving India's Economic Growth

India's economy has grown greatly in the last decade, from an agro-based economy to a global economic giant. This growth is motivated by different global economic concerns.[165] Several Indian domestic factors include India's excellent demographic dividend, large and growing market, skilled technical workforce, great geographic location, technological advantage, infrastructural development, increased domestic demand, financial superiority, exceptional democratic institutions and small industrial projects etc. have helped India become the next economic superpower.

India is the world's most populous country, surpassing China. The country's youthful population has individuals aged 18 to 35, which has significantly contributed to economic growth.[166] Agriculture is the key sector, employing millions in various activities. The Indian manufacturing workforce has adopted modern techniques like automation and artificial intelligence to improve productivity and quality. They invest in R&D, policy implementation, public-private partnerships, and Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs). Indians are key players in the digital economy, driving growth in e-commerce, fintech and digital services. Indian professionals facilitate financial transactions, credit availability and investment management, contributing to India's financial stability and economic development. The younger population has remarkable potential to increase innovation and

[165] Ashok Kapur. *"India-From Regional to World Power"* (Abingdon. Routlege. 2006)
[166] Shanta Nedungadi Varma. *"India's rise and Asia: dynamics of growth and cooperative relations*" (2007)

competitiveness globally. India's digitalization has also significantly impacted its economic transformation, particularly in the financial sector. The government's ambition for a digital economy has led to increased use of digital payment systems like the Unified Payments Interface (UPI). The central and state governments have implemented "Digital India" initiative which aligns with its ambition of sustainable development, promoting resource usage and waste reduction.[167]

The Indian middle class plays a crucial role in the country's economic growth, driven by factors such as increased consumer spending, entrepreneurship, education and investment in skills.[168] Their diverse consumption patterns contribute to the growth of retail and service sectors, while their incomes drive spending on discretionary items, healthcare, education and entertainment. Entrepreneurship and innovation are also significant, with many individuals starting small and medium enterprises (SMEs), creating jobs and stimulating economic dynamism. Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) are vital to India's economic growth, contributing to employment, innovation, exports and regional development. They create jobs, particularly in rural and semi- urban areas, and significantly contribute to the country's GDP. SMEs are involved in manufacturing, services, and agriculture, contributing 30% to manufacturing output and nearly 50% to exports.[169] They foster innovation, meet local demands and promote regional development by encouraging industrialization in less developed areas and reducing urban migration. SMEs also cater to niche markets and focus on sustainable development, using local resources and minimizing carbon footprints.

India's service-providing industries, particularly IT and IT-enabled Services, contribute 55-60% of its GDP and generate millions of jobs.[170] The sector is a hub for service exports, particularly in IT and business process outsourcing. It drives urbanization, infrastructure development, transportation, housing and commercial spaces. The sector fosters innovation through research and the proliferation of startups like fintech. It encompasses various economic activities, including finance, healthcare, education, transportation, and entertainment. Service industries also support other sectors by providing essential services and creating supply chain links. Political stability is crucial for India's economic growth, as it boosts investor confidence, promotes long-term planning, and attracts both

[167] Shanta Nedungadi Varma. *"India's rise and Asia: dynamics of growth and cooperative relations"* (2007)
[168] Anklesaria. Swaminathan. *"Twenty-Five Years of Indian Economic Reform a Story of Private Sector Success, Government Failure, and Institutional Weakness"* (Washington D.C. CATO. 2016)
[169] Shanta Nedungadi Varma. "*India's rise and Asia: dynamics of growth and cooperative relations"(*2007)
[170] Biswa Misra. *"Development and economic growth in India, drivers for Indian states"*

domestic and foreign investments. It also facilitates infrastructure development, allowing governments to undertake large-scale projects like transportation, energy, and urban development.

Stable political environments reduce instability and unrest, promoting social cohesion. Stable political environments also strengthen institutions like the judiciary, regulatory bodies, and fiscal authorities, driving economic growth. Overall, political stability promotes sustainable growth, long-term planning, infrastructure development and effective governance. India's economic growth is significantly influenced by projects that facilitate infrastructure development, create jobs, boost sectoral growth and enhance connectivity. Large-scale projects like the Bharatmala Pariyojana improve physical infrastructure, creating employment opportunities in both skilled and unskilled sectors.[171] Sectoral development projects, such as the Tal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), focus on specific sectors, boosting their growth. Infrastructure projects also enhance connectivity, facilitating trade and supply chains. Investment attraction is another key benefit of projects, as well-planned projects can attract both domestic and foreign investments. The Smart Cities Mission aims to develop 100 smart cities across India, attracting investments in urban development and technology.[172] Technology transfer and innovation are promoted through projects, leading to improved productivity and innovation across sectors.

Regional development projects, like the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), promote economic development in underdeveloped and rural regions, promoting balanced growth. India’s IT superiority and services sector has played a crucial role in India's growth. Innovations in technology and mobile communication have improved access to services and financial inclusion. India has become an attractive destination for foreign direct investment (FDI). Sectors like e-commerce, telecommunications and pharmaceuticals have seen substantial investment. Globalization and Indian global economy integration has increased its participation in global trade and supply chains, enhancing its economic prospects. Trade agreements and participation in international organizations have bolstered its economic standing.

[171] Biswa Misra. *“Development and economic growth in India, drivers for Indian states”*
[172] Anklesaria. Swaminathan. *“Twenty-Five Years of Indian Economic Reform a Story of Private Sector Success, Government Failure, and Institutional Weakness”* (Washington D.C. CATO. 2016)

2.1.1. Demographic Dividend as Source of India's Economic Growth

According to United Nations estimates, India with approx. 1.4 billion people has surpassed China as the world's most populous country in the world.[173] India has a youthful population, with over six hundred million individuals aged 18 to 35 and more than 65% of the population is under 35.[174] This demographic profile has generated a sizable work force with around 678.6 million people that contributed to economic growth in India.[175]

India's diverse workforce spans sectors like agriculture, manufacturing and services. Agriculture is the key sector contributing to Indian economy.[176] Around 42% of the population relies on agriculture for their livelihood, employing millions of farmers, laborers and workers in various activities like crop production, livestock farming, poultry, fisheries and agroforestry.[177] They are using modern farming techniques that is increasing agricultural produce. Further it is providing market access for agricultural sector and bringing a lot of greater economic opportunities. Indian population is also involved in manufacturing sector. The population is working in industries like textile, automobile, electrics and pharmaceutical etc.[178] The Indian manufacturing workforce has adopted modern techniques like automation and artificial intelligence to bring improvement in manufacturing industry of India, to increase productivity and quality of Indian economy.[179]

They are investing in Research and Development (R&D) to innovate and create new products. They are also playing a role in policy implementation, public-private partnerships and Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs)[180] The Indian population is also engaged in services sector performing jobs across various industries like Information Technology, finance, healthcare, education, hospitality and retail.

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173 Sara Hertog, Patrick Gerland, John Wilmoth. *"India overtakes China as the world's most populous country"* (US. United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. 2023) Policy brief no.153

174 Peter Connell, Shirshore Hagi Hirad, Nilufar Jahan. *"Indian agriculture trends, trade and policy reforms"* (Australia. 2004)

175 Ibid

176 Ibid

177 Mohammad Mubashir, Arshad Bhat. "*Agriculture and farming community in India: challenges, problems and possible solutions"* (New Delhi. Bengal bharti publications. 2021)

178 Sanjeev Sanyal. *"The Indian Renaissance: India's rise after a thousand years of decline"* (Singapore. World scientific publishing co. 2018) pg 95,97

179 Peter N Varghese. *"An Indian economic strategy to 2035 navigating from potential to delivery"* (Melbourne. the Australia-India council. 2018)

180 Sophie Malin, Ashima Tyagi. *"India's demographic dividend: the key to unlocking its global ambitions"* (India. S&P global. 2023)

Indians are key players in the digital economy, driving the growth of e-commerce, fintech and digital services.[181] In banking and finance, Indian professionals facilitate financial transactions, credit availability and investment management, contributing to India's financial stability and economic development.[182] The Indian population promotes financial inclusion by ensuring access to banking and financial services for underserved areas.

India's youthful population has remarkable potential to increase innovation and competitiveness around the world.[183] To benefit the Indian economy from young population, the Indian government launched "Skill India" in 2015. It enhances employability and entrepreneurship among India's youth, benefiting nearly ten million annually. Some other liberal initiatives are Startup India (2016) and Atmanirbhar Bharat / Self-Reliant India (2020). These initiatives aim to train over 400 million youth in market-relevant skills by 2022, promote entrepreneurship, reduce regulatory barriers and provide tax exemptions and funding support. The neo-liberal approach views India's youthful population as an economic engine, conditioned to function within a market-oriented framework. It encourages young people to start their own businesses, particularly in tech and service sectors, and views the state as a facilitator rather than a provider. So bigger Indian workforce is enhancing domestic consumption and economic growth by boosting disposable income and expenditures. Additionally, they are drawing international investment, especially in manufacturing and services, which has improved India's worldwide market position.

2.1.2. Digitalization of Indian Economy: E - Commerce

Digitalization in India is a key factor in the country's economic transformation. India's financial industry has been impacted by digitalization. It has changed how people do business and use banking services. The Indian government's ambition for a digital economy has resulted in a marked increase in the use of digital payment systems like Unified Payments Interface (UPI)[184] India's digitization began in the early 1990s as the country liberalized its economy and became more accessible to

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[181] Peter N Varghese. *"An India economic strategy to 2035 navigating from potential to delivery"* (2018)
[182] Arun Kumar. *"Role of Financial System in Economic Development of India"*
[183] 151 Swaminathan S. Anklesaria Aiyar. *"Twenty-Five Years of Indian Economic Reform A Story of Private-Sector Success, Government Failure, and Institutional Weakness"* (Washington D.C. CATO. 2016)
[184] Unified payment interface initiative. https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1973082&ref=indiatech.com

globalization.[185] The National Informatics Centre (NIC) played an important role in advancing digitalization initiatives. Central and state governments has implemented digitalization initiatives, such as "Digital India"[186] This has made India a knowledge-based society and economy. Digitalization in India is aligned to India's ambition of sustainable development. It is promoting sustainability because it reduce excessive resource usage and waste of resources.[187] Manual labor is reduced as India adopted digitalization in its policies. Progress has been seen in industrial sector with adoption of digital technologies like e-commerce, fintech.[188] Digitalization has brought success to small and medium enterprise and startups.[189]

Digitalization in India reflects a neo-liberal transformation of the state, transforming it into a leaner, more technocratic state that is increasingly dependent on market actors. According to neo-liberals, digitalization is essential for unlocking economic growth, expanding consumer markets and positioning India competitively in the global digital economy. Key initiatives include the "Digital India" Campaign, launched in 2015, that aimed to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy.[190] Another initiative was "Aadhaar" system that provided residents with unique identification numbers, facilitating access to government services and benefits. Fintech companies have driven financial inclusion by offering services like mobile wallets, peer-to-peer lending and microloans. The Unified Payments Interface (UPI) was launched in 2016 and revolutionized digital payments in India.[191] E-commerce growth is also increasing, with platforms like Flipkart and Amazon expanding rapidly and emerging in smaller cities. Manufacturing and Industry are integrating digital technologies such as Internet of Things (IoT), Artificial Intelligence (AI) and robotics to enhance productivity, improve quality control and optimize supply chains. Telemedicine

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[185] D. Shobana, J.Suresh Kumar. *"Digitalization of the economic growth and development"* (Tamil Nadu, India. Shanlax Press. 2024)

[186] Digital India initiative.
https://csc.gov.in/digitalIndia

[187] Deepak Mishra, Mansi Kedia, Aarti Reddy. Et.al. *"State of India's Digital Economy"* (New Delhi. Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations. 2024)

[188] Ariadna aleksandrova, Yuri truntsevsky, marina polutova. *"Digitalization and its impact on economic growth"* (Brazilian Journal of Political Economy,2022)

[189] Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana
https://pmjdy.gov.in/scheme

[190] Peter Connell, Shirshore Hagi Hirad, Nilufar Jahan. *"Indian agriculture trends, trade and policy reforms"* (Australia. 2004)

[191] Unified Payments Interface (UPI)
https://www.npci.org.in/what-we-do/upi/product-overview

and health tech applications are improving healthcare access and efficiency, especially in rural areas. Education and skills are developed through e-learning platforms like Byju's and Unacademy that enabled access to quality education for students in remote areas. Digital classrooms and hybrid learning models have become commonplace, allowing for more flexible education systems. Corporate digital transformation involved the adoption of cloud and automation, digital marketing strategies and cyber security focus. India's digitalization has experienced significant growth in recent years, transforming various sectors and enhancing economic productivity across the Indian economy.

2.1.3. Infrastructural Development

During the British colonial rule in India, infrastructure development was slowed down by several mechanisms. The British developed infrastructure specially railways for resource extraction focusing on serving British economic interest rather than addressing local needs. This led to inadequate infrastructure for access to market and services. After independence India realized the importance of infrastructure development. Today Infrastructure development has been a driver of India's economic growth. It has enhanced productivity by reducing transportation costs and time, leading to more efficient supply chains and competitiveness of Indian businesses.[192] Improved infrastructure has attracted both domestic and foreign investments, facilitated trade and commerce by providing easier access to markets, reduced the cost of moving goods, regional development and global integration. Infrastructure projects also generated employment opportunities, increased household incomes and overall economic wellbeing. Economic corridors like the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) created economic growth zones that increased development and is attracting businesses.[193]

Long-term strategic development involves visionary projects like the National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) for inclusive development.[194] The Indian government has invested in roads development such as the National Highways Development Project (NHDP) and the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY).[195] The aim was to enhance road connectivity so that there is faster movement of goods and people. The project reduces travel time and also enhanced the market access.

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[192] Reena Agrawa. *"Review of Infrastructure Development and Its Financing in India" (SAGE.* 2020)
[193] Ashok Kapur. *"India-From Regional to World Power"* (Abingdon. Routlege. 2006)
[194] National infrastructure pipeline
https://www.india.gov.in/websiyte-national-infrastructure-pipeline-nip
[195] National highway development project
https://www.india.gov.in/national-highway-development-project

Further Indian railways are undergoing modernization. Investments has been observed in development of high speed trains. The railway stations are also undergoing redevelopment. Indian government is focusing on ports development in India. Sagarmala program is one example.[196] Development of ports development promote maritime trade and facilitate international goods movement. India's infrastructural development has also brought in economic success to its rising economy. Infrastructure development had been a key driver of Indian economic rise, laying the groundwork for sustained growth, addressing regional disparities, generating employment and improving the overall quality of Indian economy.

2.1.4. Increased Private Consumption

The British colonial economy created major wealth disparity in India. Elites including British officials and Indian landlord had access to luxury goods, while majority of lower class population faced poverty and limited consumption option. The British also reduced income of artisans and craftsman because of decline of local industries under their exploitative policies. This limited the purchasing power of most of the population. They also introduced variety of imported goods that was reachable for elite and lower class had to struggle to meet basic needs. Since independence the growing middle class and rising disposable incomes in India are driving private consumption, resulting in economic growth and development.[197] The middle class, comprising hundreds of millions of people, expanded rapidly as families transitioned from lower-income brackets. As the middle class grew, so does the demand for goods and services. The demand for a wide range of consumer goods, including fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG), electronics, automobiles and luxury items raised. Healthcare and education also gained importance, with families investing more in health insurance. Private schooling and higher education enhanced. The younger generation's employment and entry into the workforce contributed to the formation of a strong middle class. Rapid urbanization created new opportunities for jobs, education and access to services, leading to increased consumer spending.[198]

The Indian digital economy, with increased internet accessibility and smartphone penetration has transformed how consumers shop and spend. Private consumption accounts for a significant

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196 Muhammadriyaj Faniband, Kedar V. Marulkar, Pravin Jadhav. *"Sustainable Infrastructure Development in India: Drivers and Barriers"* (Bengaluru. ResearchGate. 2022)
197 Reena Agrawa. *"Review of Infrastructure Development and Its Financing in India"* (SAGE. 2020)
198 Ashok Kapur. *"India-From Regional to World Power"* (Abingdon. Routlege. 2006)

portion of India's GDP (around 60-70%) and is supporting job creation and further economic activity.[199] A burgeoning middle class and rising disposable incomes have boosted private spending, which has aided Indian economic progress. The advantages of this consumption- driven development are universal. The future of India's economy will be greatly influenced by its growing middle class. So it is critical to foster an atmosphere conducive to increased disposable incomes and reinforce the spending culture in order to promote overall economic development.

2.1.5. Agricultural Reforms and a Boost to Indian Economy

Agriculture is the main source of Indian economy.[200] Post-independence India introduced several agricultural reforms to improve and enhance agricultural sector and contribute to Indian economy. Key agricultural development initiatives include the "Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)".[201] This initiative provided financial protection against crop losses due to natural calamities, pests and diseases. Another initiative was "Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY)".[202] PMKSY aimed to enhance irrigation coverage and improve water management through rainwater harvesting systems.

Additionally NAM (National Agriculture Market) was launched in 2016 that has connected farmers with buyers across the country, facilitating transparent pricing and broader market access.[203] Technological innovations, such as precision farming, soil testing and satellite imagery have helped farmers make informed decisions, leading to better crop management and increased yields. With technology inclusion in this sector, farmers now get timely information on weather forecasts, market prices, pest alerts and agricultural best practices. Further Infrastructure development and improved infrastructure facilities such as roads, storage and market facilities. It has supported better transport of goods, reduced post-harvest losses and stimulated local economies. The government and agricultural

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[199] Amit Banerji, Anand Gaurav Chandravanshi. *"Factors Effecting Private Consumption in India: An ARDL Approach"* (Madhya Pradesh. Jindal Journal of Business Research. 2022)

[200] 169Navjit Singh. "Indian Agriculture: Before and After Economic Reforms" (Jalandhar. European Journal of Business and Management. 2020)

[201] *Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) Government of India initiative* https://pmfby.gov.in/pdf/New%20Schemes-english_.pdf

[202] Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana. Indian government initiative. https://pmksy.gov.in/

[203] National Agriculture Market https://static.pib.gov.in/WriteReadData/specificdocs/documents/2023/apr/doc2023414181301.pdf

experts research was given importance. This helped farmers to tackle challenges like climate change, pests and diseases. Research and development support was provided to develop climate-resilient crops and sustainable farming practices, ensuring long-term agricultural viability and ongoing economic stability.[204] Agricultural reforms has directly contributed to India's GDP, with increased productivity leading to higher incomes for farmers, which in turn stimulated demand for goods and services across other sectors. Strengthening the supply chain was a key driver of overall economic growth. Reducing poverty and improving food security had been important aspects of agricultural reforms. Improved farmer earnings led to better healthier workforce that contributed to further economic growth. Food security was ensured by increasing agricultural output and easy access to markets. Agricultural reforms had been fundamental to India's economic growth strategy, contributing to a more resilient and prosperous Indian economy.

2.1.6. Government Policy Reforms and the Economic Potential

Since 1991 economic liberalization, Indian government economic reforms such as implementation of simplified taxation systems and improving the ease of doing business through digitized and deregulated processes, illustrate a decisive turn toward neo-liberal economic governance in India. The emphasis was on market rationality, foreign investment and institutional efficiency. The state's role was increasingly relegated to regulation and facilitation rather than ownership or production. The following government economic initiatives, significantly contributed to the country's economic growth.[205] Key economic initiatives include liberalization and deregulation, “Skill India”, “Start-up India”, “Infrastructure Development”, “Atmanirbhar Bharat (Self- Reliant India)”, “Rural Development Programs”, “Financial Inclusion and Green Energy Initiatives”.[206] Liberalization and deregulation of Indian economy opened up the previously closed economic model and brought liberalization. It reduced import tariffs, deregulated domestic industries and allowed foreign direct investment.[207] “Skill India” initiative was launched in 2015 by Modi government with an ambition to

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[204] Peter Connell, Shirshore Hagi Hirad, Nilufar Jahan. *“Indian agriculture trends, trade and policy reforms”* (Australia. 2004)
[205] National Agriculture Market https://static.pib.gov.in/WriteReadData/specificdocs/documents/2023/apr/doc2023414181301.pdf
[206] Sanjeev Sanyal. *“The Indian Renaissance: India's Rise after a Thousand Years of Decline”* (Singapore. World scientific publishing co. 2018) pg 95,97 https://books.google.com.pk/books/about/The_Indian_Renaissance.html?id=i0ZYFny5cuoC&redir_esc=y
[207] Ibid pg 95,97

enhance employment and skill development of workforce. It provided skill training to millions of youth across various sectors, supporting economic growth and meeting job market demands.[208] "Skill India" recognized that youth is India's greatest assets. By empowering them with skill it will create more productive and competitive workforce that will bring economic prosperity to India at large. "Atmanirbhar Bharat (Self-Reliant India)" was launched in 2020.[209] The primary aim of this initiative was to reduce India's reliance on imports and promote use of local produce. Increase India's efficiency to make India self-reliant.[210]

Some other India's government reforms that have contributed to Indian economic growth are Goods and Services Tax (GST) and the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC).[211] The GST introduced in 2017. It was a multi stage and destination based tax that was implemented to replace many indirect taxes by central and state government. This encourages neo-liberal governance's core principles of tax transparency, economic integration, and a reduction in compliance requirements. It has streamlined tax framework, promoted greater efficiency and increased revenue.[212] It has also simplified the movement of goods across state borders, facilitating easier distribution and increasing competitiveness.

The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) introduced in 2016. The primary objective was to maximize the value of assets, promote entrepreneurship, ensure availability of credit and balance interest of stakeholders. It provided a clear and timely framework for resolving corporate insolvency, encouraged banks and investors to finance businesses.[213] It also encouraged entrepreneurs to take risk and exit failing business market. This boosted investor's confidence by ensuring that creditors have a fair chance of recovering their dues, improving the overall health of the financial system and attracting more investment. India has implemented numerous measures to simplify business regulations, such as reducing the number of required approvals, streamlining processes for company registration and

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[208] Ashok Kapur. *"India-From Regional to World Power"* (Abingdon. Routlege. 2006)
[209] Invest India.
https://www.investindia.gov.in/atmanirbhar-bharat-abhiyaan
[210] Peter N Varghese. *"An India economic strategy to 2035 navigating from potential to delivery"* (Melbourne. The Australia-India council. 2018)
[211] Ibid
[212] Ibid
[213] World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Index
https://www2.deloitte.com/in/en/pages/about-deloitte/articles/india-economic-outlook-april-2024.html

digitizing various services. As a result, India has seen an improvement in its rankings in the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Index, moving up significantly over the years. A single-window clearance system has reduced bureaucratic hurdles, allowing businesses to obtain necessary licenses and approvals more efficiently.[214] This reflects the neo-liberal goal of creating a business-friendly environment to stimulate private capital and enterprise. These reforms have enhanced the investment climate, creating a more transparent and predictable environment for investors, attracting both domestic and foreign investment. India's government policies have played important role in driving economic growth by enhancing business environment, encouraging investment, innovation and entrepreneurship and positioning the country for sustainable and inclusive economic development. Further enhancements of these policy frameworks is essential to realize India's full economic potential in coming future.

2.1.7. Role of Middle Class in Indian Economic Ascent

India's middle class comprise of 30-40% of the population.[215] It is a diverse and growing socio-economic group that plays a crucial role in the country's economy. It includes highly educated individuals whose lifestyles has improved with Indian modernization. The middle class drives consumption across sectors like housing, automobiles, education and healthcare.[216] They are contributing to India's GDP through spending and entrepreneurship. Importance of education, high literacy rates and a focus on skill development are common among middle-class families. They prioritize sending their children to private schools and higher education institutions. Indian government has fully supported this necessity of middle class. For instance programs like "Skill India" through this Indian population is becoming literate and skillful. The Indian middle class through their expertise in different fields and sectors plays a critical role in economic growth. By 2030, India is projected to have the world's largest middle-class population and will be impacting global markets.[217]

Since India adopted liberal economic policies, modernized its system and services, upgraded domestic institution, Indian population life standards has also improved. A major factor was the

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[214] World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Index https://www2.deloitte.com/in/en/pages/about-deloitte/articles/india-economic-outlook-april-2024.html

[215] Anklesaria. Swaminathan. *"Twenty-Five Years of Indian Economic Reform a Story of Private Sector Success, Government Failure, and Institutional Weakness"* (Washington D.C. CATO. 2016)

[216] *"How the middle class will play the hero in India's rise as world power"* (The Economic Times. 2023)

[217] *"India to Become $10-Trillion Economy by 2035: CEBR"* (The Economic Times. 2022)

economic liberalization measures of the 1990s. Many families moved into the middle class as a result of the abundance of work possibilities brought about by the rise of new businesses, foreign investment and economic expansion. A greater focus on education, especially higher education, helped many people in getting well-paid positions in industries like services, finance and information technology. The middle class's ascent was also aided by the cities subsequent expansion and rapid urbanization. India's middle class grew in number and power as a result of the country's huge youth entering the workforce and generating stable salaries. The Indian middle class has meaningfully contributed to the country's economic development through various factors. The rise of the middle class has led to increased disposable income, driving demand for goods and services across various sectors. This has led to the expansion of retail outlets and e-commerce, resulting in companies like Flipkart and Reliance Retail flourishing.[218]

The services sector has also grown, with the middle class playing a significant role in IT, banking, hospitality and healthcare. Investment in education has led to an increase in skilled workers, positively impacting productivity and innovation. The rise in engineering and management colleges has created a large pool of skilled professionals. This has fueled sectors like IT and engineering. The growing middle class has also led to an increase in entrepreneurship, particularly in small and medium-sized enterprises. The success of startups like Ola and Zomato reflects how middle-class entrepreneurs capitalize on domestic demand and market opportunities. A larger middle class contributes to government revenues through income and consumption taxes, which can be reinvested in public services and infrastructure. The Goods and Services Tax (GST) has seen compliance improve with enhanced participation from the middle class, supporting government revenue.[219] Urbanization and infrastructure development have also been driven by the expanding middle class.[220] This has also led to significant infrastructure projects such as road expansions, public transportation and housing developments.[221] Indian middle class is a vital engine of growth, contributing to various sectors and fostering a more diversified economy. Supporting middle-class growth through policies that enhance income, education and opportunities is crucial for Indian economic rise.

[218] Shahid Mohammad Lone. *"The Rising Indian Middle Class After The 1991 Economic Reforms"* (George Mason University. 2024)

[219] *"How the middle class will play the hero in India's rise as world power*" (The Economic Times. 2023)

[220] Ibid

[221] Ibid

2.1.8. Service Providing Industrial Sector Contribution in Indian Economy

Industrialization in India began in the mid-18th century during the British colonial period and continued post-independence.[222] The first industry here was of textiles. In 1950s railways were introduced and this brought increase in transportation.[223] With the independence of India, few more industries were introduced like agriculture, heavy industries and infrastructure development. The government established public sector enterprises in industries like steel, coal and telecommunications. Liberalization in 1991 allowed private sector participation, foreign investment and deregulation. Which as a result boosted India's industrial growth. Along with goods producing industries (Agricultural, manufacturing and textile). There is service producing industry that is also back bone of Indian economy. A service-providing industry is an economic sector that delivers intangible goods and services to individuals, businesses, or governments, excluding goods-producing industries like manufacturing or agriculture.[224] These industries provide value by meeting various needs, such as financial assistance, healthcare and education.

India's service-providing industries are a significant part of its economy today. They are contributing significantly to its GDP, employment and exports today. India's services sector is the largest segment of the Indian economy, accounting for about 54% of its GDP.[225] Some of the major service-provider industries in India include Information Technology (IT) and IT-Enabled Services (ITES).[226] These are global leaders in software development, business process outsourcing and cloud computing. Telecommunications is one of the largest telecom markets globally, with major companies like TCS, Infosys, Wipro, HCL Technologies and Tech Mahindra.[227] Financial Services includes banking, insurance, investment and fintech services. Healthcare and Wellness is a rapidly expanding industry. This includes traditional medicine, modern healthcare and medical tourism. Education and Training is a diverse industry encompassing traditional schools, higher education and online learning

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[222] Sanyal Sanjeev *"The Indian Renaissance: India's Rise after a Thousand Years of Decline"* (Singapore. World scientific publishing co. 2018. pg 95, 97)
[223] Jim Gordon, Poonam Gupta. *"Understanding India's Services Revolution"* (New Delhi. 2003)
[224] Kiran Kakade. *"Role of Service Sector in the Economic Growth of India"* (Journal of Emerging Technologies and Innovative Research (JETIR). 2021)
[225] *"India to Become $10-Trillion Economy by 2035: CEBR"* (The Economic Times. 2022)
[226] Sanyal Sanjeev *"The Indian Renaissance: India's Rise after a Thousand Years of Decline"* Singapore. (World scientific publishing co. 2018. pg 95, 97)
[227] Amit Ranjan. *"India's foreign policy: shift, adjustment and continuity"* (Taylor & Francis. Singapore. 2022)

platforms. Tourism and Hospitality is a major employment generator, with India being a popular destination for cultural, medical and eco-tourism. Retail and e-commerce are driven by a growing middle class and increased digital adoption. Key services include online retail platforms, supply chain and logistics, brick-and-mortar retail outlets, entertainment and media, transportation and logistics, real estate and urban infrastructure, legal and consulting services, energy and utilities, and personal and household services.[228]

Neo-liberalism favors the growth of service-provider industries like IT, telecommunications and finance through open markets and deregulated environments. The service sector has significantly contributed to India's economic growth. This sector has diversified India's economy, reducing its dependence on agriculture and making it more resilient to global economic fluctuations. The services sector is the largest employer in India, employing a significant portion of the working-age population. Rapid urbanization and the growing middle class have skyrocketed the demand for services such as healthcare, education, retail, hospitality and IT. Key service industries like IT and BPO have created millions of jobs, contributing to rural- to-urban migration and inclusive growth.[229] India's IT and BPO sectors growth is attributed to liberalize trade policies, low taxation and relaxed foreign investment norms. Technology-driven services such as IT, fintech, e- commerce and digital media have transformed India into a global tech hub. It is attracting global clients and providing cutting-edge solutions worldwide. Startups in sectors like fintech, Edtech, and e-commerce promote innovation.[230] This is making India a dynamic player in the global digital economy. The Indian service sector has made India more competitive globally, with the IT and outsourcing industries gaining a reputation for delivering high-quality services at competitive prices. This has attracted multinational corporations to set up operations and R&D centers in India, boosting investment flows. The success of Indian service exports has elevated India's status as an important player in the global supply chain, particularly in IT and knowledge-based industries.

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[228] Kiran Kakade. *"Role of Service Sector in the Economic Growth of India"* (Journal of Emerging Technologies and Innovative Research (JETIR). 2021)

[229] Sanyal Sanjeev *"The Indian Renaissance: India's Rise after a Thousand Years of Decline"* (Singapore. World scientific publishing co. 2018. pg 95, 97)

[230] Ibid

2.1.9. Small Industrial Projects in India

Small industrial projects in India are vital part of its economic growth because these are contributing to job creation, income generation and economic development, particularly in rural and semi-urban areas.[231] These projects generally focus on localized production and cater to specific regional markets or industries. They often have lower investment requirements and their operations can be scaled based on demand. Examples of small industrial projects in India across different sectors include agro-based industries such as rice milling, fruit and vegetable processing, spices and herb processing, textile and garment manufacturing, food processing and packaging, manufacturing and engineering, renewable energy projects, plastic and paper product manufacturing, chemical and pharmaceutical production, handicrafts and artisanal products, printing and publishing and waste management and recycling.[232]

Agro-based industries are vital to India's economy, particularly in rural areas. It is providing employment, supporting agricultural growth and is contributing significantly to the country's industrial output. Rice milling is a key industry, converting raw paddy into rice by removing the husk and bran layers. Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Punjab are examples of agro-based industries in India. Fruit and vegetable processing is another agro-based industry that converts fresh produce into value-added products, reducing food wastage and ensuring a steady supply of processed food. Examples of processing units in Maharashtra, Gujarat, and Himachal Pradesh include mango pulp, jams, juices and apple-based processing.[233] India is one of the world's largest producers of spices and herbs. Processing these into dried, ground, or packaged forms is a significant part of its agro-based industrial sector. Examples of processing units in Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan include pepper, cardamom, cinnamon, spice powders and oils, red chilies, cumin, coriander and fenugreek.[234] Dairy processing is another agro-based industry that converts raw milk into various value-added products like butter, ghee, cheese, curd, yogurt, and ice cream. India is the world's largest producer and consumer of milk, making

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[231] Rahmana. Mafizur *"Exploring the driving factors of economic growth in the world's largest economies"* (Australia. Heliyon. 2021)

[232] Peter Varghese. "An India economic strategy to 2035 navigating from potential to delivery" (Melbourne. The Australia-India council. 2018)

[233] Sanyal Sanjeev "The Indian Renaissance: India's Rise after a Thousand Years of Decline" (Singapore. World scientific publishing co. 2018. pg 95, 97)

[234] Biswa Misra. "Development and economic growth in India, drivers for Indian states"

dairy processing a vital industry. As demand for processed and packaged food increases, these industries are poised for further growth, helping India become a global leader in agro-based products.

The first ever textile and garment manufacturing is an important sector in India's industrial landscape. Since it is established this sector is contributing to employment, exports and economic growth in India. This industry includes subcategories such as handloom production, garment, manufacturing, and embroidery and apparel crafting.[235] Handloom production involves weaving fabrics manually using traditional looms, producing high-quality, unique fabrics in demand both locally and internationally. It preserves traditional techniques and provides employment to rural artisans, especially women. Garment manufacturing produces affordable clothing items, creating employment and contributing to India's rich cultural heritage. Embroidery and apparel crafting involve decorative stitching patterns onto fabric, adding design and beauty to garments. This sector supports traditional craftspeople and artisans, helping preserve Indian heritage. Examples of embroidery include chikan kari embroidery from Lucknow, which involves delicate hand- embroidery on fabrics like cotton and silk. The economic significance of textile and garment manufacturing in India lies in employment generation, export earnings, cultural heritage preservation, rural economy boost and value addition to raw materials. The industry supports various jobs, including weavers, seamstresses, dyeing specialists and designers.[236] The textile and garment manufacturing is a cornerstone of India's industrial growth, providing employment, preserving cultural heritage and contributing to the country's export sector. With further investments in technology and skills development, this sector of small industries can continue driving economic growth both domestically and internationally.

Food processing and packaging is another vital sectors in India's economic growth and development. This sector has the potential to ease food insecurity, reduce food wastage, and increase importance of raw agricultural produce.[237] These industries include bakery products, pickles, sauces, and snack food production. Bakery products involve the production of baked goods like breads and buns. The pickles and sauces are a significant part of Indian cuisine and are loved around the world. They preserve and enhance the flavors of traditional dishes and are widely consumed across India and

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[235] Chaman Lal. *"MSME Policy in India".* (Ministry of Finance Year Ender 2023: Department of Economic Affairs. 2012)

[236] Deepak Mishra, Mansi Kedia, Aarti Reddy, et.al. "State of India's Digital Economy" (New Delhi. Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations. 2024)

[237] Ibid.

exported to various countries. In Snack food production several products are involved such as manufacturing packaged snacks like chips, nuts and extruded snacks, which are highly consumed in urban areas. Automation and packaging technology have made snack production more efficient and scalable. This industry has a significant economic role like it has provided employment to Indian population to generate their earnings. It has increased export potential, with a number of packaged snacks and sauces going around the world. The middle class has got the entrepreneurial and innovation chance, because as the demand for convenience foods and processed products continues to rise, this industry grew, providing opportunities for innovation, investment and entrepreneurship.[238] This has also contributed to regional development. The food processing and packaging industries play a crucial role in India's economic growth, contributing significantly to both domestic and international markets.

India is embracing renewable energy projects to meet its growing energy demand in an environmentally sustainable manner. Solar panel assembly and biogas production are key components of this shift. It is promoting energy independence, reducing dependence on fossil fuels and promoting environmental sustainability. Gujarat, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Punjab and Madhya Pradesh are leading the way in solar power, with solar parks and manufacturing units catering to local demand. Rajasthan's sunny climate and vast open land make it ideal for solar energy projects, with installation of few solar energy projects here. Jaipur and Jodhpur are producing solar panels and solar-powered products to support these projects in India. Tamil Nadu has numerous small- scale solar panel assembly units, manufacturing solar panels for residential, commercial and industrial applications. Another renewable energy project is of Biogas production. This converts organic waste into biogas (methane), which can be used for cooking, lighting and electricity generation. This renewable energy source reduces greenhouse gas emissions and waste, making it particularly relevant in rural areas where agricultural and organic waste is abundant. Renewable energy projects contribute to sustainable energy generation, job creation, rural development, environmental friendliness and entrepreneurship and innovation. So these small-scale renewable energy projects are crucial for India's transition towards a sustainable, energy-efficient future. They are contributing to its energy security, job creation and rural development while supporting India's environmental goals. Despite challenges like high initial costs and technological barriers, the potential for growth in the renewable energy sector is immense.

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[238] Sanyal Sanjeev *"The Indian Renaissance: India's Rise after a Thousand Years of Decline"* (Singapore. World scientific publishing co. 2018. pg 95, 97)

Handicrafts and artisanal products are crucial to India's cultural heritage and economic growth. Pottery production and leather goods manufacturing are two examples of small-scale, artisanal industries deeply rooted in traditional craft forms.[239] Pottery production involves the crafting of clay-based products such as pots, vases, decorative items, tableware and kitchenware. These are often handmade by artisans using traditional methods. It is an environmentally sustainable industry that supports the livelihoods of artisans in rural areas and plays a key role in promoting cultural tourism and artisanal crafts. Examples of pottery production include Moradabad (Uttar Pradesh), Rajasthan (Rajasthan), and Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh).[240] Moradabad has a significant pottery industry, while Rajasthan is famous for its blue pottery, particularly in Jaipur. Varanasi is renowned for its terracotta pottery, which features distinctive patterns and motifs reflecting the city's rich cultural history. Leather goods manufacturing involves the creation of products such as bags, wallets, footwear and accessories. India is one of the largest producers of leather goods globally, providing employment opportunities for thousands of artisans and helping preserve traditional leatherworking techniques while offering innovative, modern designs for global markets. The economic role of handicrafts and artisanal products is multifaceted, contributing to India's soft power by promoting its cultural identity internationally. Both pottery and leather manufacturing provide job creation and rural development for artisans, stimulating local economies and promoting entrepreneurship.[241] Export potential is also significant, as handmade pottery and high-quality leather goods are highly valued in global markets. Therefore both pottery production and leather goods manufacturing are vital to India's artisanal and cultural economy, preserving traditional crafts, supporting rural development and contributing to the country's export potential. These projects create local job opportunities, reduce migration to cities and boost the local economy through production, sales and service provision.[242] It also foster innovation and local leadership and contribute significantly to India's industrial diversity. They align with the government's "Make in India" and "Atmanirbhar Bharat" initiatives, providing a foundation for sustainable development.

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[239] Biswa Misra. *"Development and economic growth in India, drivers for Indian states"*
[240] Peter Varghese. *"An India economic strategy to 2035 navigating from potential to delivery"* (Melbourne. The Australia-India council. 2018)
[241] Ibid
[242] Ibid

2.2. Role of leadership in Indian Economic Development

India's economic growth since independence till date has been influenced by various leader's policies.[243] Indian economy has gone several changes under different leader's policies and decisions. The policies and decisions of leaders brought significant change in Indian economy, resulting in increased economic development. Jawaharlal Nehru first prime minister brought many policies that aimed at reforming Indian economy after independence.[244] His approach was marked by a dedication to a mixed economy that combined aspects of both socialism and capitalism. Nehru's economic vision was of planned economy. In this concern the Planning Commission was established in 1950 launching a Five-Year Plan in 1951. He emphasized industrialization for economic growth, promoted heavy industries and public sector enterprises for increased output and setting up critical industries like steel, coal and engineering, which were seen as cornerstones of the Indian economy. Nehru believed that key industries should be under government control to ensure equitable growth and development. He recognized the need to boost agriculture, which employed a majority of the population.[245] The focus was on irrigation projects and agricultural research to improve productivity through modern techniques.

The Green Revolution emerged from Nehru's agricultural policies, which laid the groundwork for the introduction of high-yield variety seeds, fertilizers and improved irrigation techniques in the 1960s and 1970s.[246] Nehru's administration promoted Import Substitution Industrialization (ISI) to reduce dependency on foreign goods by protecting local industries through tariffs and encouraged domestic production of goods. Major infrastructure investments, including the construction of dams, roads and power plants, to create a foundation for economic growth and development. Regional planning was also given importance to address localized needs, ensuring no region was left behind in the broader national economic development narrative.[247] Education and scientific research were

[243] Sanjeev Sanyal. *"The Indian Renaissance: India's Rise after a Thousand Years of Decline"* (Singapore. World scientific publishing co. 2018) pg 95,97
[244] Pulapre Balakrishnan. *"The Recovery of India: Economic Growth in the Nehru Era*" (Economic and Political Weekly. 2007)
[245] Peter Connell, Shirshore Hagi Hirad, Nilufar Jahan. *"Indian agriculture trends, trade and policy reforms"* (Australia. 2004)
[246] Pulapre Balakrishnan. *"The Recovery of India: Economic Growth in the Nehru Era"* (Economic and Political Weekly. 2007)
[247] Rahul mukherji. *"The State, Economic Growth, and Development in India"* (Singapore. Taylor & Francis Group. 2009)

valued by Nehru, who established numerous institutions to promote science and technology.[248] His foreign policy was deeply entwined with his economic vision, fostering relationships with different countries, implementing trade agreements and technology transfer to integrate India into the global economy.[249] Nehru's economic policies laid the groundwork for India's post-independence economic framework, focusing on state-led development, industrialization and shifts towards liberalization in the 1990s.[250] Nehru's economic policies were foundational in shaping the path of post-independence India.[251] As the decades progressed, his strategy became increasingly evident, particularly in the areas of industrial output and economic efficiency.

2.2.1. The Revision of Indian Economic Policy under Indira Gandhi

Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India from 1966 to 1984, introduced numerous key economic initiatives that attempted to shape the country's economic landscape.[252] Indira Gandhi was also supporter of a mixed economy in which both private and public sectors are involved. She emphasized social equity and proposed economic policies to reduce income disparities and promote social justice.[253] Several land reform measures and initiatives were announced to redistribute land to tenant farmers and the landless. The aim behind this was to enhance agricultural productivity and empower the rural poor. Gandhi prioritized agricultural development.

One notable initiative was the Green Revolution. This improved agricultural resources for high-yield variety seeds, chemical fertilizers and irrigation facilities. This has helped India become self- sufficient in food grains. In 1969, 14 major commercial banks were nationalized by Gandhi. The aim was directing credit towards agricultural and rural development. For human welfare and progress she launched poverty alleviation programs, such as the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and the Employment Guarantee Scheme, to improve living standards in rural areas.[254] Under

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[248] Rampal. *"Nehru's Economic Policies in India"* (International Journal of Novel Research and Development. 2023)
[249] Pulapre Balakrishnan. *"The Recovery of India: Economic Growth in the Nehru Era"* (Economic and Political Weekly. 2007)
https://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/40276833.pdf
[250] Ibid
[251] Ashok Kapur. *"India-From Regional to World Power"* (Abingdon. Routlege. 2006)
[252] Rahul mukherji. *"The State, Economic Growth and Development in India"* (Singapore. Taylor & Francis Group. 2009)
[253] Swaminathan S. Anklesaria Aiyar. *"Twenty-Five Years of Indian Economic Reform a Story of Private-Sector Success, Government Failure and Institutional Weakness"* (Washington D.C. CATO. 2016)
[254] Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP)

Gandhi the industrial sector also expanded. Many industries were nationalized to promote economic and industrial growth. During the Emergency period (1975-1977), Gandhi's government introduced more authoritarian control over the economy, including measures to curb inflation and promote industrial growth through regulatory controls. She also made significant investments in education and healthcare, recognizing their importance for human capital development and overall economic growth. Gandhi prioritized self-reliance in defense production. Under her government indigenous defense industry was developed. She encouraged the growth of cooperatives in agriculture, dairy and small-scale industries.[255] Indira Gandhi's economic policies, which combined vision and pragmatism, continued to cause passionate reactions and gave essential lessons as India navigates a road toward economic sustainable prosperity in rapidly changing world.

2.2.2. Economic Reforms under Atal Bihari Vajpayee

Atal Bihari Vajpayee was India's Prime Minister for three terms; 1977, 1996 and 1998- 2004. His most influential period was from 1998 to 2004, when he introduced a range of economic development measures aimed at liberalizing the Indian economy, improved infrastructure and increased economic growth. Atal Bihari Vajpayee's tenure in India marked a pivotal era in politics and economics because his policies promoted economic liberalization, infrastructure development, power sector reforms and telecom reforms.[256] He focused on development of information technology sector. He believed that enhanced of IT, internet and telecommunication can bring economic progress, so he emphasized on IT sector and notable progress has been seen.[257] Secondly he focused on infrastructure development with aim to connect cities, improve travel of goods and people. This brought in increased trade and foreign direct investment for Indian economy. He also worked on human capital that brought great economic success to India.

Under Vajpayee's social sector initiatives, he focused on skilled population, poverty alleviation and rural development. Quality education was also priority of Vajpayee tenure.[258] Defense and security

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https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/budget_archive/es98-99/chap104.pdf

[255] Parvathi. *"Indian economy during Indira Gandhi's regime- a study"* (Tamilnadu. International Journal of Social Sciences Research and Development (IJSSRD). 2019)

[256] Neel Mani Prasad Verma. *"India's trade related policies during Atal Bihari Vajpayee government"* (Lucknow. Brazilian Journal of Development. 2024)

[257] Sanjeev Sanyal. *"The Indian Renaissance: India's Rise after a Thousand Years of Decline"* (Singapore. World scientific publishing co. 2018) pg 95,97

[258] Ashok Kapur. *"India-From Regional to World Power"* (Abingdon. Routlege. 2006)

policy was also a priority, with the Vajpayee government seeking to strengthen national security and defense capability. Cultural diplomacy was also emphasized, enhancing international ties based on shared cultural heritage and promoting Indian arts, music and literature globally. Financial sector reforms were undertaken, including reforms in banking and capital markets, establishing regulatory frameworks that improved transparency and encouraged more robust financial practices. Trade policy initiatives were aimed at enhancing trade relations through strategic partnerships and trade agreements, reducing trade barriers and improving access to global markets for Indian products. Strengthening bilateral ties was a priority, with initiatives to enhance strategic partnerships with key global players. Transport and logistics development was a priority, with investments made in expanding ports, developing rail networks and revamping airport facilities. Atal Bihari Vajpayee's economic policies helped to create the groundwork for India's progress in the early twenty-first century. His term is widely regarded as a turning point moment in the Indian economy's transition towards more openness, continued pursuit of growth and development, ensuring that India's aspirations are embraced and nurtured in the face of evolving global dynamics.

2.2.3. India on the Path of Economic Growth under Manmohan Singh Regime

Manmohan Singh was an Indian economist and politician who served as prime minister of India from 2004 to 2014.[259] A Sikh, he was the first person from a minority community to occupy the office. Since 1970s, Singh served in economic advisory posts with the Indian government and as a consultant to prime ministers. He has also worked as director and governor at the Reserve Bank of India. The nation's economy was about to collapse when he was appointed finance minister in 1991. In order to repair the nation's economy and ignite a boom, Singh introduced economic liberalization. By introducing the foundational neo-liberal policies that reduced state control and privatized state- run businesses, depreciated the rupee, reduced taxes, dismantled trade barriers and encouraged foreign investments by promoting a more market-oriented economy.[260] This transformed the economy and sparked an economic boom. His administration was distinguished by a combination of deregulation, social welfare programs and infrastructural development. His term is widely regarded as essential in

[259] Sanjaya Baru *"India and the World – Economics and Politics of the Manmohan Singh Doctrine in Foreign Policy"* (Singapore: Institute of South Asian Studies. 2008)
[260] *"Manmohan Singh's 1991 economic reforms: The masterstroke in Budget that reshaped India's economic destiny forever"* (The Economic Times. 2024)

establishing modern India's economic environment, emphasizing on inclusive growth while continuing the reform trajectory begun in the early 1990s.

Manmohan Singh's reforms were centered on liberalization, privatization and globalization, which radically altered the Indian economy. Some of the most significant reforms were: Devaluation of the rupee and trade liberalization. In July 1991, the Reserve Bank of India promised 46.91 tons of gold to the Bank of England and the Bank of Japan in order to raise $400 million, calming the immediate situation. Singh then depreciated the currency to make Indian exports more competitive in international markets. He also slashed import tariffs and eliminated international trade barriers, allowing India to fully engage into the global economy. Industrial Policy Reforms: Eliminating the Licence Raj - Singh introduced a new industrial policy on July 24, 1991, which brought an end to the "Licence Raj". Previously, most industries required government clearance for their activities, including expansion and output. The new strategy deregulated roughly 80% of the industrial sector, lowering the number of industries allocated solely for the government from 17 to 8. This action boosted private-sector and foreign investment, promoting industrial expansion and employment creation. Banking and financial sector reforms, his leadership brought about considerable improvements in the financial industry. Following the Narasimha Committee's recommendations, the statutory liquidity ratio (SLR) was decreased from 38.5% to 25%, and the cash reserve ratio (CRR) was reduced from 25% to 10% over the course of many years. These reforms allowed banks to lend more freely, which aided economic growth. Bank branch licensing restrictions were reduced, and interest rates were deregulated, resulting in a more competitive and efficient banking industry.

His policies not only saved India from collapse, but also created the groundwork for long- term economic progress. The programs drew international investment, increased exports, and spawned new industries. Millions of Indians rose out of poverty as work possibilities improved. By removing communist restraints, India shifted to a market-driven economy, paving the way for its growth to one of the world's fastest-growing economies. Singh's efforts stretched beyond his time as finance minister. As Prime Minister, he championed projects aimed at India's rural and poor populations, recognizing that economic growth alone could not close the divide between urban and rural India. Singh's focus on inclusive growth policies aimed at reducing poverty and bridging the income gap between various socio-economic groups. Initiatives like the National Rural Employment Generation Act (NREGA) and the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act emphasized job creation and social security for the rural poor.

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural work Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) was established in 2005 to provide rural families with 100 days of pay work each year. It targeted poverty, underemployment and rural suffering. This initiative become a cornerstone of his administration. Right to Information (RTI) and was another initiative for social service of Indian population. Singh's government enacted the RTI Act. This granted citizens access to government information. Importance of education was central to Singh's vision of Indian progress, so he initiated Right to Education (RTE). The RTE Act aimed to offer free and compulsory education to children aged 6 to 14, establishing education as a basic right.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, India has made significant strides in infrastructural development. These include the Golden Quadrilateral Expansion, the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), the Delhi Metro Expansion, airport modernization, the National Highways Development Project (NHDP), power sector reforms, Dedicated Freight Corridors, telecom and digital infrastructure, ports and maritime infrastructure, Mumbai Urban Transport Project (MUTP) and public-private partnerships (PPPs). Golden Quadrilateral Expansion Though initiated earlier, the Golden Quadrilateral highway network linking Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata received a significant push during Singh's tenure. His government focused on expanding and modernizing the project to enhance connectivity and reduce transportation costs. Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), Launched in 2005, this program aimed at modernizing urban infrastructure, including water supply, sanitation, public transport and urban governance in 63 cities across India. It was a landmark initiative to address urban challenges. Delhi Metro Expansion, Singh's government supported the expansion of the Delhi Metro, which became a model for mass rapid transit systems in other Indian cities, such as Bangalore, Hyderabad, and Mumbai. Airports Modernization, The privatization and modernization of major airports like Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore, and Hyderabad took place during his tenure. These projects significantly improved the quality of airport infrastructure in India. National Highways Development Project (NHDP), The NHDP, aimed at developing India's national highways, saw significant investments under Singh's leadership. Projects like the North-South and East-West corridors were accelerated. Power Sector Reforms, Singh's government focused on improving power generation capacity through public-private partnerships.

The Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPPs) initiative aimed to bridge the power deficit. Dedicated Freight Corridors (DFC), The Dedicated Freight Corridor project, involving the construction of specialized freight corridors, was conceptualized and launched to enhance railway freight capacity and efficiency. Telecom and Digital Infrastructure, Expansion of mobile and internet connectivity, especially in rural areas, was prioritized. Programs like the Bharat Broadband Network aimed to extend digital infrastructure to underserved regions. Ports and Maritime Infrastructure, Singh's government launched the National Maritime Development Programme (NMDP) to enhance the capacity of major and minor ports and boost maritime trade. These initiatives collectively contributed to significant improvements in India's infrastructure landscape, laying a foundation for sustained economic growth.

Singh's government actively sought to attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and strengthen trade relations, advancing India's integration into the global economy. His policies were based on pragmatism, economic diplomacy and efforts to strengthen India's position as a global power. Key aspects of his foreign policy included strengthening US-India relations through the Civil Nuclear Agreement (2008), improving relations with China through bilateral agreements like the Border Defence Cooperation Agreement (2013), and focusing on Pakistan through a dual approach of engagement and firmness. Singh expanded economic and strategic relations with ASEAN countries, Japan, and South Korea through the Look East Policy, signing Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with ASEAN, South Korea and Japan. He also strengthened strategic partnerships with the European Union, Russia and Japan, focusing on defense cooperation and energy partnerships. He also engaged Africa through India-Africa Forum Summits, focusing on development assistance, capacity building and trade relations. He advocated for India's inclusion in global decision-making bodies like the UN Security Council and played a significant role in forums like BRICS, G20, and IBSA, promoting South-South cooperation. Singh pursued energy security through agreements with Central Asia, the Middle East, and Iran, exploring projects like the Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) gas pipeline. He faced criticism for not taking a firm stance on Tamil civilian casualties during the Sri Lankan civil war, improved ties with Bangladesh and supported Nepal's transition to democracy while maintaining close economic and cultural ties. Singh's efforts to improve its foreign policy relations was pivotal in positioning India as an emerging global power, with a focus on economic diplomacy, strategic autonomy, and regional stability. His leadership laid the groundwork for India's deeper integration into the global order. Manmohan Singh's contributions significantly shaped modern India's economic framework, promoting growth, stability, and social welfare during a transformative period. His policies laid a strong foundation for sustained economic development and positioned India as a key player in the global economy.

2.2.4. Privatization and Liberalization Policies under Modi Government

Narendra Modi governance aligns with neo-liberal thought's core values, promoting a pro-business, reformist and globalization-friendly agenda. The economic policies of Modi's government focused on privatization and liberalization of the economy. These economic policies aimed to drive economic growth through improvement in agricultural, industrial and services sector.[261] Since taking office in May 2014, the Modi government has implemented various economic development policies to transform the economy and foster growth.[262] These initiatives stimulated economic growth, enhanced productivity, created jobs and improved the quality of life for citizens. In addition to these initiatives, the Modi government has introduced several programs and reforms to address various challenges and leverage opportunities in the economic landscape. These initiatives reflected a comprehensive approach to address the multifaceted challenges faced by the Indian economy. Under Modi government several initiatives were implemented to promote manufacturing, reduce imports and create a global manufacturing hub. These include "Make in India" that aimed to promote local produce, attract foreign investments, fostering innovation and enhanced skill development.[263] "Digital India", launched in January 2016, focused on transforming India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy by improving internet connectivity, promoting digital literacy and enhancing e-governance services.

Startup India, launched in January 2016, promoted entrepreneurship by providing funding, simplifying regulations and fostering innovation. It has offered tax benefits, easier patent registration and support for incubators. The government has also fostered a culture of innovation through various

[261] Shahroo Malik. *"Analyzing India's economic growth under Modi: myth or reality"* (Islamabad. ISSI. 2021)
[262] Ibid
[263] Ibid

schemes that support research and development in technology and entrepreneurship, the employability of the youth by offering industry-relevant skill training programs. This initiative aimed to bridge the skill gap in the economy and ensure that the workforce is equipped to meet market demands. “Atmanirbhar Bharat (Self-Reliant India)” was announced in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, focusing on making India self-reliant by boosting local manufacturing, promoting small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and reducing dependency on imports.[264] Financial inclusion initiatives, such as “Jan Dhan Yojana” aimed to provide banking access to the unbanked population, enabling them to participate in the economy. Infrastructure development was prioritized.[265] Under Modi leadership, some infrastructure development projects included Sagarmala project, Bharatmala project, and Chennai-nashri road tunnel and airport and railway modernization.[266] Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy reforms were implemented to attract more foreign investment and enhance capital flow and technology transfer.[267] Modi’s ambition of global integration is seen through his International cooperation and trade agreements such as “Act East” and “Neighborhood First” policies that have promoted trade ties and regional cooperation.[268] These efforts reflected the Indian government's holistic plan for addressing economic growth. As the country progresses, constant evaluations and changes of these policies ensure that they successfully meet the changing demands of the population, engage diverse stakeholders in constructive discourse such as people, corporations and civil society, aid in the refinement of these projects and their adaptation to the current economic situation. The success of these varied initiatives to develop a resilient, inclusive and sustainable economy is critical to India's collective dream of prosperity; Global economic power.

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[264] Parvathi. *“Indian economy during Indira Gandhi’s regime- a study”* (Tamilnadu. International Journal of Social Sciences Research and Development (IJSSRD). 2019)

[265] Some infrastructure development projects of Indian government https://www.financialexpress.com/india-news/narendra-modis-top-10-signature-infrastructure-projects-to-power- new-india/613121/

[266] Ibid

[267] Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy reforms https://pib.gov.in/PressNoteDetails.aspx?NoteId=151859&ModuleId=3

[268] Swaminathan S. Anklesaria Aiyar. *“Twenty-Five Years of Indian Economic Reform A Story of Private-Sector Success, Government Failure and Institutional Weakness”* (Washington D.C. CATO. 2016)

2.3. Role of Civil Society in Boosting Indian Economy

Non-governmental organizations have the responsibility to ensure that policies reaching the society aim at enhancing economic fairness, social justice, increased governance reforms, making economic development fair, Promoting better form of economic reforms, support increased and sustainable economic growth.[269] Over time, civil society has pushed for sustainable activities and the understanding of sustainable environment policies for responsible economic development. Several NGOs have focused on education, capacity building and empowering marginalized communities to increase the human capital necessary for its active participation in the economy. Civil society played the middlemen role between the government and the citizens encouraging inclusion of societal issues in policy reforms related to the economy.[270] Civil society also promoted social innovation that seeks to solve social problems and create economic value. Community projects by NGO's have supported for change where local communities are enabled with skills and tools to engage in economic activities. This local way not only improves people's lives but also strengthens the economy. A number of civil society education programs such as Pratham, Seva Mandir, self-employed women association etc have positively impacted literacy and vocational training in these targeted groups.[271] Different NGO's and societies have realized updating human capital to promote the growth of skilled workforce and to attract investments and innovation in different fields.[272]

2.4. Domestic Economic Reforms

India introduced economic reforms in 1990.[273] The aim was to boost the declining economy. Since implantation of these economic reforms and liberalization policies, India economy has seen wonderful economic progress because it became open to all and attractive foreign direct investment destination for world. These reforms, initiated at various stages since independence, have cumulatively impacted India's economic landscape. Each phase brought specific policies aimed at addressing the economic challenges of the time. These economic policies and reforms have contributed to India's

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[269] Rahul mukherji. *"The State, Economic Growth and Development in India"* (2009)
[270] Swaminathan S. Anklesaria Aiyar. *"Twenty-Five Years of Indian Economic Reform A Story of Private-Sector Success, Government Failure and Institutional Weakness"* (Washington D.C. CATO. 2016)
[271] Civil society's education development programs.
https://www.pratham.org/
[272] Rahul mukherji. *"The State, Economic Growth, and Development in India"* (Singapore. Taylor & Francis Group. 2009)
[273] Ashok Kapur. *"India-From Regional to World Power"* (Abingdon. Routlege. 2006)

growth and development. Contemporary India's economic structure is influenced by 21st century global economic structure, so the recent focus of Indian economic policies is on modernization, digitalization, self-reliance and positioning India as a major global economic

The British introduced several economic reforms that were aimed to generate revenue for British crown and control over Indian sub-continent. The economic reforms of British era created economic inequality and hindered India's economic growth. The post-Independence Era (1947- 1980) in India adopted mixed economy model, with a focus on the public sector. Five-Year Plans were introduced, focusing on industrialization, self-reliance and social equity. The first five-year plan (1951-1956) emphasized agriculture and infrastructure, while the second (1956-1961) focused on heavy industries and public sector expansion.[274] Some other economic reforms of the Indian government were the Land reforms that were implemented to reduce rural inequality and introduced the Green Revolution, which introduced high-yield variety seeds and modern agricultural practices.

The post-Independence Era also focused on establishment of industrial bases, agricultural modernization and educational institutions to build human capital. The initial liberalization phase (1980-1991) in India began with gradual liberalization. In this phase aim was reducing import controls and promoting technology transfer. This was a precursor to major reforms, as India faced a balance of payments crisis by 1991. Gradual liberalization reduced regulatory controls and import restrictions, while technology transfer attracted investments in select sectors. Economic liberalization (1991-2000) in India involved structural reforms, including market reforms, deregulation of industries, reduction of trade barriers and liberalization of the financial sector. These reforms created a more competitive and efficient economy, attracting foreign capital, technology and managerial expertise. The service sector experienced growth, particularly in IT and IT-enabled services, making India a global hub for software and services. Stock market reforms, such as the establishment of SEBI and modernization of stock exchanges, improved investor confidence. The New Economic Policy introduced by Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao and finance minister Manmohan Singh introduced deregulation, privatization, tax reforms, and liberalization of the banking sector, capital market reforms and the establishment of regulatory bodies like SEBI. The economic consolidation plan for 2000-2010 focused on growth, stability, and IT sector and services industry. Infrastructure development was prioritized,

[274] Peter Connell, Shirshore Hagi Hirad, Nilufar Jahan. *"Indian agriculture trends, trade and policy reforms"* (Australia. 2004)

including roads, ports and telecommunications. Economic reforms implemented in different phases in India have helped the country become a worldwide economic powerhouse. These economic reforms have resulted in enhanced efficiency, competitiveness and global integration. To maintain this economic struggle of India improved economic reforms and investments in infrastructure, human resources and innovation are critical for maintaining India's development path and strengthening India’s global economic position.

Since independence Post-independence, India adopted socialist-inspired policies, economic reforms and liberalization. The focus of these was on making India self-reliant, industry development and economic growth. Several domestic factors have played their role in India’s economy growth. This economic growth is attributed majorly to its youthful population, diverse workforce and digitalization. This youthful population has enhanced productivity and innovation in knowledge-intensive sectors, benefiting sectors like agriculture and manufacturing. Digitalization has optimized resource usage and reduced waste, boosting GDP and job opportunities. Private consumption accounts for sixty to seventy percent of India's GDP. Trade liberalization, deregulation of industries and liberalization of foreign investment have accelerated economic growth, creating jobs and increasing productivity. Infrastructure financing and banking reforms have improved access to credit and financial sectors. Infrastructure development projects like the National Infrastructure Pipeline and National Highways Development Project have enhanced productivity and reduced transportation costs. Long-term strategic development projects have improved connectivity and economic wellbeing. Agricultural reforms like PMFBY and PMKSY have enhanced productivity and food security. Different government's economic development policies have contributed to economic growth. India's economic reforms since 1947 have transformed the country from a primarily agrarian, controlled, socialist economy to a more liberalized, market-oriented and emerging global economic power. The Modi Era saw significant transformations in various sectors. India's future economic growth will be shaped by strategic initiatives such as strengthening the demographic dividend, investing in education and skill development, job creation, digital transformation, sustainable development, inclusive growth, global integration, innovation, infrastructure development, agricultural modernization, market access, financial inclusion and financial literacy.[275] These development movements will equip the workforce with relevant skills for emerging industries and promote global integration.

[275] Ashok Kapur. *"India-From Regional to World Power"* (Abingdon. Routlege. 2006)

Chapter – Three

Regional and Global Dynamics and Indian Economic Rise

India became part of world economy during British colonial rule in Indian sub-continent. The formal integration of India in world economy was with introduction of 1999 economic reforms.[276] With these reforms Indian economy became open to the South Asian region and whole world. Today India is an important player on both regional and global stages contributing to economic growth and development.[277] It is fifth largest economy in the world and largest economy in South Asian region.[278] It is contributing more than eighty percent of the region's gross domestic product (GDP).[279] With a GDP of approximately $4.11 trillion, it stands as the world's fifth largest economy in nominal terms and the third largest by purchasing power parity (PPP).[280] India is an important partner of South Asia's and international trade. It exports and imports a wide range of goods and services. India's regional major import-export partner countries are Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia and Afghanistan.[281] It exports machinery, textiles, chemicals, agricultural products, pharmaceuticals and software.[282] India imports various raw materials for its industrial and economic activities, including crude petroleum, mineral fuels and oils, gold, electrical machinery and equipment, organic chemicals, plastics and plastic articles, iron and steel, animal and vegetable fats, oils and waxes and fertilizers.[283] These raw materials support various sectors of the Indian economy. India's global trade partners are United States, China, Russia, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Australia and African states.[284] The country's imports and exports contribute to the domestic economy and global economy. India has a strategically important location in south Asia.

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[276] Simon carey *"The legacy of British colonialism in India post 1947"* (Wellington, Victoria university of wellington. 2012)
[277] Mohammad Mafizur Rahmana. *"Exploring the driving factors of economic growth in the world's largest economies"* (Australia. Heliyon. 2021)
[278] Mayashree Acharya. *"World GDP ranking 2024 List"* (ClearTax. 2024) https://cleartax.in/s/world-gdp-ranking-list
[279] Ibid
[280] Ibid
[281] Suresh M Babu. *"Growth and spread of manufacturing productivity across regions in India"* (Karnataka. Springer.2013)
[282] Shanta Nedungadi Varma. *"India's rise and Asia: dynamics of growth and cooperative relations"*(2007)
[283] Ibid
[284] Pravin Krishna *"India's trade agreements and the future of Indian trade policy"* (New York. Colombia University. 2019)

This boosts it to make investments with neighbors and other countries around the world. Indian companies and the government have made major investments in neighboring nations. The infrastructure projects, include road and rail networks, energy pipelines and port development.[285] These initiatives have improved connectivity, facilitated trade and promoted regional and global economic integration. India is a major destination for foreign direct investment (FDI), attracting multinational corporations and supporting economic growth and job creation.[286] India's "Make in India" initiative aims to boost manufacturing and attract foreign investment, making it a hub for manufacturing in sectors like automotive, electronics and pharmaceuticals.[287] India is actively participating in regional organizations like SAARC and SAFTA to promote economic integration, energy cooperation and regional energy security.[288] India is a global leader in information technology and software services, contributing significantly to the global Information Technology (IT) market. Indian IT companies like Tata Consultancy Services, Infosys and Wipro serve clients worldwide, enhancing productivity and innovation.[289] India's IT and technology sectors, particularly in Bangalore and Hyderabad are driving South Asia's digital economy. Its leadership in digital payments and fintech has influenced countries to adopt similar solutions. India's technological expertise, particularly in agriculture, information technology and healthcare, enhances productivity and innovation in the region.

India's soft power through its cultural heritage, including Bollywood films, cuisine and festivals has a significant impact on South Asia and the world.[290] It promotes cultural diplomacy and economic ties by cultural and educational exchanges through scholarships, student exchange programs and cultural festivals. India with its aim of global integration, is part of vital international organizations such as the G20, BRICS and the World Trade Organization (WTO). India through this economic integration influences global economic policies and trade agreements. This as a result are contributing

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[285] Shanta Nedungadi Varma. *"India's rise and Asia: dynamics of growth and cooperative relations*" (2007)
[286] International journal of marketing, financial services & management research Vol.1 Issue 8, August 2012. https://www.academia.edu/50062829/foreign_direct_investment_and_economic_growth_in_india
[287] Suresh M Babu. *"Growth and spread of manufacturing productivity across regions in India"* (Karnataka. Springer.2013)
[288] Opinion; by khushal khan. *"India's ambitions for regional hegemony"* (Pakistan today. 2022)
[289] Shanta Nedungadi Varma. *"India's rise and Asia: dynamics of growth and cooperative relations"* (2007)
[290] Mohammad Mafizur Rahmana. *"Exploring the driving factors of economic growth in the world's largest economies"* (Australia. Heliyon. 2021)

to Indian economic growth. The chapter discusses the regional and global dynamics contributing to Indian economic rise.

3.1. Regional Factors Contributing to India's Economic Rise

The South Asian region became prominent in the mid-twentieth century, notably after India and Pakistan gained independence from British colonial authority in 1947.[291] Since decades India has been geographically associated with the South Asian region. South Asia holds economic importance for India. It is home to 1.8billion people and this demography offer trade and investment opportunity.[292] This geographical advantage offer regional trade opportunities for India. It is among largest trading partners of many countries. It is investing in infrastructural projects to facilitate economic activities within and around South Asian region. India's IT and technology sectors, particularly in Bangalore and Hyderabad are enhancing its productivity, innovation and is driving South Asia's digital economy.[293] India's leadership in digital payments and fintech has influenced neighboring countries to adopt similar solutions. It is partnering with many regional organizations to enhance economic ties and regional cooperation. As a regional leader, India influences major economic decisions in South Asia and advocates for better connectivity and collaboration to ensure the region's collective economic growth.[294] All these regional efforts of India are driving its economic growth and ambitions to become global economic power.

3.1.1. India's Strategic Location in South Asia

India has a strategically important location in South Asia. It is bordered by countries like Pakistan to the northwest, Bhutan, China and Nepal to the north, Bangladesh and Myanmar to the east, Indian Ocean to its southeast and southwest and Sri Lanka to the south.[295] India's location offers access to critical maritime routes in the Indian Ocean, facilitating trade and connectivity not only within South

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[291] Simon carey *"The legacy of British colonialism in India post 1947"* (wellington, Victoria university of wellington, 2012)
[292] UNESCO. (2024)
https://www.econstor.eu/bitstream/10419/284923/1/mishra-emergence-of-india.pdf
[293] Mohammad Mafizur Rahmana. *"Exploring the driving factors of economic growth in the world's largest economies"* (Australia. Heliyon. 2021)
[294] Shanta Nedungadi Varma. *"India's rise and Asia: dynamics of growth and cooperative relations"* (2007)
[295] Saman Kelegama. *"The India–Sri Lanka free trade agreement and the proposed comprehensive economic partnership agreement: a closer look"* (2014)

Asia but also with major global trading partners in East Asia, Southeast Asia and beyond. India has historical, cultural and linguistic similarity and ties with many South Asian countries.[296] This gives it advantage for economic cooperation and engagement in various sectors. India is South Asia's active trade member. It is a large trader of import/export with countries like Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia and Malaysia.[297] India is a major trading partner of Bangladesh, with a strong presence in textiles, agriculture, pharmaceuticals and electrical equipment. It also contributes significantly to trade with Nepal, focusing on agricultural products, textiles and consumer goods. India remains the leading economic player in its bilateral relations with Bhutan, mainly involving hydro power, agricultural produce and construction materials.[298] Myanmar is also a significant trading partner, with oil, gas, agricultural products and textiles being major exports.

The strategic location of India's northeast region facilitates direct trade with Myanmar. Maritime connectivity supports trade between India and Sri Lanka, with major exports being apparels, electronics, food and cash crops.[299] India and Vietnam have intensified their bilateral trade, targeting electronics, agriculture products and services. Free trade and Vietnam's ASEAN membership make trade more attractive for Indian investors. Indonesia and Malaysia are major trading partners in palm oil, rubber and textiles. This cross-border trade has been crucial for India's economic development, enabling market expansion, increased exports, job creation, investment attraction and improved regional relations.[300] It allows Indian businesses to access neighboring countries, diversify revenues, generate foreign exchange earnings, stabilize the currency and support SMEs.[301] Cross- border trade has also fostered better diplomatic relations, strengthen regional ties and promoted cultural exchange and soft power.[302] This has enhanced India's position as a key player in the regional and global economy. India has established several trade agreements with its neighboring countries to promote

[296] Simon carey *"The legacy of British colonialism in India post 1947"* (Wellington, Victoria university of wellington, 2012)
[297] Ibid
[298] India-bhutan trade relations. (Embassy of India. Thimphu, Bhutan)
[299] Saman Kelegama. *"The India–Sri Lanka free trade agreement and the proposed comprehensive economic partnership agreement: a closer look"*. (2014)
[300] *"India's rise from a regional to a global power"* (Journal of international analytics. 2020) https://www.interanalytics.org/jour/article/view/286?locale=en_us
[301] Ibid
[302] Ibid

economic cooperation, regional integration and facilitate trade.[303] The Key agreements of India with its south Asian neighbor are Indo-Bangladesh Trade Agreement (ITBA), India-Bhutan Trade Agreement and India-Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement (ISFTA). The Indo-Bangladesh Trade Agreement (ITBA), aims to enhance bilateral trade and investment.[304] The India-Bangladesh trade agreement has surpassed $10 billion in bilateral trade.[305] In this India is primarily exporting textiles, machinery and pharmaceuticals to Bangladesh. India-Bhutan Trade Agreement, facilitates trade and transit between the two countries.[306] The India-Nepal Treaty of Trade, which allows duty-free access of goods between India and Nepal, has been effective in promoting trade. The India-Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement (ISFTA), effective since 2000, aims to reduce tariffs and promote trade in goods across various sectors.[307] The Indo-Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement (ISFTA) encourages Indian companies to invest in Sri Lanka, enhancing economic ties and creating jobs.[308] The Indo-Maldives Trade Agreement, signed with the Maldives focuses on goods and services. India has also been involved in capacity-building and trade facilitation projects in Afghanistan, including transit routes through Pakistan.[309] The India-Myanmar Trade Agreement, is part of India's Look East policy. It aims to enhance trade between India and Myanmar. It facilitates improved trade routes and economic cooperation.

The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi- Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) promotes trade and economic integration among member countries.[310] These agreements are a great source of economic cooperation and development. These have increased trade and investment in India. They have also created better job opportunities, resulting in increased GDP for

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[303] Manoj pant. *"The role of regional trade agreements: in the case of India*" (new Delhi. center for economic integration. 2018)
[304] Policy review. (2013) https://www.researchgate.net/publication/264477461_economic_impact_of_the_proposed_bangladesh-india_fta_potentials_and_realities
[305] Ibid
[306] India-Bhutan trade relations. (Embassy of India. Thimphu, Bhutan) https://www.indembthimphu.gov.in/pages/mzi,#:~:text=the%20india%2dbhutan%20agreement%20on,bhutanese%20exports%20to%20third%20countries.
[307] Saman Kelegama. *"The India–Sri lanka free trade agreement and the proposed comprehensive economic partnership agreement: a closer look".* (2014)
[308] Ibid
[309] Opinion; By Khushal Khan *"India's ambitions for regional hegemony".* (Pakistan Today. 2022)
[310] Aparna Sharma, Chetna K Rathore*. "BIMSTEC and BCIM initiatives and their importance for India"* (Jaipur. CUTS international 2015) https://www.cuts-citee.org/pdf/bimstec_and_bcim_initiatives_and_their_importance_for_india.pdf

India. Neoliberalism also encourages private investment and public-private partnerships (PPPs), which reduce the state's direct engagement in the economy while increasing private sector participation. India supports private investment in energy, logistics and infrastructure, with a focus on border and hinterland connection projects. Initiatives such as the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway and the Kaladan Multimodal Transit Transport Project promote regional economic interdependence by integrating regional manufacturing networks, lowering costs and increasing competitiveness.

As a member of South Asian Association Regional Cooperation (SAARC), India participates in South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA), which aims to reduce customs duties on trade between member countries.[311] India's strategic positioning in the South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) further contributes to its economic growth and global standing. These agreements reflect India's strategy to strengthen economic ties with its neighbors and promote regional stability and prosperity. India's trade agreements with south Asian countries has led to increased trade volumes. It has increased foreign investment and market access. These trade partnerships created opportunity for India to integrate in global economy.[312] It has also highlighted India's strategic positioning in the global.[313] These initiatives have contributed to India's rise as a global economic power, enhancing trade, investment and regional integration.

Neoliberalism suggests that economic cooperation is most effective when it is market-led, facilitated by liberalized trade policies, competitive infrastructure development, and open investment environments. India's role in fostering regional connectivity and trade cooperation is seen as a strategy to enhance economic interdependence, promote efficiency, and attract private capital across borders. Trade liberalization and the removal of non-tariff barriers lead to greater economic efficiency and regional prosperity. India's support for SAFTA, BIMTEC trade cooperation, and bilateral trade agreements with Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Nepal aims to facilitate frictionless movement of goods and services. Market-driven infrastructure development initiatives, such as the India-ASEAN connectivity plans, focus on infrastructure as a facilitator of market integration rather than a state-dominated, centralized asset. Cross-border energy and transport projects attract foreign direct

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[311] *"India's rise from a regional to a global power"* (Journal of international analytics 11 (2): 2020) https://www.interanalytics.org/jour/article/view/286?locale=en_us

[312] Pravin Krishna *"India's trade agreements and the future of Indian trade policy"* (New York. Colombia University. 2019)

[313] Manoj pant. *"The role of regional trade agreements: in the case of India"* (New Delhi. center for economic integration. 2018)

investment (FDI) by creating investor confidence, mobilizing private capital, and building a competitive regional market environment. India's development of regional energy grids supports energy trade, cross-border electricity exchanges, and investment in clean and sustainable energy. Economic corridors are supported by neoliberalism, linking production centers, trade hubs, and consumer markets through efficient infrastructure and governance systems. India's regional economic cooperation reflects its belief in the transformative power of open markets, efficient infrastructure, and regional economic integration driven by private capital, not state control.

3.1.2. India's Access to Indian Ocean

India is home to 40% of world coastline and 36% population world population.[314] It is a crucial maritime trade corridor of South Asian region and the world. It has major shipping routes that facilitate global economic activities. India has an important location in Indian Ocean. It is bordered by the Arabian Sea to the west and the Bay of Bengal to the east. Indian Ocean is home to around 36% world population.[315] With a coastline that controls access to major shipping routes, India serves as a gateway for trade between Europe, Asia and Africa. This strategic positioning enhances India's role in regional and global supply chains. India is also a key trading partner in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR). It is investing in infrastructure development, telecommunications advancement and renewable energy sectors.[316]

India is working to enhance its naval capabilities in Indian Ocean. It aims to protect its interests in the Indian Ocean. Its interest here is to ensure freedom of navigation and safeguard trade against potential threats like piracy and maritime terrorism.[317] India is modernizing its naval capabilities in the Indian Ocean Region. This includes aircraft carriers, submarines and auxiliary vessels. INS Vikrant, India's first aircraft carrier to be planned and built domestically.[318] The INS Vikrant was put into service in September 2022, marking a major turning point in the country's naval aviation capabilities and power projection in the Indian Ocean Region. The first nuclear-powered ballistic

[314] *"India's rise from a regional to a global power"* (Journal of international analytics 11 (2): 2020) https://www.interanalytics.org/jour/article/view/286?locale=en_us
[315] Herbert Traxl. *"Special series on the strategic review of global hotspots"* (2021) pg3 https://www.aies.at/download/2021/aies-fokus-2021-09.pdf
[316] Ibid
[317] Ibid
[318] BBC. *"INS Vikrant: Inside India's newly-commissioned aircraft carrier"* (2022)

missile submarine (SSBN) in India is the INS Arihant, which went into service in 2016. It is vital part of India's nuclear deterrent policy; it gives the country the option to launch a second attack in the area. Indian navy has invested in advanced surveillance systems and maritime patrol aircraft. In Indian Ocean, the Indian Navy's P-8I Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft are essential for anti- submarine warfare. In 2015 it provided reconnaissance and aid in conducting Operation Rahat. It was a successful evacuation effort that assisted in the rescue of thousands of Indians and international people from Yemen during the Yemen crisis. Malabar Exercises, the purpose of the regular Malabar naval exercises is to improve communication between the fleets of the United States, Japan and India. India has also conducted successful anti-piracy operations and provided humanitarian assistance. The navy is also focusing on indigenous shipbuilding to enhance defense production. All these efforts of India is to strengthen its economic powerhouse standing in Indian Ocean.

India has formed strategic partnerships with neighboring countries in the Indian Ocean region to enhance economic cooperation and growth. Notable examples include defense cooperation with Maldives, maritime security collaborations with Sri Lanka, joint naval exercises with Bangladesh and maritime cooperation with Seychelles.[319] India has also invested in infrastructure projects in Sri Lanka for enhancing their strategic partnership.[320] India and Bangladesh have cooperated on maritime security, including joint naval exercises and patrolling in the Bay of Bengal. They have signed bilateral agreements on transit and trade to facilitate maritime transportation and enhance economic ties. India has also helped Mauritius set up a coastal surveillance radar system and conducted joint naval exercises to strengthen cooperation and improve maritime security in the region. India has signed agreements with Maldives to assist in capacity building of its security forces and enhance maritime capabilities. India has engaged with ASEAN and African Nations on maritime security, trade agreements and regional stability. China's Belt and Road Initiative has driven India to enhance its maritime strategy to counterbalance Chinese influence. Indo-Pacific strategy of India is to enhance its economic control here. India is part of the Quadrilateral Dialogue (Quad) with the United States, Australia and Japan, focusing on a free and open Indo-Pacific. It actively participates in multilateral forums like the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) and the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium

[319] Saman Kelegama. *"The India–Sri lanka free trade agreement and the proposed comprehensive economic partnership agreement: a closer look"* (2014)
[320] Ibid

(IONS), working with multiple neighboring nations to foster regional economic cooperation.[321] These strategic partnerships reflect India's commitment to strengthening its influence and enhancing economic growth in the Indian Ocean.

3.1.3. Infrastructural Development and India's Economic Cooperation through Regional Trade in South Asia

India, the major economy of south Asian region is a founding member of significant regional associations like the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) and others.[322] Through these platforms, India promotes economic cooperation, economic growth and regional integration. South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) was founded with aim to promote regional cooperation. India is part of SAARC and is partnering with member countries in economic development, trade facilitation and enhanced security by reducing barriers and tariffs in trade. The SAARC projects like SAARC development fund and initiative like South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) are beneficial for India.[323] As these fosters economic cooperation and increases trade volumes, benefiting India as a major regional economy. It also increased access to neighboring markets, allows Indian businesses to expand their reach and contributing to overall Indian economic growth. By enhancing economic collaboration and reducing trade barriers, SAARC facilitates the development of integrated supply chains within the region. Indian companies can source materials and components from neighboring countries, reducing costs and increasing competitiveness.

The trade and economic cooperation among India, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bhutan and Nepal (BIMSTEC).[324] BIMSTEC aims to enhance connectivity through infrastructure projects, such as roads, railways and maritime routes. Improved connectivity facilitates trade and strengthens supply chains, benefiting India economically. Initiatives like the BIMSTEC Free Trade Agreement (FTA) enhance intra-regional trade by reducing tariffs and non- tariff barriers, which

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[321] Herbert Traxl. *"Special series on the strategic review of global hotspots"* (Austria. 2021) pg3
[322] *"India's rise from a regional to a global power"* (Journal of international analytics 11 (2): 2020) https://www.interanalytics.org/jour/article/view/286?locale=en_US
[323] Biswa Misra. *"Development and economic growth in India, drivers for Indian States"* pg;177
[324] Aparna Sharma, Chetna K Rathore. *"BIMSTEC and BCIM initiatives and their importance for India"* (Jaipur. CUTS international 2015) https://www.cuts-citee.org/pdf/bimstec_and_bcim_initiatives_and_their_importance_for_india.pdf

ultimately boosts India’s economic interests. It also increased access to larger markets within BIMSTEC allows Indian businesses to expand their reach and tap into new consumer bases, thus driving economic growth. By engaging with BIMSTEC nations, India can diversify its trade partnerships and reduce dependency on traditional markets.[325] This strategy helps India solidify its position in the regional and global economy. The intergovernmental organization of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) provides a platform for India to collaborate with major emerging economies. It also facilitate increased trade, investment and technology transfer for India.[326] The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) promotes economic cooperation among member states. It has the potential benefits for trade and investment. India’s participation in SCO initiatives helped it to strengthen regional connectivity and trade with Central Asian countries. It has also enhanced economic interactions. ASEAN and ASEAN-India Cooperation have led to increased trade, including the ASEAN-India Free Trade Agreement, promoting economic integration and increased market access. Strong cultural ties are to facilitate smoother economic transactions and enhance India's presence in Southeast Asia.[327] India's involvement in regional connectivity initiatives, various bilateral and multilateral agreements enhances trade and economic collaboration within south Asian region. Regional infrastructure development of India has boosted its economic standing in region.[328] Both regional integration and local economic growth are supported by these programs. The India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway aims to connect India with Southeast Asia. It also enhances trade and transportation. It will boost India's economic presence in Southeast Asia, expand market access for Indian goods and enhance regional connectivity. The Sagarmala Project is a government initiative meant at modernizing ports and coastal infrastructure. It also aims to reduce logistics costs, boost maritime trade and enhance export competitiveness. As a result it will contribute to India’s economic growth.

The International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) is a 7200 kilo meter multi-modal transport corridor connecting India to Russia, Central Asia, the Caucasus and Europe via Iran.[329] It

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[325] Ibid

[326] Tamara Parfinenko. *“International economic integration of BRICS countries–driver of regional and global economic growth”* (Kirov. Atlantis Press.2020)

[327] Greg Mills. *“Reflections: India, IBSA and the IOR”* https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/09700160801886421

[328] Mohammad Mafizur Rahmana. *“Exploring the driving factors of economic growth in the world's largest economies”* (Australia. Heliyon. 2021)

[329] Policy brief #24. *“India’s export potential in INSTC member countries”* (CRIER.2024) Pg-6

facilitates faster trade routes, reduces costs and enhances connectivity with Central Asia, Russia and Europe. The INSTC supports India's trade competitiveness, energy security and regional influence by providing a faster and cheaper alternative to the traditional Suez Canal route.[330] It also improves India's access to oil, gas and minerals from Russia, Iran and Central Asia and reduces reliance on energy imports. The INSTC aligns with India's Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative, enhancing its resilience and reducing dependency on China and traditional maritime routes.[331] India is investing in infrastructure projects in the Indo-Pacific region, particularly in Myanmar, Japan and Vietnam, to strengthen regional stability and economic collaboration. This strengthens ties with Indo-Pacific nations, promoting India's role in global supply chains and geopolitical influence. The "Digital India" initiative aims to improve internet connectivity and technology access, supporting the growth of the IT sector, e- commerce and digital services and further integrating India into the global economy. India's economic rise to global prominence is significantly influenced by its participation in various regional organizations.

3.2. Global Factors Contributing to India's Rise as Economic Power

Since 3,000 BCE India known as the land of silk and spices existed in the world and was contributing its part in world economy.[332] By time India's economic importance was realized in world economy. Today there are several global dynamics that are contributing to its economic growth. India's rise as global economic power is influenced by its strategic location in the world, global economic partnerships, digital leadership, global capital flows and investment, demographic influence, participation in global economic organizations and economic resilience.[333] India has taken several global initiatives to attract global businesses. India with ambition to become global economic power has done efforts to converge with different international organizations. Some examples are G-20, BRICS and WTO.[334] The country's resilience and growth prospects make it an attractive destination for global investors, which in return contributes to its ambition of becoming global economic power.

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[330] Ibid
[331] Ibid
[332] Mohammad Mafizur Rahmana. *"Exploring the driving factors of economic growth in the world's largest economies"* (Australia. Heliyon. 2021)
[333] Tanushree mazumdar *"Capital flows into India implications for its economic growth"* (2005)
[334] Manoj pant. *"The role of regional trade agreements: in the case of India"* (New Delhi. center for economic integration. 2018)

3.2.1. Geopolitical Alliances, Partnerships, Global Institutions

India's active participation in organizations such as the G20, BRICS and WTO influences its economic profile on the global stage. As world's fifth largest economy, India uses the G20 platform to advocate for inclusive growth, global economic recovery, climate change and sustainable development. India has hosted the G-20 summit in 2023 and utilized this platform to bring focus of world to topics important to rising countries, such as sustainable development, climate change and fair global trade. As India is attempting to strengthen its trade partnerships through different programs that aim to increase manufacturing and exports. So India’s plan of increased trade coincides with the G-20's goals of encouraging open markets and resolving imbalances. India G-20 membership has the potential to boost Indian economic rise to power. From a neoliberal perspective, geopolitical alliances and strategic partnerships are not primarily seen as mechanisms for power balancing or military containment but as platforms for economic cooperation, institutional harmonization, and market integration. Neoliberalism downplays hard power dynamics and instead focuses on how interdependence, commerce, and global norms foster mutually beneficial relationships that support economic growth. Geopolitical alliances such as the Quad (Quadrilateral Security Dialogue) and the India-U.S. Strategic Partnership are seen as instruments to promote economic openness, technology exchange, infrastructure cooperation, and resilient supply chains. The Quad Working Groups on critical technologies, vaccine distribution, and infrastructure align closely with neoliberal priorities, promoting market stability, health security, and open digital trade rather than direct power politics.

The India-U.S. Strategic Partnership emphasizes the institutionalization of economic norms through bilateral frameworks, with initiatives like the U.S.-India Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET) and CEO Forums focusing on innovation, supply chain security, and regulatory alignment. This partnership is interpreted not as a balancing act against China but as a means to enhance India's global competitiveness through technology transfer, market integration, and skills development. India's revived Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations with the EU exemplify neoliberal emphasis on institutional convergence and rule-based trade. Neoliberalism supports FTAs as mechanisms for harmonizing standards, ensuring investor protection, and expanding market access. India's collaboration with the EU on green economy, data governance, and digital public infrastructure reflects a shared commitment to liberal economic norms. Neoliberalism values the institutional frameworks that arise from international partnerships, such as India's engagement in the G20, WTO, and Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs). These forums contribute to financial cooperation, development financing, and global economic inclusion, rather than ideological contestation. So, from a neoliberal perspective, India's strategic alliances are not primarily tools for balancing rival powers but as economic cooperation platforms that promote open markets, shared prosperity, technological advancement, trade facilitation, FDI, and economic interdependence.

India’s participation in BRICS coalition, comprising Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa aims to increase cooperation in various sectors, including economics, politics and culture.[335] India's economic liberalization in 1991 facilitated trade with BRICS countries.[336] India advocates for reforms in institutions like the IMF and the World Bank to give greater voice and representation to emerging economies. Under BRICS India join hands to find solution to global challenges like poverty, inequality and climate change. It also engages in collaborations that enhance trade and investment among member countries.[337] Since 1995, World Trade Organization (WTO) has provided major platform for increased trade and investment opportunities around the world.[338] India has utilized this to increase its trade, bring in investments, increase its market access and development of sectors specially agriculture, IT, textile.[339]

India is an important economic partner with major economies of the world, particularly with United States, United Arab Emirates, Japan and the European Union. The United States is India's largest trading partner, with bilateral trade exceeding $190 billion in 2023.[340] Major US investments in tech hubs like Bengaluru and Hyderabad have fostered innovation and entrepreneurship, transforming India into a global outsourcing hub. Joint initiatives like the iCET (Critical and Emerging Technologies) facilitate cooperation in AI, semiconductors and space technology, boosting India's knowledge economy. The United Arab Emirates supports trade, energy and infrastructure by signing

[335] Tamara Parfinenko. *“International economic integration of BRICS countries–driver of regional and global economic growth”* (Kirov. Atlantis Press.2020)
[336] Ibid
[337] Ibid
[338] Tamara Parfinenko. “International economic integration of BRICS countries–driver of regional and global economic growth” (Kirov. Atlantis Press.2020)
[339] Biswa Misra. *“Development and economic growth in India, drivers for Indian states”* Routlege. Pg; 77 https://www.routledge.com/development-and-economic-growth-in-india-drivers-for-indian-states/misra/p/book/9781032243894?srsltid=afmbooq3gvr2yjkqboujuys3uclqidwxeg4ox_djfoll4q5n5cbxh8v
[340] Ibid

the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), boosting non-oil trader with a target of $100 billion by 2030.[341] The UAE serves as a trade hub for Indian goods, especially jewelry, textiles and machinery. Japan is an important partner in India's infrastructure projects, contributing to the growth of the automobile and electronics sectors.[342] The European Union (EU) is India's second-largest trading partner. Their bilateral trade exceeding €120 billion in 2023.[343] India's economic partnership with European Union includes, The Indo-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA) which is under negotiation. It aims to reduce tariffs and promote trade in automobiles, pharmaceuticals and IT services. European firms have invested heavily in India's key sectors. EU investments have modernized key sectors and crated jobs for India. These global partnerships drive India's economic growth by diversifying its economy, attracting investments and strengthening global supply chains. India's economic growth is also being bolstered by global institutions such as The International Monetary Fund (IMF), The World Bank, The Asian Development Bank (ADB), The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and others. By leveraging these partnerships, India can pursue sustainable growth, improve and enhance its economic resilience. These global partnerships has potential to position India as a prominent player in the global economy.

3.2.2. Global Financial Markets and Global Supply Chains

It therefore follows that goals and policies for economic growth in India are conditioned by international economic environment and include trade policies, monetary policies, the state of the global economy and international politics. The country needs to consider the agreements in trade, optimal tariffs and FDI that can advance the market entry and attract investors. These two elements fluctuate with consequences on improving or worsening its competitiveness in the export market as well as the prices of imports which includes costs of interest. Moreover, geopolitical aspects are influential in determine the partnerships that define trading policies as well as investment flows in India.

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[341] Shanta Nedungadi Varma. *"India's rise and Asia: dynamics of growth and cooperative relations"* (2007) https://dams.pa.go.kr/dams/publication/2009/08/09/doc/src/020420090922100160001001601 2976.pdf
[342] Japan-India Relations. (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan. 2024) https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/india/index.html
[343] Shanta Nedungadi Varma. *"India's rise and Asia: dynamics of growth and cooperative relations"* (2007)

Global financial markets driving India's economy is through various domains. For example; Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has been a significant driver of growth in India, with tech giants like Google and Facebook investing in Indian startups due to the country's large consumer base and digital growth prospects.[344] The correlation between the Indian equity market (Nifty 50) and global indices was evident during major market events, such as the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020. Indian market made huge success through its vaccine distribution around the world. Geopolitical events, such as tensions between the US and China over trade tariffs in 2018, impacted global investor sentiment, leading to focus of world towards Indian market and bring success to Indian economy. The emergence of fintech and international capital flows has attracted significant foreign investment in Indian startups, such as Paytm and Razorpay, which has enabled them to innovate and contribute to the financial inclusion agenda in India.[345] The "Make in India Initiative", launched in 2014, encourages manufacturing in India and attracts global companies to invest here.[346] India has become a major hub for manufacturing automobiles, smartphones and textiles, contributing to the global supply chain. The government has set up Production-Linked Incentive schemes to attract global giants in electronics manufacturing. India is also known as the "Pharmacy of the world".[347] It plays an important role in pharmaceutical supply chains around the world. COVID-19 pandemic vaccine supply around the world is example of this.[348] India's focus on quality education has brought in medical experts that contribute to pharmaceutical chain of world. India is earning economic success through its advanced technology used for medicine sector. Growth is observed in India's role in global supply chains. The factors behind this is infrastructural development. This is making connectivity feasible for all around the world. Further Indian skilled workforce is valuable assets of that is bringing in increased foreign direct investment and job opportunities from around the world.[349] India technology advancement also has great role in strengthening global financial markets for India. These help India to diversify its

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[344] International journal of marketing, financial services & management Research Vol.1 Issue 8, August 2012, ISSN 2277 3622. https://www.academia.edu/50062829/foreign_direct_investment_and_economic_growth_in_india
[345] Tanushree Mazumdar *"Capital flows into India implications for its economic growth"* (2005)
[346] Suresh M Babu. *"Growth and spread of manufacturing productivity across regions in India"* (Karnataka. Springer.2013)
[347] Ibid
[348] Shanta Nedungadi Varma. *"India's rise and Asia: dynamics of growth and cooperative relations*" (2007)
[349] Suresh M Babu. *"Growth and spread of manufacturing productivity across regions in India"* (Karnataka. springer.2013)

market access, which as a result is a contributor for its economic growth and development. To maintain its competitive advantage, India needs much resilience to continue to leverage its strengths and adapt to global financial markets global supply chain challenges.

3.2.3. Globalization and Global Market Integration

Economic globalization began in India from early 1990s and affected its economic policies and development pioneer.[350] The economic liberalization in India was the globalization. This has impacted on many sectors, because it brings changes to policies and effects the economy. Under globalization there has been a change of focus towards liberalization, FDI and service sector. Increased globalization has reduced protectionism and lowered trade barriers. This has led to policy changes such as; liberalization of industries, decrease in import tariffs and the liberalization of restrictions on foreign investment.[351] This has also led to a liberalized economy of India and more open economy in the path of globalization. Additionally, globalization has increased the FDI in India in many folds and shows immense contribution in the progress of Indian GDP. India has also integrated into global supplies chains making great improvements in manufacturing and service industries. Service industry has been an important part of India's economic diversification out of which it has turned out to be among the most important contributors to the Gross Domestic Product.[352] New industries such as e-commerce, fintech and renewable energy have come up as globalization provided new market and investment claims. Due to opening up of liberal economy there exists a raise in income levels and spending patterns which has accelerated the growth of middle class section in India. This consumer demographic shift has acted as a stimulus for policy making to meet the needs of consumers. Globalization has also contributed to Urbanization resulting to changes on infrastructure and housing policies. Global competition has been used to highlight human capital development and innovation, the government has moved to promote and improve vocation training, as well as higher learning institutions.

Integration of India into the Global Market has greatly transformed the Indian economy by assisting the nation to utilize its opportunities in the Global Market to access foreign investment for it

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[350] International Journal of Marketing, Financial Services & Management Research Vol.1 Issue 8, August 2012.

[351] Tamara Parfinenko. *"International economic integration of BRICS countries–driver of regional and global economic growth"* (Kirov. Atlantis Press.2020)

[352] Shanta Nedungadi Varma. *"India's Rise and Asia: Dynamics of Growth and Cooperative Relations"* (2007)

to become dominant player in many areas.[353] Some of these integration instances include liberalization of markets, enhanced export, FDI and widened service industries. This has also provided access to global value chains, infrastructural development, financial account integration, adherence to strategic trade relations and educational/travel/entertainment exchange. India has entered into the international market in many ways. This has made its IT and software services sector boom as it has contributed more than two hundred billion to its GDP in 2020.[354] The country has been enhancing its roles in global healthcare by connecting to worldwide supply chains, thereby also increasing exports and development.[355] The integration of the financial market has also played a great role in determining economic growth in India. For instance; implementing its Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) with UAE simplified the method of trading with barriers for timely trade in services and goods enhancing business bilateral trade to $100 billion in five years through trade dispersal.[356] Automobiles have emerged as significant producers for the Indian economy, with exports touching crossing $3 billion in the year 2021.[357] India's vision for standard education can also be glimpsed from the kind of associations that Indian institutions of higher learning are making with universities in other countries. This will encourage knowledge transfer and also research development.[358] It will enhance the scenario of education and research in India. It will also go along the way of building a pool of qualified human resource that can fit the international market. Market integration to the global market has a critical role to the India growth thus making it important player in the global market. While free power continues to become more integrated into the world economy, it hopes to leverage this to attract new opportunities for growth and to better shape the international system.

Neoliberalism views globalization as a positive force that promotes economic efficiency, competitiveness and prosperity. It argues that countries embedded in global markets benefit from comparative advantage, technology transfer, foreign investment, and productivity gains. India's post-1991 trajectory serves as an example of how global integration can accelerate the transformation from

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[353] Ibid
[354] Mayashree Acharya. *"World GDP Ranking 2024 List"* (ClearTax. 2024)
[355] Shanta Nedungadi Varma. *"India's rise and Asia: dynamics of growth and cooperative relations"* (2007)
[356] Ibid
[357] Biswa Misra. *"Development and Economic Growth in India, Drivers for Indian States"*
[358] Mayashree Acharya. *"World GDP Ranking 2024 List"* (ClearTax. 2024) https://cleartax.in/s/world-gdp-ranking-list

a developing to an emerging economic power. India's 1991 economic reforms, known as the LPG model (Liberalization, Privatization, Globalization), opened the Indian economy to foreign direct investment (FDI), privatization of public enterprises, trade deregulation, and financial liberalization. Neoliberalism credits India's shift toward export-oriented growth, especially in services, for efficient resource allocation and global responsiveness. The boom in IT exports, pharmaceuticals, automotive components, and textiles demonstrates India's embrace of global supply chains and competitiveness in niche global markets. India's increased FDI inflows and openness to multinational capital are characterized by free capital movement, driving job creation, technology diffusion, skills transfer, and infrastructure investment. Programs like Make in India, Startup India, and Digital India encourage multinational partnerships and investment-led growth. India's integration into digital globalization through software exports, online services, and startup ecosystems demonstrates neoliberal ideals, promoting technological diffusion as a by-product of globalization.

India's ascent to global economic dominance is a role of interactive regional and global forces mediated by domestic and external interactions. Coming in the 1990s when Indian economy started to liberalize, meant opened doors to the world economy when it was earlier not allowed. Due to its geographic location, India has gained advantage in terms of economic partnership based on trade corridors with neighboring countries in region. These have increased its regional influence through the collaboration of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) and the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation. It is also shaping the institutional architecture of the ASEAN. On a global scale, India has shifted its geopolitical views by maintaining its balance of relations with key actors including the United States, China, Russia and the European Union. India is also forward member in the Indo-Pacific region and some multilateral organizations such as the World Trade Organization (WTO) and G20. The reason of this global integration is to strengthen India's place in the global economy. India's capacity to balance out regional cooperation and global participation will be crucial in keeping its economic momentum and achieve its long term global power status as it grows economically. Neoliberalism sees regional cooperation as a precursor to global integration, both of which drive India's economic change by encouraging specialization, competitiveness, innovation and investor attractiveness. India's success is thus understood as the result of adopting open-market regionalism and globalization while adhering to neoliberal economic principles.

Chapter Four

India's Hosting G-20 New Delhi Summit (2023)

In 1999, G-20 or Group of Twenty was established.[359] It is an intergovernmental organization that was formed in response to global economic instability in the 1990s. It addresses major issues related to the global economy, such as international financial stability, climate change mitigation and sustainable development. It has nineteen member countries and European Union as members. The aim of its formation was to unite developed and developing nations in order to stabilize world markets.[360] The G-20's structure is divided into two main tracks: the Finance Track and the Sherpa Track.[361] The Finance Track deals with fiscal and monetary policies, while the Sherpa Track focuses on broader issues like development, energy and anti-corruption.[362] India is an active member here and its participation has consistently supported global cooperation and sustainable growth. The topic of focus and debate changes in meetings held annually.[363] India hosted the G-20 New Delhi Summit in 2023. Its focus was on sustainable development, climate action, digital transformation and economic resilience. The summit emphasized inclusivity, highlighting India's growing influence and vision for a balanced global order, promoting sustainable growth and mutual prosperity. This chapter discusses India's hosting of G-20 New Delhi Summit in 2023.

4.1. Overview of G-20 and its Significance

The G-20 or Group of Twenty, is an international forum for governments to discuss pressing issues and concerns of that hour.[364] This collaboration of 19 countries and the European Union aims to promote global economic stability and sustainable development.[365] Its member countries account

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[359] Priyanka Dubey. *"G20 and its significance: India takes over g20 presidency"* (Delhi. international journal of political science and governance. 2023)
[360] Ibid
[361] India.gov.in. National portal of India. https://www.india.gov.in/spotlight/group-twenty-g20
[362] Ibid
[363] Yoganandham. *"India's g20 presidency focuses on economic cooperation, digital public infrastructure, inclusive multilateralism, governance reform and sustainable tourism - an assessment" (2023)*
[364] Ibid
[365] Priyanka Dubey. *"G20 and its significance: India takes over g20 presidency"* (Delhi. international journal of political science and governance. 2023)

for 85% of global GDP, 75% of international trade and two-third of the world's population.[366]The G-20 forum brings together key actors from both developed and emerging economies to discuss and address pressing economic challenges, such as financial regulation, trade policies and development issues.[367] This forum also facilitates dialogue and collaboration on priority topics of everyday like climate change, health security and food security. Through this collective debates world economy remains stable and interconnected.[368] It also promotes free trade and investment by lowering obstacles and fostering a fair international trading system.[369] It has focused on enhancing global financial regulation in order to avoid repeat crises, encompassing efforts such as banking reform, financial stability measures and international standard implementation.[370] The G-20 frequently invites representatives from other nations, international organizations and civil society to engage in talks.[371] Through this it aims to widen the scope of the discourse and take into account a diverse variety of viewpoints. Its goal in performing these duties is to promote a more stable, fair and sustainable global economy. The G-20's dedication to these duties guarantees that the global economy stays strong and resilient.

4.2. G-20 and India's Role

India one of the emerging global economy is a founding member of G-20. India's inclusion in the G-20 has given it a major opportunity to strengthen multilateral cooperation, accelerate sustainable growth and contribute to global economic stability. India's hosting of the G-20 under neoliberalism demonstrates its commitment to global economic governance, promoting multilateralism, open markets, international collaboration, addressing global challenges like debt, trade imbalances and climate change. Relating this here, India as one of the world's largest economies and a major player in international affairs, has used this summit to highlight its agenda, which focuses on sustainable development, digital transformation and inclusive growth. India has played a great role in promoting global trade under this forum. It has consistently supported free and fair trade. It has worked with other

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[366] Ibid
[367] Rajiv Bhatia *"India's G20 Presidency: Policy Prescription to Impact"* (2023) https://www.gatewayhouse.in/indias-g20-presidency-policy-prescription-impact/print/
[368] Maheen Shafeeq. *"The g20 presidency: is India ready for a more global diplomatic role?"* (Islamabad. ISSI. 2023)
[369] Ibid
[370] Ibid
[371] "*G20 summit: Who are the regional, international groupings invited as guests"* (The Indian express. 2023)

G20 countries to promote a more open and inclusive trading system, which benefits all countries, particularly developing economies. Further India has brought attention of the world towards vulnerable population of global south and their concerns.

This also aligns with global concern. India was been a vocal advocate for climate action within the G20. It is evident from its commitment to Paris Agreement targets.[372] One of India's most notable contributions is the India-France-led International Solar Alliance, which has been a pivotal force in mobilizing resources for renewable energy.[373] Additionally, India has been at the forefront of promoting the digital economy within the G20. Initiatives like Aadhaar (a biometric identification system) and UPI (Unified Payments Interface) are examples of how digital innovation can drive economic growth and financial inclusion. India’s commitment to the “Self Reliant India (Atma-nirbhar Bharat) initiative” played a transformative role in the global economy in the post-COVID- 19 era.[374] India's involvement in the G-20 since its inception is indicative of the country's increasing significance in the world economy. By 2023, India was not just a vital voice for emerging economies but also an active member, frequently promoting digital inclusion, equitable growth and climate action.[375] India hosted the summit for the first time in 2023 in New Delhi, signifying its rise in international governance.[376] It was a strategic honor to host the G-20 meeting. It gave India the chance to showcase its economic advantages, such as its quick growth, developing digital economy and dedication to sustainable development. The 2023 summit's theme, "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" (The World is One Family), aligned with India's aim of global cooperation and inclusive progress.[377] This feeling also emphasized India's desire to take the lead in creating international economic policies that take developing country’s needs into account.

During its G-20 presidency, India focused on a range of global issues, many of which intersect with its national goals. Some of the priorities included promoting inclusive and equitable growth, empowering women and advancing technology-enabled development in areas like health, education

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[372] Manjeet Kripalani. *“India in the g20: rule-taker to rule-maker”.* (United Kingdom: Routlege, 2023)
[373] Yoganandham. *“India’s g20 presidency focuses on economic cooperation, digital public infrastructure, inclusive multilateralism, governance reform and sustainable tourism - an assessment”* (2023)
[374] Andrew F. Cooper. *“Between rewards and risks: India as host of the 2023 g20 summit”* (Delhi. sage. 2023)
[375] Aashriti Gautam. *“India and g20: strengthening and shaping global governance”* (Delhi. IJMR, 2022)
[376] Manjeet Kripalani. *“India in the g20: rule-taker to rule-maker”.* (United Kingdom: Routlege, 2023)
[377] Abdessalam Jaldi, Achouak Lafhal, Alexis Cudey. *“The Indian presidency of the g20: India at the helm of global governance”* (policy center for the new south. 2023)

and agriculture.[378] Furthermore, India was poised to lead efforts on climate finance, disaster risk reduction and promoting a circular economy.[379] One of the most pressing global concerns that India's G-20 presidency addressed was the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.[380] It has been noted that global debt and inflation, exacerbated by the rise in food and energy prices, disproportionately affect low-income countries. India's leadership had crucial in coordinating policy measures and mobilizing funds for climate action. The presidency also provided India with an opportunity to leverage its leadership on vaccine aid and diplomacy, which has been instrumental in helping developing nations tackle the pandemic.[381]

4.3. The key themes and agenda of G-20 New Delhi summit 2023

The G-20 New Delhi Summit in 2023 focused on several key themes and agenda items that reflected pressing global challenges and priorities. It focused on inclusive approaches to global challenges like climate action, multilateral cooperation, empowering women and inclusive growth.[382] Climate change concern was very much important topic of address in this summit. The discussions centered on to take collective action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, promote renewable energy and invest in sustainable practices.[383] There was a strong emphasis on aligning global policies with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.[384] The focus of this was to provide technical and economic support to developing countries addressing issues like hunger, malnutrition and food security. It also emphasized for support of emerging nations in achieving SDGs. Secondly the summit focused on digital governance, cyber security and the role of technology in driving economic growth.[385] The importance of digital economies was realized as the summit sought to enhance digital infrastructure, cyber security and digital literacy. It also promoted equitable access to technology. Efforts to close the digital divide and promote equitable digital access were also emphasized. Thirdly

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378 Aashriti Gautam. *"India and g20: strengthening and shaping global governance"* (Delhi. IJMR, 2022)
379 Ibid
380 Manjeet Kripalani. *"India in the g20: rule-taker to rule-maker"* (United Kingdom: Routlege, 2023)
381 Ibid
382 Maheen Shafeeq. *"The g20 presidency: is India ready for a more global diplomatic role?"* (Islamabad. ISSI. 2023)
383 Aashriti Gautam. "India and g20: strengthening and shaping global governance" (Delhi. IJMR, 2022)
384 Vijay Kumar Sarabu. *"G20 new Delhi summit 2023 –analysis"* (Warangal. Kakatiya University.2023)
385 Ibid

the summit discussed the need for resilient global health systems in the post-pandemic era.[386] Leaders discussed strategies for improving health security, providing equitable access to vaccines and medicines and strengthening health infrastructure in order to better respond to future health crises. Further the agenda focused on promoting peace, security and collaboration among states, acknowledging the complicated geopolitical context. Leaders prioritized conflict resolution, negotiation and international cooperation. The emphasis on public-private partnerships, digital trade, climate finance and global governance reflects neoliberal values such as economic openness, technology-driven growth, free flow of capital and services, and institutional strengthening for collective benefit. Furthermore the summit highlighted the significance of empowering women and fostering gender equality for sustainable development.[387] Initiatives aiming at improving female worker involvement and decision-making were highlighted. Additionally the summit emphasized the need for collaborative action to combat climate change.[388]

4.4. India's Diplomatic Engagements

In the G-20 New Delhi Summit in 2023, India partook in several diplomatic activities. The focus of these diplomatic engagements was on economic ties, security concerns and cooperation in climate action and technology. It hosted bilateral meetings with leaders from the United States and Europe.[389] By encouraging communication among G-20 countries, India aimed to lead collaborative talks at the summit on major priorities including as climate action, sustainable development and global health by. In addition to being a significant diplomatic event, the G20 Summit in New Delhi in 2023 also shows India's changing relationships with other superpowers and its foreign policy ambitions. The declaration from the summit presented a big impact on India's bilateral ties, especially with China, Russia and the United States. India has successfully controlled China, maintained connections with Russia, developed relationships with Europe, extended its conventional support systems and interacted with the United States amid these complex diplomatic ploys.

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[386] Priyanka Dubey. *"G20 and its significance: India takes over g20 presidency"* (Delhi. international journal of political science and governance. 2023)
[387] *"Overview of G20"* (Ministry of earth sciences)
[388] Priyanka Dubey. *"G20 and its significance: India takes over g20 presidency"* (Delhi. international journal of political science and governance. 2023)
[389] Ayushee Chaudhary. *"G20 Summit 2023: India's Diplomatic Triumph"* (2023) https://www.spsnavalforces.com/features/?id=228&h=G20-Summit-2023-Indias-Diplomatic-Triumph

The African Union (AU) that has fifty five member states was granted permanent G20 membership in G-20 New Delhi Summit.[390] Previously, only South Africa represented Africa in the G20. This achievement under India's G20 presidency is a significant step towards redressing global power inequalities. Furthermore, India addressed crucial issues in the Global South, such as climate resilience and food security.[391] This participation includes organizing special sessions and panels that focused on the similar concerns that these countries confront, advocating for fair representation and support for developing countries. It included programs such as the Black Sea Grain Initiative to improve food security and establish financial objectives for reducing emissions.[392] The African Union's admission and the attendance of constituents at the New Delhi G20 Summit represented the expansion of the global table. India also organized events and sessions focused on women's empowerment and gender equality to highlight their contributions to economies and societies. Cultural diplomacy events showcased India's rich cultural heritage, promoting its soft power and fostering goodwill among participant nations.

The governments of Saudi Arabia, the European Union, India, the UAE, France, Germany, Italy and the United States have promised to work together to construct the India-Middle East- Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC). This corridor is divided into two segments: an eastern corridor connecting India to the Arabian Gulf and a northern corridor connecting the Arabian Gulf to Europe. It includes a railway network, as well as proposals for energy and digital communication cables and clean hydrogen pipelines.[393] The IMEC intends to improve economic integration, safeguard regional supply chains, increase trade accessibility and lower greenhouse gas emissions.[394] Prime Minister Narendra Modi praised the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) as a sign of collaboration, innovation and mutual growth.[395]

G20 leaders agreed to triple global renewable energy capacity by 2030 while recognizing the need to phase out coal power.[396] However, actual details on policy changes and funding routes to attain

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[390] Ibid
[391] Roger.C.Lui. *"The G20 Summit: A historic success of India's multilateral diplomacy and its geopolitical implications"* (Taiwan. prospects & perspectives. 2023)no.55
[392] Priyanka Dubey. *"G20 and its significance: India takes over g20 presidency*" (Delhi. international journal of political science and governance. 2023)
[393] Ibid
[394] Ibid
[395] Amina Khan. *"The India – Middle East – Europe corridor (IMEC): a complex endeavor"* (Islamabad. ISSI.2023)
[396] Ayushee Chaudhary. *"G20 Summit 2023: India's Diplomatic Triumph"* (2023)

these goals are still being worked out. India inaugurated the Global Biofuel Alliance (GBA) at the G20 Summit.[397] It was an effort aimed at advancing the global use of sustainable biofuels through technical developments. The GBA's goal is to foster global collaboration in the development and dissemination of biofuels. The establishment of the global biofuels alliance serves as another testament to their shared dedication to tackling urgent global issues. India also engaged in high-level discussions supporting for increased climate finance and technology transfer from developed to developing nations. It proposed initiatives to strengthen health infrastructure globally, particularly in developing countries. India also led discussions on advancing the digital economy, promoting initiatives for digital inclusivity, cyber security and the use of technology for sustainable development.

The summit highlighted the collaboration between Washington and Delhi in a number of areas. Partnerships on multilateral development banks (MDBs) and the acceptance of India's digital public infrastructure (DPI) as a worldwide model witness to the United States and India's common goal of influencing the global environment.[398] India facilitated the drafting of joint statements and declarations that encapsulated outcomes and commitments made during the summit, emphasizing collaboration in areas like economic recovery, healthcare and climate action. Side events and engagements were organized, allowing for wider discussions among stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector. India's G20 genuinely became a "People's G20" with the participation of several states and union territories.[399] It conducted two hundred gatherings in sixty locations.[400] These diplomatic engagements reinforced India's position as a proactive leader in addressing global issues, raising collaboration and promoting sustainable development at the G20 New Delhi Summit.

4.5. Declarations of the G-20 New Delhi Summit 2023

The G-20 New Delhi meeting Declaration, which was adopted during the 2023 meeting shown a detailed member nation’s commitments and goals.[401] Some of them are global economic recovery, sustainable development goals (SDGs), climate action, global health security, digital transformation, trade and investment, cultural cooperation, women's empowerment and food security and agriculture

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[397] Ian Shine. *“The Global Biofuel Alliance”* (World economic forum. 2023)
[398] Ayushee Chaudhary. *“G20 Summit 2023: India's Diplomatic Triumph”* (2023)
[399] Ibid
[400] Ibid
[401] *“G20 New Delhi Leader’s Declaration”* (2023)
https://www.mea.gov.in/Images/CPV/G20-New-Delhi-Leaders-Declaration.pdf

were among the main topics covered.[402] These statements are consistent with the neoliberal belief in institutionalism and market solutions, utilizing global forums and liberal economic principles to solve inequality, climate change and financial stability. Under this, the leaders join hands in recovery of global economy that was disturbed during COVID-19 pandemic. The focus was on promoting inclusive growth and enhancing economic resilience against global challenges.[403] A strong commitment to climate action was promised to tackle climate change concerns. There was declarations on the importance of transitioning to renewable energy sources, enhancing energy efficiency and ensuring sustainable practices in all sectors. India also urged member nations to strengthen climate pledges, generate funding and promote the transition to a low-carbon, sustainable economy. The summit highlighted the importance of building a secure and inclusive digital economy, addressing issues like cyber security, data privacy, and promoting digital financial inclusion. It highlighted the significance of establishing a worldwide framework for digital technology, digital literacy, cyber security and responsible technological use. Leaders reaffirmed their commitment to global health security. It includes enhancing the capabilities of the World Health Organization (WHO) and ensuring equitable access to vaccines and healthcare resources. Global health initiatives were adopted, with agreements to strengthen global health systems, enhance pandemic preparedness and ensure equitable access to vaccines and healthcare solutions.[404] Multilateral cooperation was emphasized, with leaders highlighting the importance of international cooperation to tackle issues like economic instability, peace and security.[405] The summit discussions acknowledged the importance of peaceful resolution of conflicts and stressed the necessity of multilateralism in addressing global challenges. Russia Ukraine war is one example. The declaration also stressed women's empowerment, gender equality and the elimination of obstacles to women's participation in the economy and society. The leaders pledged to enhance women's participation in the economy and decision-making processes, recognizing the essential role of women in achieving sustainable development. A Food Security and Agriculture Action Plan was developed. Its aim was to improve global food security by enhancing agricultural sustainability, reducing food waste and ensuring access to nutritious food, especially in vulnerable regions. The declaration included measures to tackle global food insecurity, aimed at ensuring

[402] Ibid
[403] Ibid
[404] Harshwardhan Sharma *“Key Outcomes of the 2023 G20 Summit Held in India”* (India Briefing. 2023)
[405] Ayushee Chaudhary. *“G20 Summit 2023: India's Diplomatic Triumph”* (2023)

sustainable agricultural practices and enhancing supply chain resilience.[406] This summit provided a platform for leaders to discuss and strengthen bilateral and regional partnerships, fostering collaborations beyond the G-20 framework.

4.6. Outcomes of the G-20 New Delhi Summit 2023

4.6.1. Investment opportunities

The G-20 New Delhi Summit 2023 highlighted India's strengths, including its growing economy, technological advancements and strategic location. Key investment opportunities for India include the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC). The India-Middle East- Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) was a trade and connectivity initiative launched during the G- 20 New Delhi Summit 2023.[407] It aimed to establish a robust network of railways, shipping routes and digital infrastructure linking South Asia, the Middle East and Europe. India's pivotal role in the initiative offers several benefits, including attracting investments in infrastructure, logistics and technology, positioning India as a global trade hub, improving energy security through connectivity with energy-rich Middle Eastern nations and fostering green energy collaboration through partnerships in solar and wind energy projects with Middle Eastern countries.[408] Potential sectors benefiting from IMEC include logistics, digital infrastructure, manufacturing and renewable energy. IMEC positions India at the center of a landmark initiative that promises substantial economic, strategic and technological benefits. By leveraging this corridor, India has enhanced its infrastructure, deepen global trade ties and ensured sustainable energy security, solidifying its status as a critical player in global commerce and connectivity.[409]

4.6.2. Hosting World Renowned Business Tycoons and Business Opportunities

The G20 New Delhi Summit and the Business 20 Summit in September 2023 became a global forum for discussing economic and political issues.[410] Notable participants included N.

[406] Ibid
[407] Amina Khan. *"The India – Middle East – Europe corridor (IMEC): a complex endeavor"* (Islamabad. ISSI.2023)
[408] Ibid
[409] Rafael Henrique Dias Manzi, Jean Santos Lima. *"Another great power in the room? India's economic rise in the 21st century and the dual economy challenge"* (Brazil. Revista Brasileira de Política Internacional. 2021)
[410] Deepak Mishra, Mansi Kedia, Aarti Reddy, et.al. *"State of India's Digital Economy"* (New Delhi. Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations. 2024)

Chandrasekaran, Chairman of Tata Sons and Chair of B20 India, Mukesh Ambani, Gautam Adani, Sunil Bharti Mittal and Ratan Tata.[411] They discussed topics such as digital transformation, energy transitions, and trade reforms, contributing to policy recommendations.[412] President Ajay Banga of the World Bank also participated, emphasizing the need for a broader focus on issues like food insecurity, gender equality and poverty eradication and other.[413] The summit highlighted the significant contributions of business tycoons to India's economic growth. N. Chandrasekaran expanded Tata's presence in critical sectors like steel, automobiles, software, retail and renewable energy.[414] Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) under Tata Group has played a pivotal role in India's IT services export boom. Mukesh Ambani transformed India's telecom landscape through Jio, making high-speed internet affordable and accessible.[415] Gautam Adani developed ports, airports and logistics networks critical for India's trade and connectivity, investing in both traditional energy (coal and gas) and renewables (solar and wind).[416] Sunil Bharti Mittal expanded telecom services across India and Africa, enhancing digital connectivity and driving India's mobile revolution. Ratan Tata, Chairman Emeritus of Tata Sons, spearheaded Tata Group's global acquisitions and innovation-driven growth, emphasizing corporate social responsibility initiatives in healthcare, education and rural development.[417] He mentored and funded startups through Tata Trusts and personal investments. These business leaders have played an instrumental role in driving India's economic growth, both domestically and internationally, by leveraging their global reach, innovation and investments. Their presence at the summit provided the participant countries to collaborate for and inclusive, sustainable and economically strong global society.

4.6.3. Diplomatic Partnerships and Projects

India and the United States have signed significant agreements at the G20 New Delhi Summit 2023, focusing on green energy initiatives and defense cooperation.[418] The US has invested $3 billion

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[411] Ibid
[412] Harshwardhan Sharma *"Key Outcomes of the 2023 G20 Summit Held in India*" (India Briefing. 2023)
[413] Sriram Gutta. *"India could become the world's 3rd largest economy in the next 5 years. Here's how*" (World Economic Forum. 2024.
[414] Ibid
[415] Ibid
[416] Harshwardhan Sharma *"Key Outcomes of the 2023 G20 Summit Held in India"* (India Briefing. 2023)
[417] "*Adani central to India's economic ambitions, says US-based analyst"* (The Economic Times. 2024)
[418] Deepak Mishra, Mansi Kedia, Aarti Reddy, Krithika Ramnath, Mayank Manish. "State of India's Digital Economy" (New Delhi. Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations. 2024)

in renewable energy projects, particularly in solar and wind energy sectors, to strengthen India's renewable energy infrastructure.[419] This collaboration aligns with both nation's goals to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and mitigate climate change, helping India meet its net-zero emissions target by 2070 and contributing to the Global Climate Agenda. In defense cooperation, joint ventures in defense manufacturing aim to strengthen ties between India and the US by collaborating on cutting-edge technologies, particularly semiconductor technology for defense. Key projects include semiconductor technology for defense, advanced defense systems, and technology transfer and capacity building. The strategic significance of these initiatives lies in their shared commitment to tackling climate change and promoting clean energy. The U.S. investment in India's renewable energy sector will benefit India's energy transition and enhance global cooperation on sustainability. Defense cooperation underlines the growing strategic partnership between the two nations, ensuring India has access to advanced technologies in the rapidly evolving defense sector. This partnership solidifies India's role as a regional security anchor in the Indo-Pacific region and globally, aligning with U.S. defense priorities and the broader Indo-Pacific Strategy.

India and Japan have signed significant agreements at the G20 New Delhi Summit 2023, focusing on infrastructure development and technology transfer. Japan's $1.5 billion investment will be used to modernize urban infrastructure, including transportation systems and smart cities.[420] The funds will be used to upgrade public transportation, making them more efficient, sustainable and accessible. The investment will align with India's environmental sustainability goals and Japan's expertise in green technologies.[421] India and Japan will collaborate on smart city projects, focusing on smart grids, waste management systems and other digital innovations for urban spaces.[422] Japan will transfer its advanced smart grid technologies to India, improving energy efficiency and sustainable electricity distribution in urban areas. The partnership will also focus on advanced waste management solutions, utilizing Japan's expertise in managing urban waste through innovative recycling, waste-to-energy systems and zero-waste strategies.[423] The strategic significance of the India-Japan

[419] Rafael Henrique Dias Manzi, Jean Santos Lima. *"Another great power in the room? India's economic rise in the 21st century and the dual economy challenge"* (Brazil. Revista Brasileira de Política Internacional. 2021)
[420] Ayushee Chaudhary. *"G20 Summit 2023: India's Diplomatic Triumph"* (2023)
[421] Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan
https://www.mofa.go.jp/s_sa/sw/in/page1e_000587.html
[422] Herbert Traxl. *"Special series on the strategic review of global hotspots"* (Austria. 2021)
[423] Ibid

collaboration lies in economic growth, job creation, technological leadership, strengthening bilateral ties, regional cooperation and regional cooperation. Japan's investment in urban infrastructure and transportation systems will help modernize and sustainably develop Indian cities, while the transfer of smart city technologies will enable India to tackle urban challenges more effectively. These initiatives not only enhance bilateral relationships but also contribute to India's growth and global sustainability efforts.

India and the European Union have signed a strategic partnership at the G20 New Delhi Summit 2023, focusing on digital economy and green energy collaboration.[424] The EU will support India's digital infrastructure growth, focusing on cyber security and digital skills training. Key areas include cyber security collaboration, digital skills training, infrastructure development and broadband networks. The partnership aims to help India expand its digital economy and accelerate its digital transformation, equipping its workforce with the tools needed to thrive in a digital-first world. The EU will jointly fund $500 million for the development and scaling of green hydrogen technologies, produced using renewable energy sources like solar and wind.[425] This investment will help reduce India's reliance on fossil fuels and contribute to its net-zero emissions target by 2070.[426] The investment will also go towards building the necessary infrastructure for green hydrogen production, including hydrogen storage, transportation, and distribution systems. The EU will provide expertise and research support to India in developing efficient and scalable technologies for green hydrogen production and its applications in various industries, including transportation and power generation. The green hydrogen initiative will accelerate India's energy transition, reducing carbon emissions and promoting sustainable energy solutions.[427] These agreements reflect India-EU's growing strategic partnership in the economic and energy sectors, as well as addressing global challenges such as climate change and cyber security. They further solidify India-EU cooperation as a cornerstone for regional and global stability.

India and the United Kingdom have signed significant agreements at the G20 New Delhi Summit 2023, focusing on healthcare and research and development (R&D). The investment aims to improve healthcare infrastructure, advance biotech innovation and promote the well-being of the

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[424] Shanta Nedungadi Varma. *"India's rise and Asia: dynamics of growth and cooperative relations"* (2007)
[425] Herbert Traxl. *"Special series on the strategic review of global hotspots"* (Austria. 2021)
[426] Shanta Nedungadi Varma. *"India's rise and Asia: dynamics of growth and cooperative relations"* (2007)
[427] Ibid

Indian population, particularly in rural and underserved regions.[428] Key focus areas include healthcare infrastructure, biotech innovation, telemedicine and digital health, research and development in technology and education. The UK investment will support the development of modern healthcare facilities across India, particularly in rural areas and boost biotechnology and medical research in India. This will help advance vaccines, medicines, and medical technologies, positioning India as a key player in the global biotech sector. The partnership will also support the expansion of digital health solutions, including telemedicine, health tech platforms, and data analytics, to improve healthcare access and delivery across the country. In terms of R&D initiatives, India and the UK agreed to collaborate on cutting-edge technology R&D, focusing on areas such as artificial intelligence (AI), big data, quantum computing, and digital transformation. Joint projects will drive the development of new technologies that can be commercialized for global markets. The emphasis on education and skills development will equip India's youth with the tools needed to thrive in the global knowledge economy. The £1 billion investment in India's healthcare sector represents a transformative step towards universal healthcare access and improved health outcomes, strengthening India's position as a key player in the global healthcare and biotech industries.[429] The healthcare and R&D agreements represent a deepening of India-UK ties, enhancing cooperation in critical sectors for future economic growth and global challenges.

India and Australia have signed agreements at the G20 New Delhi Summit 2023 to enhance their bilateral cooperation in education, skills development and agricultural technology. The investment aims to foster long-term economic growth and innovation, benefiting both nations as they tackle challenges in key sectors such as education and agriculture. Key highlights of the collaboration include an AUD 300 million investment in education and skills development, supporting academic collaborations between Indian and Australian universities, vocational training programs and skills development initiatives.[430] Australia will provide support for vocational training programs catering to India's rapidly evolving labor market, equipping Indian youth with practical skills required in sectors such as manufacturing, IT, healthcare and digital technologies.[431] Both countries will foster joint

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[428] Harshwardhan Sharma *"Key Outcomes of the 2023 G20 Summit Held in India"* (India Briefing. 2023)
[429] Priyanka Dubey. *"G20 and its significance: India takes over g20 presidency"* (Delhi. international journal of political science and governance. 2023
[430] Pravin Krishna. *"India's trade agreements and the future of Indian trade policy"* (New York. Colombia University. 2019)
[431] Andrew F. Cooper. *"Between rewards and risks: India as host of the 2023 g20 summit*" (New Delhi. sage. 2023)

research initiatives in areas like STEM, renewable energy, healthcare, and agriculture, further strengthening their positions as global innovation leaders. The collaboration in Agri-tech will enhance productivity, sustainability and efficiency in the Indian agricultural sector, using Australia's expertise in Agri-tech solutions to modernize India's agriculture.[432] Key focus areas include adopting cutting-edge agriculture technologies such as precision farming, smart irrigation systems and automated equipment, increasing agricultural productivity while reducing costs and resource consumption.[433] India's partnership will also focus on sustainable farming practices, including water conservation technologies, climate-resilient crops, and soil health management, making Indian agriculture more resilient to climate change and improving long-term food security. Joint programs will build skills and knowledge transfer for farmers, agronomists, and agricultural technicians, enabling them to better understand and implement modern agricultural practices.

India and South Korea have formed new partnerships at the G20 New Delhi Summit 2023, focusing on startup investments and manufacturing to foster innovation and economic cooperation. The $400 million investment will support India's entrepreneurial ecosystem and emerging technologies, particularly in AI, block chain, IoT and cloud computing.[434] South Korea is particularly interested in India's fintech sector, which has seen rapid growth. The partnership positions India as a hub for innovation in the Indo-Pacific region, with South Korea playing a key role in nurturing the next wave of technology entrepreneurs. The partnership will also enhance manufacturing capabilities in key sectors such as electronics and automotive, working with Indian companies to ramp up electronic production in smartphones, semiconductors and consumer electronics. The focus will also be on electric vehicles and advanced automotive technologies. The strategic significance of the India-South Korea partnership lies in its technology and innovation growth, positioning India as a key player in the global digital economy. At the G20 New Delhi Summit 2023, India and Canada signed significant agreements in clean technology and cultural cooperation to enhance environmental sustainability, promote climate resilience and strengthen ties in education and culture. The Clean Tech Investment of CAD 200 million will support clean technology projects in India, focusing on climate resilience and sustainable practices.[435]

[432] Herbert Traxl. *"Special series on the strategic review of global hotspots"* (Austria. 2021)
[433] Ibid
[434] Ibid
[435] Ibid

At the G20 New Delhi Summit 2023, India and Middle Eastern countries, including the UAE and Saudi Arabia, signed joint investments of approximately $5 billion in renewable energy projects, including solar power initiatives.[436] These investments aim to foster sustainable development, enhance energy security, and improve regional connectivity, particularly in renewable energy and infrastructure development. The investments will focus on solar power initiatives, enhancing energy sustainability and reducing dependence on traditional fossil fuels. Key areas include large-scale solar power plants, green hydrogen initiatives, and infrastructure for renewable energy distribution. In terms of trade and logistics, India, the UAE and Saudi Arabia have signed agreements to enhance their supply chain and logistics infrastructure. Key focus areas include port and shipping infrastructure, logistics and trade corridors, digital trade platforms, and integration with global supply chains. The strategic significance of the India-Middle East partnership lies in the transition to a low-carbon economy, supporting global sustainability goals and creating a more diverse energy mix. Regional cooperation and connectivity are crucial, as the partnership strengthens ties between India, the UAE, and Saudi Arabia, positioning them as key players in the broader Indo-Pacific and Middle Eastern economic zones, contributing to greater regional stability and cooperation. The India-Middle East collaborations represent a significant milestone in energy and trade partnerships. With a joint investment of $5 billion in renewable energy, the nations are poised to enhance their sustainability and meet global climate goals, while the focus on improving trade and logistics infrastructure will boost regional economic integration.[437] The G-20 Summit highlighted India's key position in global economic development. The above mentioned investments represent a rising trend of international alliances aimed at boosting growth, innovation and sustainability.

4.6.4. Cultural diplomacy

India's cultural diplomacy at the G20 New Delhi Summit 2023 was a significant event that showcased its rich cultural heritage and soft power to promote global unity, cooperation and mutual understanding.[438] The summit featured various events, activities and exhibitions, including performances of classical Indian dance, music, art, traditional folk dances and music from different

[436] Priyanka Dubey. *"G20 and its significance: India takes over g20 presidency"* (Delhi. international journal of political science and governance. 2023
[437] Stephen P. Cohen. *"India: Emerging Power. Google Books*" (2004)
[438] Aashriti Gautam. *"India and g20: strengthening and shaping global governance*" (Delhi. IJMR, 2022)

regions of India.[439] India also promoted its spirituality and philosophy through yoga sessions and workshops, emphasizing its role in mental and physical well-being. Meditation sessions were included to encourage mindfulness and peace among delegates, aligning with India's role as a spiritual hub. Culinary diplomacy was another key aspect of India's cultural diplomacy, with delegates enjoying a curated selection of traditional Indian dishes, representing India's diverse regional cuisines.[440] The summit venues, including the Bharat Mandapam, were designed with elements of Indian culture and aesthetics in mind, featuring architectural themes inspired by Indian architecture and the G20 logo.[441] Eco-friendly practices were integrated into the cultural aspects of the summit, such as the use of sustainable materials in the decor and low-carbon footprint initiatives as part of India's commitment to climate action. India used the G20 platform to position itself as a voice for the Global South, emphasizing the cultural and developmental needs of emerging economies. India's vast diaspora played an important role in its cultural diplomacy during the summit, with prominent cultural figures and community leaders invited to participate in side events. Film screenings and art exhibitions from Indian directors, painters and performers were hosted in parallel events, promoting Indian cinema and visual arts on the global stage.[442]

4.7. G-20 New Delhi Summit and India's Economic Progress

From a closed, centrally planned economy in the early years after independence to a market-driven economy, India's economic path has been extraordinary. India has emerged as a major force in the world economy in recent decades. This became possible because of years of strategic expansion, policy changes and growing economic integration. India's economic rise can be attributed to several factors, including economic reforms since the 1990s, technological advancements, manufacturing and infrastructure development, rising middle class, strategic partnerships and the country's young population. The liberalization of the economy, including deregulation, reduction in import tariffs and privatization of state-owned enterprises increased foreign direct investment and boosted domestic production. India's IT and software services sector has become a global leader, generating over $200

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[439] Roger.C.Lui. "*The G20 Summit: A historic success of India's multilateral diplomacy and its geopolitical implications"* (Taiwan. prospects & perspectives. 2023)
[440] Lingala Manasa, Bandita Paul. et al. *"A study on the impact of g20 on Indian economy*" (International journal of research publication and reviews. 2024)
[441] Aashriti Gautam. *"India and g20: strengthening and shaping global governance"* (Delhi. IJMR, 2022)
[442] Ibid

billion annually and positioning it as a key player in the global digital economy.[443] Initiatives like "Make in India" and the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme have attracted foreign investment and promoted domestic industrial growth. Infrastructure development, including roads, railways, ports and airports, has enhanced connectivity and facilitated trade and industrial growth.[444] India's young population and rising middle class offers immense potential for productivity growth through education, skills development and healthcare. India's commitment to sustainable development and active participation in multilateral platforms like the G20, BRICS, and WTO has strengthened trade ties and made it a key player in global economic governance. India's economy is now ranked 3rd in terms of purchasing power parity (PPP) and 5th in terms of nominal GDP.[445] Structural changes, steady development and growing integration with the global economy are characteristics of its economic ascent. The global economy was dealing with a number of issues at the time of the G-20 Summit in New Delhi, including inflation, supply chain interruptions, geopolitical tensions and the COVID-19 pandemic's aftereffects.[446] In light of this, India's leadership during the summit played a critical role in advancing conversations and influencing the course of the world economy. The leaders of the world's main economies met in New Delhi in 2023 for the G-20 Summit, where they discussed important topics including global trade, digital transformation, climate change, economic recovery and sustainable development. With an emphasis on inclusion, sustainability, digital transformation and international economic collaboration, the summit showcased India's strategic vision for economic development and it was an important turning point in India's development as an economic superpower.

The conclusion of the summit demonstrated not just India's leadership in global economic governance but also its increasing ability to shape the world economy's destiny. India's decision to host this well-known event was a testament to its economic development and aspirations to become a major global force. India's leadership at the summit strengthened its own vision of economic development while also advancing global solutions. India’s presidency of G-20 New Delhi Summit in 2023 has showcased its economic success and development efforts. India through this opportunity has showed the world its economic strength, accomplishments and future ambitions. India's strong

[443] Lingala Manasa, Bandita Paul. et al. *“A study on the impact of g20 on Indian economy*” (International journal of research publication and reviews. 2024)
[444] Ibid
[445] Aashriti Gautam. *“India and g20: strengthening and shaping global governance”* (Delhi. IJMR, 2022)
[446] Abdessalam Jaldi, Achouak Lafhal, Alexis Cudey. *“The Indian presidency of the g20: India at the helm of global governance”* (policy center for the new south. 2023)

economic image highlights its resilience and position as one of the world's fastest-growing major economies. India's success in digital economy is seen through its programs such as the "Unified Payments Interface (UPI)" and the "Digital India campaign"[447] The summit provided an opportunity to discuss how these initiatives are transforming financial inclusion and driving economic efficiency. India discussed its attempts to improve the ease of doing business, attract foreign direct investment (FDI) and boost industries such as manufacturing, technology and renewable energy.[448] The government's policies aimed at creating a conducive environment for investors in various sessions. India emphasized its commitment to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through sustainable economic practices. Examples include investments in renewable energy sources like solar and wind to support green growth while tackling climate change.[449] The summit discussed India's measures to improve productivity, food security and sustainable farming techniques.[450] India shared its experience with several programs targeted at increasing farmer income and agricultural resilience.

With the increase in Indian services sector and number of start-ups. It has highlighted its blooming start-up ecosystem. Initiatives such as the "Atal Innovation Mission" were explored as approaches to encourage entrepreneurship and innovation.[451] India showcased its ambitious infrastructure projects, including initiatives for developing highways, railways and urban infrastructure.[452] The emphasis of these was on how these projects improve connectivity and drive economic growth in India and globally. India outlined its commitment to enhancing human capital through skill development and vocational training programs aimed at equipping the workforce for emerging industries, thereby contributing to economic growth and employment generation.[453] India discussed strategies to strengthen resilient global supply chains, focusing on diversification and cooperation with G-20 members. The aim was to enhance economic stability and reduce dependence on single sources for critical goods. The summit facilitated India's advocacy for an open and equitable trade system. India stressed its role in regional trade accords. It also focused on how improving trade

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[447] Aashriti Gautam. *"India and g20: strengthening and shaping global governance"* (Delhi. IJMR, 2022)
[448] Ibid
[449] Harshwardhan Sharma *"Key Outcomes of the 2023 G20 Summit Held in India"* (India Briefing. 2023)
[450] Priyanka Dubey. *"G20 and its significance: India takes over g20 presidency"* (Delhi. international journal of political science and governance. 2023)
[451] Ibid
[452] Roger.C.Lui. *"The G20 Summit: A historic success of India's multilateral diplomacy and its geopolitical implications"* (Taiwan. prospects & perspectives. 2023) no.55
[453] Harshwardhan Sharma *"Key Outcomes of the 2023 G20 Summit Held in India"* (India Briefing. 2023)

links with G-20 members may boost economic growth.[454] By focusing on these areas, India not only demonstrated its economic growth, but also sought to position itself as a leader in global economic talks, calling for collaborative answers to shared issues and opportunities in the G-20 framework.

India, a founding member of the G-20, has made significant use of the forum to address global challenges. The Global political issues present during India's presidency were the conflict in Ukraine, border disputes between China and India and worsening ties between the United States and Russia. Due to these difficulties, India was in a precarious diplomatic situation where it must weigh its interests against those of other powerful nations. With an emphasis on peace and collaboration, this presidency gave it a forum for discussion and diplomacy to address these problems. Although the G-20 New Delhi summit was unable to address every issue facing the globe, it was still an essential platform for global collaboration. For India, the presidency was an opportunity to further solidify its position as a major player in global governance and advance inclusive and practical solutions to the world's problems. India's top priorities were in line with national and international objectives, especially when it came to issues like economic stability, inclusive growth, and climate action. Throughout the administration, the nation's attempts to advance sustainable growth both domestically and internationally have focused heavily on its leadership in digital innovation and renewable energy. India also had a strategic chance to influence international governance and advance its own interests as the G-20 president. India was able to showcase its recent economic successes, advancements, and ascent to global economic dominance during its presidency. Furthermore, India's leadership has played a significant role in promoting the involvement of underrepresented continents, including Africa, in international decision-making. In summary, India's G-20 leadership marks a significant advancement in the nation's rise to prominence in the global economy. India is in a strong position to have a long- lasting effect on global governance both during and after its presidency by advancing inclusive development, leading on climate action, building global economic initiatives, and advocating for the interests of the Global South.

[454] Ibid

Chapter Five

Implications of G-20 New Delhi Summit (2023) for Indian Economy

India hosted the G-20 meeting in New Delhi on 9th and 10th September, 2023.[455] This was the first time India has hosted such prestigious event.[456] The G-20 Summit in New Delhi in 2023 had a significant impact on India's economic growth. The significance of this presidency lies in its timing, as international attention shifts toward the Global South, reflecting the growing influence of emerging economies like India in shaping global governance and promoting multilateralism.[457] India was able to influence the global economic agenda and address its own development concerns by hosting this summit. Major economies like the USA and Japan expressed willingness to invest in India's infrastructure and technology sectors.[458] Several collaborative efforts very observed in this summit. The collaborations with Japanese firms on high-speed rail networks and urban transit systems was a great economic opportunity for India.[459] This collaboration has the potential to connect economy and reduce travel times of goods and services. It will also enhance productivity in different sectors. Skill development and quality education was also facilitated by the summit, with partnerships with Canadian institutions for improving vocational training and skill enhancement programs.[460] India adopted Sustainable agricultural practices through collaboration with Netherlands.[461] This led to increased agricultural productivity and resilience in India. The healthcare sector was boosted by enhanced cooperation in healthcare and pharmaceuticals. This growth was achieved through partnership with countries like the USA and Germany focusing on joint vaccine research and production. The emphasis on renewable energy investment resulted in collaborations with nations such as Germany and France.[462] The aim was to create renewable energy projects such as solar parks and wind farms. This not only provides clean energy but also creates a large number of building and

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[455] Aashriti Gautam. *"India and g20: strengthening and shaping global governance"* (Delhi. IJMR, 2022)
[456] Ibid
[457] Abdessalam Jaldi, Achouak Lafhal, Alexis Cudey "*The Indian presidency of the g20: India at the helm of global governance"* (policy center for the new south. 2023)
[458] Mohd Akhter Ali, M.Kamraju. *"The G20 Presidency of India in 2023: Achievements, Challenges and Implications"* (New Delhi. International Journal of Business and Management Research (IJBMR).2023)
[459] Lingala Manasa, Bandita Paul et al. *"A study on the impact of g20 on Indian economy"* (International journal of research publication and reviews. 2024)
[460] Ibid
[461] Manjeet Kripalani. *"India in the g20: rule-taker to rule-maker"* (UK: Routlege. 2023)
[462] Andrew F. Cooper. *"Between rewards and risks: India as host of the 2023 g20 summit"* (Delhi. sage. 2023)

maintenance jobs. As a result this will promote economic activity for India. The G-20 Summit in New Delhi in 2023 had a diverse influence on India's economic growth path. By actively engaging in and leading conversations on topics such as climate change, the digital economy and sustainable development, India's global reputation grew and had drawn more global attention and investment. With a particular focus on how the G-20 summit has aided in India's economic ascent, this chapter examines the summit's complex effects on the country's domestic economy, geopolitical relations and long-term economic progress.

5.1. Impact on India's Domestic Economy

As India was hosting the G-20 meeting so it has spent a lot in developing infrastructure.[463] The government provided significant funding for the construction of cutting-edge venues, the refurbishment of important institutions and the advancement of urban infrastructure including telecommunications and transportation.[464] Cities were renovated and decorated to welcome the leaders from around the world. It was ensured that Standard infrastructure to be established and arranged for this prestigious event.[465] Digital infrastructure especially internet connectivity, telecommunication and IT went under improvements. Under India's digital economy initiative, the digital infrastructure presented blasting capacity to facilitate the guests and host of meeting. This complemented India's larger goal of a digital economy.[466] As world leaders and multinational companies saw India's expanding potential as an economic center, the summit also fostered an atmosphere that was favorable to international investments. Foreign investor's faith in India's economic prospects is demonstrated by the numerous bilateral partnerships and trade agreements that were inked during the summit. These accords covered industries including manufacturing, technology and renewable energy, all of which are anticipated to propel India's economic expansion in the years to come.

India had a noteworthy increase in tourism and hospitality services as a result of the G-20 New Delhi summit, which drew in a large number of international delegations, corporate executives and

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[463] Yoganandham. *"India's g20 presidency focuses on economic cooperation, digital public infrastructure, inclusive multilateralism, governance reform and sustainable tourism - an assessment"* (2023)
[464] Abdessalam Jaldi, Achouak Lafhal, Alexis Cudey. *"The Indian presidency of the g20: India at the helm of global governance"* (policy center for the new south. 2023)
[465] Andrew F. Cooper. *"Between rewards and risks: India as host of the 2023 g20 summit"* (Delhi. sage. 2023)
[466] Mohd Akhter Ali, M.Kamraju. *"The G20 Presidency of India in 2023: Achievements, Challenges, and Implications"* (New Delhi. International Journal of Business and Management Research (IJBMR).2023)

media professionals.[467] India's allure as a travel destination was enhanced by its increased international awareness and the hospitality sector.[468] This includes lodging, dining and transportation.[469] It saw a sharp increase in income. The service industry was impacted by this sudden economic surge. The summit raised awareness of India's historical and cultural treasures, which could eventually result in long-term interest in Indian travel. India's role in the global tourist market was expanded by the event, which also emphasized the value of event-based tourism and established India as a feasible venue for international conferences and meetings.

The signing of many trade agreements and the fortification of bilateral ties were two of the G-20 summit's major economic outcomes.[470] The Indian government took use of the chance to interact with leaders of important economies, including Saudi Arabia, Japan, the European Union and the United States.[471] As a result of these talks, trade agreements were made that gave Indian goods, particularly those in industries like information technology, textiles and pharmaceuticals, easier access to international markets.[472] Additionally, the meeting helped India negotiate its climate change and renewable energy obligations, securing international investments in green energy projects. With clear consequences for economic growth through job creation and technology improvements in the green economy, this was consistent with India's objective of becoming a global leader in sustainable development.

Organizing a global summit of this magnitude led to the direct and indirect creation of jobs in a number of industries. The need for labor increased as a result of the infrastructure and building projects undertaken in advance of the summit and the hospitality, tourist and service industries added staff to accommodate the event's demands. Additionally, it is anticipated that the summit's long-term economic advantages will provide long-term job possibilities, particularly in sectors connected to international commerce and investment. For instance, the IT sector, which dominated many of the summit's conversations, stands to gain from more international collaborations, which will result in the creation of jobs in research and development, innovation and IT services.

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[467] Andrew F. Cooper. *"Between rewards and risks: India as host of the 2023 g20 summit"* (Delhi. sage. 2023)
[468] Aashriti Gautam. *"India and g20: strengthening and shaping global governance"* (Delhi. IJMR, 2022)
[469] Ibid
[470] Ibid
[471] Manjeet Kripalani. *"India in the g20: rule-taker to rule-maker"* (United Kingdom: Routlege, 2023)
[472] Aashriti Gautam. *"India and g20: strengthening and shaping global governance"* (Delhi. IJMR, 2022)

5.2. Geopolitical Impact and Foreign Relations

India's standing in international governance was greatly enhanced by its successful hosting of the G-20 summit. The occasion revealed India's ability to establish conversations on important international topics, such as economic reforms and climate action.[473] India set the agenda as the host country, focusing on topics that are important to both developed and developing countries, such as sustainable energy solutions, equal access to healthcare and digital public infrastructure.[474] India's diplomatic ties with important international entities were further enhanced by its leadership during the summit. India showed its dedication to being a positive and significant player in international settings by coordinating its domestic policies with those of the world.

There has been observed some changes in the balance of power in the area, especially in South Asia. These were brought about by India's prominence at the G-20 meeting.[475] India established itself as a counterbalance to China's expanding power by assuming a prominent position in international debates. In addition to interacting diplomatically with China and Russia on important topics, the summit gave India a chance to strengthen its strategic alliances with countries like the US, Japan and Australia.[476] India's standing among developing countries has also improved as a result of its participation in the G-20. As a spokesperson for the Global South, India promoted fair international trade policies and equitable prosperity.[477] This increased India's geopolitical power by fortifying its ties with lesser Asian economies as well as with countries in Africa and Latin America.

India has wisely made use of the summit to practice its economic diplomacy. Diplomatic efforts were seen in areas like public infrastructure, health infrastructure, the digital economy and climate change.[478] For example, by leading the conversation on climate finance and the shift to renewable energy, India was able to get rich countries to pledge to support green initiatives in poor nations. India also highlighted digital public infrastructure as a way to promote equitable growth, offering other countries examples of its own e-governance platforms and digital payment systems.

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[473] Andrew F. Cooper. *"Between rewards and risks: India as host of the 2023 g20 summit"* (Delhi. sage. 2023)
[474] Yoganandham. *"India's g20 presidency focuses on economic cooperation, digital public infrastructure, inclusive multilateralism, governance reform and sustainable tourism - an assessment"* (2023)
[475] Ibid
[476] Manjeet Kripalani. *"India in the g20: rule-taker to rule-maker"* (United Kingdom: Routlege. 2023)
[477] Ibid
[478] Andrew F. Cooper. *"Between rewards and risks: India as host of the 2023 g20 summit"* (New Delhi. sage. 2023)

India's standing as a world leader in digital innovation and economic inclusion was strengthened as a result.

5.3. G-20 New Delhi Summit (2023) Impact on Indian Economic Rise

The G-20 New Delhi summit had a significant impact on India's economic rise, notably elevating its global standing.[479] Through hosting the summit it has elevated India's status on the global stage. This opportunity was a turning point in India's development into a major economic force in the world as it has showcased its potential as a major economic player. Besides, it got India economic partnerships with major economies of the world. The summit facilitated new economic partnerships and investments with different economies of G-20 alliance.[480] Further it increased trade and investment around the world.[481] The G-20's focus on resilient trade and investment helped boost India's trade prospects, attracting international companies to set up manufacturing hubs in India.[482] Additionally India's sustainable development ambition was recognized.[483] The summit emphasized sustainable development goals, aligning with India's vision for a green and inclusive economy.[484] Moreover India got opportunity for cultural showcase by organizing events across the country.[485] This highlighted its rich cultural heritage and gave boost to tourism and local businesses.

The motto of the G-20 New Delhi summit, "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" or "One Earth, One Family, One Future" shown India's dedication to sustainable development and international collaboration in all sectors around the world.[486] The summit's declaration acknowledged the role of private enterprise in propelling economic transitions and underlined the need for robust, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth. Important conclusions from the meeting included the accelerating progress on sustainable development goals (SDGs). India's G-20 presidency brought attention to the requirement of cooperation for coordinated action in different fields of global concern such as food

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[479] Abdessalam Jaldi, Achouak Lafhal, Alexis Cudey. *"The Indian presidency of the g20: India at the helm of global governance"* (policy center for the new south. 2023)
[480] Mohd Akhter Ali, M.Kamraju. *"The G20 Presidency of India in 2023: Achievements, Challenges and Implications"* (New Delhi. International Journal of Business and Management Research (IJBMR).2023)
[481] Ibid
[482] Manjeet Kripalani. *"India in the g20: rule-taker to rule-maker"* (united kingdom: Routlege. 2023)
[483] Lingala Manasa, Bandita Paul et al. *"A study on the impact of g20 on Indian economy"* (International journal of research publication and reviews. 2024)
[484] Ibid
[485] Ibid
[486] Abdessalam Jaldi, Achouak Lafhal, Alexis Cudey. *"The Indian Presidency of the G20: India at the Helm of Global Governance"* (Policy Center for the New South. 2023)

security, health and poverty.[487] Encouraging innovation and digitalization, the summit promoted data-driven development, AI adoption and digital transformation.[488] Promoting international cooperation, India's leadership has shown that it can unite nations in tackling global issues and concerns such as climate change, inequality and economic instability.[489]

5.4. Post G-20 New Delhi Summit Economic Developments in India

The G-20 New Delhi Summit served as a strong foundation to the economic growth of India. It has provided a multiple pushes to the Indian economic growth in the form of economic initiatives bilateral and multilateral agreements and strengthening relations with international organizations. Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) has become a key theme of this strategy.[490] India has presented its digitalization achievements through UPI, Aadhaar, or Co-WIN as an example to the world to follow.[491] The G-20 summit provided a platform for sharing best practices and discussing interoperability standards for Digital Public Information (DPI). This led to bilateral discussions with countries, particularly those in the Global South and requesting India's technical expertise and support in establishing their DPI frameworks. These engagements may involve knowledge transfer agreements, capacity building programs and co-development of open-source DPI solutions this will ultimately lead to increased financial inclusion, efficiency in public service delivery and economic inclusion for marginalized groups.

In addition to digitalization, the summit also emphasized a lot on sustainable development and climate action. The direct demand of more climate finance by the developed countries. This has been reflected in Indian programs such as the Green Climate Fund and the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI).[492] Moreover the summit enabled bilateral talks resulting in possible agreements with countries such as Japan, Germany and the European Union.[493] These bilateral talks aimed to bring in investments in the renewable energy projects, green technologies and development of sustainable

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487 Andrew F. Cooper. *"Between rewards and risks: India as host of the 2023 g20 summit"* (Delhi. sage. 2023)
488 Lingala Manasa, Bandita Paul et al. *"A study on the impact of g20 on Indian economy"* (International journal of research publication and reviews. 2024)
489 Ibid
490 *"Rural consumption to drive India's GDP growth this fiscal year, economists say"* (Reuters. 2025)
491 Ibid
492 Manjeet Kripalani. *"India in the g20: rule-taker to rule-maker"* (united kingdom: Routlege. 2023)
493 Abdessalam Jaldi, Achouak Lafhal, Alexis Cudey. *"The Indian Presidency of the G20: India at the Helm of Global Governance"* (Policy Center for the New South. 2023)

infrastructure. Spheres of investments include solar and wind power generation joint ventures, transfer of technology in fields such as battery storage and hydrogen production, joint research and development on climate resilient agricultural systems.[494] India's efforts like the International Solar Alliance (ISA) were also enhanced.[495] These efforts aims to lead to the mass adoption of solar energy and allow technological exchange between member states.

Furthermore, the intentions of the summit to reform Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) will open the door to massive financing of essential infrastructure in India and around the world.[496] These discussions showed that MDBs should simplify their lending procedures, take more risks and coordinate their financing with the development needs of emerging economies.[497] Consequently, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and other regional development banks are likely to invest more in the different sectors. The sectors of investments include renewable energy, transport, water management and urban development.[498] Such investments may be directed at increasing the capacity of renewable energy sources in the form of solar parks and wind farms, the creation of a modern transportation system involving high-speed rail and inland waterways, as well as water infrastructure in the form of irrigation systems and wastewater treatment facilities.

Another major outcome of the summit was the signing of the G20 India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) agreement.[499] It is an ambitious project which is bound to change the game in terms of regional connectivity and economic integration. This will help in promoting trade, investment and infrastructure development among participant countries. The corridor will consist of rail and shipping routes.[500] It will link India to Europe via the Middle East, cutting down considerably the transit time and cost. Also this will help enhance the competitiveness of Indian exports, bring in foreign direct investment in manufacturing, logistics and generate new economic opportunities along

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494 Manjeet Kripalani. *"India in the g20: rule-taker to rule-maker"* (united kingdom: Routlege. 2023)

495 Lingala Manasa, Bandita Paul et al. *"A study on the impact of g20 on Indian economy"* (International journal of research publication and reviews. 2024)

496 Yoganandham. *"India's g20 presidency focuses on economic cooperation, digital public infrastructure, inclusive multilateralism, governance reform and sustainable tourism - an assessment"* (2023)

497 Ibid

498 Lingala Manasa, Bandita Paul, et al. "*A study on the impact of g20 on Indian economy"* (International journal of research publication and reviews. 2024)

499 *"India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC)"* (Research and Information System for Developing Countries. 2015)

500 Ibid

the corridor. The project will require major investments in port infrastructure, rail network and logistics infrastructure, which will be a very big boost to infrastructure development in India.

Last but not least the summit highlighted the importance of India in fostering the Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) and entrepreneurship as they are significant contributors to economic development and employment generation. The summit in collaboration with International Trade Centre (ITC) facilitated initiatives to boost market access of SMEs, their competitiveness and innovation.[501] India's SMEs efforts include training and capacity building initiatives, support to access finance and technology and encouragement to use digital tools and e-commerce platforms. More so, the summit emphasized the need to simplify rules and ease the bureaucratic pressure on SMEs, thus providing a better environment in which they can flourish. The G-20 summit's efforts could significantly benefit India by accelerating economic growth and development. The inclusiveness, making it one of the main global economy drivers and potentially boosting its overall impact.

5.4.1. India's Agreements, Initiatives and Deals after the G-20 New Delhi Summit

The G-20 New Delhi Summit, held in September 2023, went beyond a diplomatic meeting to becoming a crucial facilitator for India's long-term economic trajectory. The summit served as a forum for establishing vital agreements and launching ambitious initiatives. The summit aimed at propelling India toward a more sustainable, inclusive and technologically advanced future. While the summit's official declarations provided the overarching framework, the real impact came from the initiatives that emerged in its aftermath. These played a significant role in reshaping India's economic landscape in a variety of key sectors.

I. Green Transition and Sustainable Development:

This G-20 Summit has echoed the transition of the world towards sustainable development as an urgent necessity. India also used this chance to demonstrate its interest in renewable energy, climate resilience and green technologies. As a result it has attracted great investment and established important cooperation. For instance, at the end of summit India and the European Union announced a

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[501] Lingala Manasa, Bandita Paul, et al. "*A study on the impact of g20 on Indian economy"* (International journal of research publication and reviews. 2024)

Green Hydrogen Mission to build a hydrogen economy in India.[502] This was based on the existing collaboration in the energy sector. The mission involves setting up green hydrogen production plants, hydrogen storage and transportation networks. Resultantly enhancing the adoption of hydrogen in numerous fields, such as transportation and industry. EU promised financial and technological assistance to the mission. Also India pledged to establish a regulatory environment that will be favorable to the production of green hydrogen. More over Masayoshi Son (the SoftBank CEO) exposed his investment plans in Indian renewable energy projects. He promised to allocate $10 billion in solar and wind power production.[503] The investment is set to provide a huge increase in renewable energy capacity in India. This will help India to reach its goal of net-zero emissions by 2070.[504] Furthermore in February 2025, India and Denmark agreed on strategic partnership aimed at coming up with green shipping solutions.[505] The cooperation focuses on advancing alternative fuels usage, enhancing energy efficiency of shipping activities and infrastructure development of the ports to facilitating green shipping. This involves common research and development undertakings, transferring technology and training.

II. Infrastructure and Regional Connectivity

Recognizing the importance of infrastructure in fueling economic growth, the G-20 Summit emphasized the need for increased investment in infrastructure development. India used this chance to undertake ambitious initiatives and form collaborations to improve regional connectivity.

G20 India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC): By far the largest infrastructure project to come out of the summit. It is predicted that IMEC agreement will change the nature of regional trade and connectivity. The corridor which would be made up of rail and shipping routes would link India to Europe via the Middle East cutting short transit time and expenses.[506] Although

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502 Dilpreet Kaur *"G20 Leadership: India's Stewardship in Addressing Global Challenges and Shaping Agendas"* (Journal of Management & Entrepreneurship. 2025)

503 Abdessalam Jaldi, Achouak Lafhal, Alexis Cudey. *"The Indian Presidency of the G20: India at the Helm of Global Governance"* (Policy Center for the New South. 2023)

504 Ibid

505 *"Denmark Forges Strategic Alliance for Green Transition with India"* (Ministry of foreign affairs of Denmark in India. 2025) https://indien.um.dk/en/news/denmark-forges-strategic-alliance-for-green-transition-with-india

506 *"India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC)"* (Research and Information System for Developing Countries. 2015)

the venture is still at an early phase, it has already drawn the severe attention of investors. It is likely to cause massive economic gains to every country involved in it. A number of sub-agreements pertaining technical specifications, implications financing and regulatory frameworks are being negotiated.

Modernization and Expansion of Ports Projects: Riding on the wave created by the IMEC, the Indian government has already said it will modernize and expand its major ports to meet the additional volume of trade.[507] Such projects are the development of new container terminals, enhancement of cargo handling facilities and the connectivity of port to the hinterland. This also includes computerization of port operations to automate the system and enhance effectiveness.

High-Speed Rail Projects: Although the work on high-speed rails had already started, the G-20 summit provided a new boost to the high-speed rail projects in India. Japan reaffirmed its support in the financial and technical aid in the Mumbai-Ahmedabad high-speed rail corridor.[508] The government further declared the investigation of the potential of building new high-speed rails between principal cities within the nation.

North-South Transport Corridor: The government of India promised to revive the North-South Transport Corridor (NSTC) a 7,200 km multi-modal network linking India, Iran, Azerbaijan, Russia and Central Asia.[509] These include facilitation of customs clearance, easing of cargo movement and enhancement of infrastructure all along the corridor. The NSTC is intended to offer a quicker and more effective trade way between India and Russia that does not need the traditional sea-based routes.

III. Financial Inclusion and Small and Medium Enterprise Development

The G-20 New Delhi Summit recognized the significant importance of SMEs in growth of the economy and job creation. India is also determined in achieving financial inclusion and SMEs growth. Such as the government improved Credit Guarantee Scheme of Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE), which gave higher credit guarantees to MSMEs.[510] This is meant to stimulate the banks

[507] Ibid
[508] Purnendra Jain. *"Japan's Foreign Aid and 'Quality' Infrastructure Projects: The Case of the Bullet Train in India"* https://www.jica.go.jp/Resource/jica-ri/publication/workingpaper/l75nbg0000153t43-att/JICA_RI_WP_No.184.pdf
[509] *"International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC)"* (Asia Regional Integration Center. 2015) https://aric.adb.org/initiative/international-north-south-transport-corridor
[510] Priyadarshi Dash, Rahul Ranjan. *"Addressing MSMEs' Financing Challenges Through G20 Action"* (Policy brief. 2023)

into lending to MSMEs, who face a problem of financing their businesses and hence. The scheme allow them to expand their businesses. Moreover the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) is in the process of increasing its "Fund of Funds for Startups" program. This venture capital funds to startups at an early stage. This is also meant to promote innovation and entrepreneurship and foster the startup ecosystem in India. Furthermore, the government is initiating digital literacy programs SMEs, which aim at training and assisting SMEs to use digital technologies and enhance their business activities. This involves the training on ecommerce, online marketing and online payment systems.[511] Additionally the government is partnering with fintech companies to increase financial inclusion and make financial services accessible to the under-served groups. This also involves the mobile technology and digital payment platforms used to offer banking services to the remote locations.

India is entering a phase of increased economic activity and strategic realignment following the G-20 New Delhi Summit. The agreements, programs and arrangements described above offer a holistic and linked strategy to attaining long-term and equitable growth. While obstacles remain in implementation and execution, the summit has created a strong push for India to accelerate its economic transformation and improve its position as a global economic leader. The success of these projects is dependent on continuous government commitment, robust engagement from the commercial sector, and successful coordination with foreign partners. As these projects grow, their influence on India's economic environment is likely to be significant, offering new possibilities, stimulating innovation and improving the lives of millions of Indians.

5.4.2. India's Bilateral and Multilateral Engagements

The G-20 New Delhi Summit was an effective booster for India's increased global engagement. This summit brought in a number of bilateral and multilateral agreements, projects and deals. These initiatives aimed at boosting economic growth, strengthening geopolitical influence and addressing shared global challenges. These cooperation include a wide range of fields, from digital infrastructure

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https://www.global-solutions-initiative.org/wp content/uploads/2025/03/T20_PB_TF5_6_Addressing_MSMEs_Financing_Challenges_Through_G20_Action.pdf

[511] Yoganandham. *"India's g20 presidency focuses on economic cooperation, digital public infrastructure, inclusive multilateralism, governance reform and sustainable tourism - an assessment"* (2023)

and green energy to commerce and security. This underscore India's desire to be a driving force in creating the 21st-century international order.

The G-20 New Delhi Summit acted as an inspiration for a number of bilateral and multinational measures aimed at speeding the green transition and combating climate change. Examples include India-EU Green Hydrogen Mission.[512] The collaboration is meant to help India develop a green hydrogen economy, including the whole value chain, stretching through production to use.[513] EU will bring in financial and technological resources in the mission whereas India will develop a regulatory environment that is favorable to green hydrogen production. The collaboration will consist of creating green hydrogen production sites, hydrogen storage and transportation networks and encouraging hydrogen utilization across multiple domains. Also India-US cooperation on Clean Energy Technology. The US and India have decided to strengthen their collaboration in clean energy technology.[514] They identified solar energy, wind energy, battery storage and hydrogen production as the areas of cooperation. This partnership will entail common research and development undertakings, technological transfer as well as policy discussions. The US will also help India in the transition to clean energy by offering financial and technical help. Moreover India-Denmark; Green Shipping Partnership.[515] The collaboration is focused on encouraging the implementation of green shipping solutions, which will limit the number of emissions produced by the maritime industry. The cooperation will be reflected in the joined research and development projects, transference of technologies, as well as training programs. These fields of interest are use of alternative fuels, enhancement of energy efficiency of shipping operations and development of port infrastructure to enable green shipping. Also India-Norway partnership on Ocean Dialogue for sustainable ocean management.[516] In view of the significance attached to oceans in terms of sustainable development, India and Norway have initiated an Ocean Dialogue to cooperate in managing the oceans. The

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[512] Manish Vaid, Mrityunjaya Dubey. *"India-EU green hydrogen partnership: Powering a sustainable future"* https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/india-eu-green-hydrogen-partnership-powering-a-sustainable-future

[513] Ibid

[514] *"US Embassy and Consolate in India"* https://in.usembassy.gov/roadmap-for-u-s-india-initiative-to-build-safe-and-secure-global-clean-energy-supply-chains/

[515] *"Digital Revolution: Transforming Infrastructure, Governance and Public Services".* (Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. 2024)

[516] Lingala Manasa, Bandita Paul et al. *"A study on the impact of g20 on Indian economy"* (International journal of research publication and reviews. 2024)

discussion will revolve around such areas as sustainable fishing, marine pollution, ocean observation and marine spatial planning.[517]

The G-20 Summit provided an opportunity to advance trade and investment agreements with key partners. These agreements are boosting economic growth and creating new opportunities for businesses. Major engagements includes; India-Saudi Arabia relations have seen a comprehensive expansion post-G20 New Delhi Summit. Key developments are seen in energy, infrastructure, trade, technology, strategic alignment and regional diplomacy. The India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) has been a key focus. India and Saudi Arabia are leading post-G20 feasibility and implementation dialogues in 2024-2025.[518] The strategic partnership council (SPC) was upgraded in October 2024.[519] This up gradation involves more frequent ministerial-level reviews and the establishment of four new working groups on energy security, defense cooperation, tech innovation, food security and supply chains. Saudi Arabia has reaffirmed commitment to long-term crude supply agreements with Indian refiners. Also the expansion of investments in Indian refinery and petrochemical infrastructure. The Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) has also been agreed upon.[520] Under the agreement Saudi Arabia has agreed to store crude oil in Indian SPRs. India offers reciprocal access for joint emergency response systems. India is also working on renewables and green hydrogen, with Saudi Arabia investing in India's 500 GW non-fossil fuel capacity target by 2030.[521] Joint projects are announced in Rajasthan and Gujarat, including solar and wind farms, pilot green hydrogen hubs and solar storage, grid design and tech services.[522] India is also exporting Digital Public Infrastructure (DPGs) like UPI and Adhaar-like digital identity solutions and launching joint Saudi-Indian fintech incubators in Riyadh Tech Valley (RTV).[523] Defense and strategic security cooperation have expanded post-G20.[524] The plans under this cooperation are for joint military exercises, naval port calls,

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[517] Ibid
[518] *"Digital Revolution: Transforming Infrastructure, Governance and Public Services".* (Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. 2024)
[519] Ibid
[520] *"Saudi Arabia India Energy Cooperation Expands with New Agreements"* https://saudienergyconsulting.com/insights/articles/saudi-arabia-india-energy-cooperation-expands-with-new-agreements
[521] Lingala Manasa, Bandita Paul et al. *"A study on the impact of g20 on Indian economy"* (International journal of research publication and reviews. 2024)
[522] Ibid
[523] Ibid
[524] Lingala Manasa, Bandita Paul et al. *"A study on the impact of g20 on Indian economy"* (International journal of research publication and reviews. 2024)

enhanced counter-terrorism coordination, intelligence sharing mechanisms and a proposed India-Saudi cyber defense pact.[525] Trade and investment highlights include bilateral trade crossing $52 billion in 2024-25.[526] Saudi Public Investment Fund (PIF) committed $15 billion for Indian infrastructure, stake in Indian logistics firms supporting the IEC logistics corridor and fast-tracking the India-GCC Free Trade Agreement.[527] Cultural and labor cooperation is central to labor talks, with the Indian diaspora essential to labor talks. A new MoU on skilled labor mobility and worker protections was signed in February 2025.[528] Moreover vocational training centers with Indian curriculum in Saudi Arabia were launched. The India-Saudi Cultural Year 2025 will feature exhibitions on Islamic-Indic cultural heritage, yoga, Ayurveda and film festivals in Riyadh and Jeddah.[529]

The India-Cyprus-Greece trilateral cooperation gained significant momentum following the 2023 G-20 New Delhi Summit. This is complementing India's larger Mediterranean outreach plan and Indo-European diplomatic engagement. The India-Cyprus-Greece trilateral partnership was launched in June 2025.[530] It aims to counterbalance growing Chinese influence in Eurasia and the Eastern Mediterranean, expand cooperation on maritime security, digital innovation, economic connectivity and promote rules-based regional order across the Indo-Mediterranean zone. The trilateral format gained traction after increased diplomatic interactions during and post-G-20 New Delhi Summit 2023. The key areas of India-Cyprus-Greece trilateral cooperation include FinTech & Digital Economy, Artificial Intelligence & Emerging Tech, Blue Economy & Maritime Cooperation, Defense & Strategic Security, Tourism & Cultural Exchange, Banking & Financial Integration and Institutions & Agreements.[531] India will offer technical assistance in the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) integration pilot in Cyprus and Greece. Additionally, cyber security training and establishment of joint

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[525] Ibid
[526] Lingala Manasa, Bandita Paul et al. *"A study on the impact of g20 on Indian economy"* (International journal of research publication and reviews. 2024)
[527] Ibid
[528] Business Standards. 2025 https://www.business-standard.com/india-news/nsdc-inks-mou-with-saudi-govt-to-protect-rights-of-indian-skilled-labourers-123121500742_1.html
[529] Ibid
[530] Georgios Koukakis *"The trilateral partnership between Greece, Cyprus & Israel: Background, recent developments and future considerations regarding the security environment in the Eastern Mediterranean"* (University of the Aegean. 2022)
[531] Ibid

cyber task forces. Moreover the formation of a trilateral startup exchange hub. India will also support AI and robotics research with Indian expertise and Greek/Cypriot innovation clusters. AI and robotics research will focus on health tech, maritime AI and predictive weather analytics for coastal resilience. The trilateral will also focus on coastal ecosystem preservation, defense and strategic security, tourism and cultural exchange and banking and financial integration. The trilateral has strategic importance for India, as it expands its influence in Eastern Mediterranean & EU microstates, strengthens maritime presence and balances China's Belt & Road reach. Moreover it leverages ancient Indo-Hellenic ties and deepens diaspora relations. The trilateral also positions India as a digital infrastructure leader in the Mediterranean. The trilateral has several institutions and agreements, including the Indo-Med Strategic Council, BlueTech Research Fund, Digital Innovation Bridge and the India-Greece–Cyprus Student Alliance.[532] The India-Cyprus-Greece trilateral cooperation strategic importance lies in its potential to expand India's influence in the Eastern Mediterranean and EU microstates. Furthermore to strengthen maritime presence and position India as a digital infrastructure leader in the Mediterranean.

India's post-G20 New Delhi Summit engagement with Africa has expanded significantly.[533] India's role in the African Union's full G20 membership has elevated India as a "Voice of the Global South," Trade and investment initiatives between the countries include the India-Africa Trade Target of $100 billion in bilateral trade by 2030.[534] Infrastructure and connectivity projects include the India-Africa Digital Corridor, solar energy projects via the International Solar Alliance and the India-Africa Maritime Cooperation Framework.[535] India's commitment to supplying affordable vaccines and diagnostics, training programs for African healthcare workers and upgrading digital education platforms have also contributed to the development of new bilateral agreements. These agreements have helped counterbalance Chinese Belt & Road influence in Africa, secure new export markets, investment destinations for Indian MSMEs and tech firms. These will also boost country's soft power through health, education and green energy partnerships. Additionally it might enhance India's

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[532] Georgios Koukakis *"The trilateral partnership between Greece, Cyprus & Israel: Background, recent developments and future considerations regarding the security environment in the Eastern Mediterranean"* (University of the Aegean. 2022)

[533] *"The African Union has been made a permanent member of the G20 – what does it mean for the continent?"* (World economic forum. 2023)

[534] Ibid

[535] Ibid

maritime influence and South-South solidarity leadership. India's strategic significance lies in its role as a gateway to African representation in multilateral bodies, counterbalancing Chinese Belt & Road influence in Africa, enhancing its maritime influence and strengthening its maritime influence in the region.

India and the United States have been fostering strategic, economic and technological ties since several decades. The G-20 New Delhi Summit 2023, key agreements include the India-US Interim Trade Agreement (in progress), US Navy Ship Repairs in India, the India-US Initiative on Critical & Emerging Technologies (iCET), India-US Space Collaboration, Cybersecurity & Digital Infrastructure Cooperation, Green Energy & Climate Tech, Defense Industrial Cooperation Roadmap (2023–2027), People-to-People & Mobility and expanded visa access for Indian professionals.[536] The India-US Initiative on Critical & Emerging Technologies (iCET) was launched in 2023 and expanded in 2024-2025.[537] The deal includes GE Aerospace-HAL Jet Engine Deal, which will co-produce GE's F414 engines for the Tejas Mk2 fighter.[538] India-US Space Collaboration includes NASA-ISRO collaboration, the launch of the NISAR Satellite Mission and joint commercial satellite ventures. Cyber security and digital infrastructure cooperation include the joint Working Group on Cyber Resilience, critical infrastructure protection, sharing threat intelligence and public-private frameworks on 5G/6G and smart cities. The US-India Strategic Clean Energy Partnership (SCEP) has expanded post-G20.[539] It focuses on clean hydrogen research & development, grid modernization, battery storage pilot projects and private investments. The Defense Industrial Cooperation Roadmap covers joint production of UAVs, artillery systems, technology exchange in radar and EW systems.[540] Also training programs for Indian armed forces personnel in the U.S. In addition to these initiatives, India and the United States have also expanded visa access for Indian professionals. Moreover it has discussed new mobility agreements for STEM talent and signed MoUs between Indian and US institutions on AI/ML, climate tech and public policy.

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[536] Abdessalam Jaldi, Achouak Lafhal, Alexis Cudey. *"The Indian Presidency of the G20: India at the Helm of Global Governance"* (Policy Center for the New South. 2023)
[537] Ibid
[538] Lingala Manasa, Bandita Paul et al. *"A study on the impact of g20 on Indian economy"* (International journal of research publication and reviews. 2024)
[539] Ibid
[540] Ibid

India and the United Kingdom have signed several post-G20 agreements, projects and initiatives to deepen their strategic, economic, defense, technology and mobility cooperation.[541] These agreements, particularly after the G-20 New Delhi Summit 2023, have been branded as "model FTAs" by both sides. The aim is of balancing trade liberalization with domestic protections. The India-UK Free Trade Agreement (Signed May 2025) is the first major post-Brexit FTA with a large emerging economy. Also the 2+2 Foreign and Defence Dialogue signed in December 2024, involved India's external affairs and defence Ministers and the UK's foreign secretary and defence Secretary.[542] At the end of G-20 New Delhi Summit India-UK engagements included renewed focus on the Indo-Pacific strategy, maritime security, joint naval patrols in the Indian Ocean and near the Persian Gulf. This also expanded defense industrial collaboration on radar and drone tech. Moreover it increased UK defense investments in India under Make-in-India. The India-UK Green Growth Equity Fund (GGEF) continued post-G20 with more than £240 million capital mobilized.[543] The funding sectors such as electric mobility, solar rooftop infrastructure, smart energy and agriculture tech. The UK supported India's National Green Hydrogen Mission through technical training programs and UK Export Finance-backed green hydrogen projects in Gujarat and Karnataka. The India-UK Technology Partnership Roadmap includes the formation of a Joint Digital Innovation Fund to support start-ups, shared principles for AI regulation, ethical tech and data protection frameworks.[544] Also collaboration on quantum computing and cyber security under a new bilateral tech agreement. Furthermore the India-UK Research and Innovation Alliance launched bilateral research funding in health tech, space and material sciences, and expanded UK-India student mobility schemes. The Youth Mobility Scheme (YMS) expansion increased visa quotas for Indian graduates and young professionals. Moreover it provided fast-track routes for skilled professionals in nursing, IT and engineering sectors. Furthermore mutual migration cooperation addressed illegal migration issues while enhancing pathways for legal skilled migration. UK support for Indian migration tech platforms and border coordination was also

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[541] *"2030 Roadmap for India-UK future relations"* (Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office. 2021) https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/india-uk-virtual-summit-may-2021-roadmap-2030-for-a-comprehensive-strategic-partnership/2030-roadmap-for-india-uk-future-relations

[542] Abdessalam Jaldi, Achouak Lafhal, Alexis Cudey. *"The Indian Presidency of the G20: India at the Helm of Global Governance"* (Policy Center for the New South. 2023)

[543] Lingala Manasa, Bandita Paul et al. *"A study on the impact of g20 on Indian economy"* (International journal of research publication and reviews. 2024)

[544] *"2030 Roadmap for India-UK future relations"* (Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office. 2021)

provided. The India-UK Cultural Exchange Programme (2024–2027) aims to deepen long-term bilateral relations through joint exhibitions, academic partnerships, cinema collaborations, co-hosting of literary festivals and promotion of South Asian heritage in the UK. The strategic impact of UK-India post-G20 engagement includes economic diversification, tech diplomacy, green financing, strategic alignment and people-to-people power.

India has made significant strides in its post-G-20 collaborations with the European Union and key member states, including Germany, France and Italy. These collaborations focus on trade, infrastructure, nuclear energy, climate technology and strategic cooperation.[545] The EU Loan with the European Investment Bank was signed in December 2024.[546] It includes €250 million for Bangalore Metro Phase 2 expansion and €50 million for a solar energy infrastructure project under the International Solar Alliance (ISA).[547] This will help India expand low-emission urban mobility, promote sustainable infrastructure collaboration and reinforce the EU's Global Gateway Initiative in the Indo-Pacific. The Modular Nuclear Reactors – India-France Declaration is signed in February 2025.[548] It focuses on joint research and development of Small Modular Reactors (SMRs), knowledge sharing on safety protocols, nuclear waste disposal, future prospects for civil nuclear export and fuel collaboration. This aligns with India's push for clean base-load power to reach net-zero targets. The German-India Green Hydrogen Roadmap was launched in October 2024.[549] It aims to position India as a hydrogen hub for Europe and the Indo-Pacific. It also aims to support India's 500 GW non-fossil energy target by 2030.[550] Moreover the plan includes maritime cooperation in the Indian Ocean. The

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545 Lingala Manasa, Bandita Paul et al. *"A study on the impact of g20 on Indian economy"* (International journal of research publication and reviews. 2024)

546 Europeon Investment Bank. https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2025-208-eib-group-approves-eur9-1-billion-in-new-financing-to-strengthen-europe-s-security-and-defence-tech-leadership-and-critical-infrastructure#:~:text=The%20EIB%20Group%2C%20which%20also,media%20use%20are%20available%20here.&text=Tega%20&%20Tula%20Coffee%20Farm%20is,expansion%20of%20their%20export%20business.

547 Yoganandham. *"India's g20 presidency focuses on economic cooperation, digital public infrastructure, inclusive multilateralism, governance reform and sustainable tourism - an assessment"* (2023)

548 *"Digital Revolution: Transforming Infrastructure, Governance and Public Services".* (Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. 2024)

549 Ibid

550 Ibid

projects include clean energy projects with Italian firms like ENEL Green Power, space collaboration between ISRO and ASI, infrastructure projects and a joint year of cultural exchange in 2026.[551]

The EU-India Connectivity Partnerships aim to expand India's integration with Europe through digital infrastructure, sustainable transport corridors, strategic investments in ports, data centers and logistics hubs. Notable developments post-G20 include focus on Chennai-Vladivostok and Arabian-Mediterranean maritime linkages, collaboration on submarine cables, cyber governance and tech regulation.[552] Technology and innovation cooperation is another key area of focus. Under this India is joining the Horizon Europe program in 2024. This is allowing Indian universities and startups to apply for EU tech grants, co-funding research & development in health, climate, AI and quantum tech. Also strengthening bilateral science and tech forums with France and Germany. So, India's post-G-20 collaborations with the European Union and key member states have shown significant strategic and economic growth in India.

The number of bilateral and multilateral agreements, initiatives and deals that have developed following the G-20 New Delhi Summit demonstrate India's expanding global influence and commitment to constructing a more sustainable, integrated and secure world. As these relationships span a wide range of industries and geographies, it demonstrates India's comprehensive approach to foreign policy and aim to become a global leader in the 21st century. The successful execution of these efforts will need long-term commitment and good coordination. Also collaborative approach including the government, corporate sector and civil society. As these alliances evolve, they are projected to provide major economic, social and geopolitical advantages to India and its partners, therefore contributing to a more prosperous and stable world.

5.4.3. India's Post G-20 Summit Collaboration with International Organizations: Building Partnerships for a Shared Future

The India's G-20 Summit in 2023 was a turning point that not only demonstrated its leadership in the world but also sparked a boom in partnerships with other organizations. This summit was a

[551] Lingala Manasa, Bandita Paul et al. *"A study on the impact of g20 on Indian economy"* (International journal of research publication and reviews. 2024)
[552] Harshwardhan Sharma. *"Key Outcomes of the 2023 G20 Summit Held in India"* (India Briefing. 2023)

major step in tackling global issues and promoting sustainable development.[553] It also cleared the path for tangible agreements, creative projects and smart arrangements that went beyond the political rhetoric and high-level speeches. Driven by shared objectives and mutual advantages, these collaborations span a wide range of industries. Different sectors of cooperation take in healthcare, financial inclusion, digital infrastructure and climate action.[554] These engagements demonstrate India's dedication to multilateralism and its vision for a more just and prosperous global community. The important Post G-20 New Delhi summit engagements are as follows:

The G20 New Delhi Leader's Declaration committed to Reforming Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs). The aim was to address global challenges and maximize developmental impact.[555] The World Bank and IMF recognize the importance of MDBs in mobilizing finance and expertise to tackle global issues like climate change, sustainable development and debt vulnerabilities, particularly in low- and middle-income countries. India played an active role in pushing the MDB reform agenda during its G20 Presidency. Indian role includes commissioning an Independent Expert Group report titled "Strengthening Multilateral Developmental Banks: The Triple Agenda."[556] The report advocated for a "Triple Mandate": expanding MDB's focus beyond poverty reduction and inclusive growth. This aims to include the provision of Global Public Goods (GPGs), scaling up financing by leveraging existing balance sheets more efficiently, operational reforms making MDBs more agile, efficient and responsive and private capital mobilization. Reforming MDB's key commitments and post-Summit progress include the G20 Roadmap for MDB Reform.[557] This outlines concrete recommendations to increase MDB financing capacity and maximize their impact. MDBs have collectively aimed to increase their lending headroom by around $400 billion over the next ten years by implementing recommendations from the G20's Capital Adequacy Frameworks review.[558] Climate finance lending has significantly increased, reaching a record high of $75 billion for low- and middle-income countries

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[553] Dilpreet Kaur *"G20 Leadership: India's Stewardship in Addressing Global Challenges and Shaping Agendas"* (Journal of Management & Entrepreneurship. 2025)
[554] Ibid
[555] Yoganandham. *"India's g20 presidency focuses on economic cooperation, digital public infrastructure, inclusive multilateralism, governance reform and sustainable tourism - an assessment"* (2023)
[556] Ibid
[557] Priyanka Singh *"The Role of India's G20 Presidency in the New Global Order: Achievements and Challenges"* (International Journal for Multidisciplinary Research (IJFMR). 2024)
[558] Yoganandham. *"India's g20 presidency focuses on economic cooperation, digital public infrastructure, inclusive multilateralism, governance reform and sustainable tourism - an assessment"* (2023)

in 2023.[559] The private finance mobilized by MDBs nearly doubling to $101 billion.[560] New financial instruments, such as hybrid capital offerings, portfolio guarantees and Special Drawing Rights channeling are being explored and implemented by MDBs.[561] Operational streamlining efforts are underway to enhance procurement practices, reduce transaction costs and improve supply chain efficiency.[562] Common approaches to measuring climate results and understanding country platforms are also being released to improve collaboration and effectiveness. Private sector engagement is also being worked on to set clear targets for mobilizing private capital and remove policy bottlenecks.

Furthermore, *The India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC)* is a transformative project designed to enhance global connectivity and trade.[563] It comprises two main segments: the Eastern Corridor connecting India to the Arabian Gulf and the Northern Corridor connecting the Arabian Gulf to Europe.[564] The project aims to create a reliable and cost-effective cross-border ship-to-rail transit network, supplementing existing maritime and road transport routes.[565] This includes establishing new rail lines and upgrading existing ones to facilitate efficient cargo movement.

The EU's participation in IMEC is strategic and multifaceted. It offers a vital alternative trade route, reducing reliance on existing pathways like the Suez Canal, which has proven vulnerable to disruptions. IMEC is widely seen as a Western-led counterpoint to China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), offering a transparent, high-standard alternative for infrastructure development and connectivity.[566] The inclusion of clean hydrogen pipelines is particularly appealing to Europe.[567] The clean hydrogen pipelines is actively seeking diverse sources of green energy to meet its climate targets and enhance energy independence. The EU reinforces its geopolitical presence and influence in the Indo-Pacific and Middle East regions. It aims to foster deeper diplomatic and economic ties with key partners. Individual EU member states like France, Germany and Italy are direct signatories,

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[559] Andrew F. Cooper. "*Between rewards and risks: India as host of the 2023 g20 summit*" (Delhi. Sage. 2023)
[560] Priyanka Singh *"The Role of India's G20 Presidency in the New Global Order: Achievements and Challenges*" (International Journal for Multidisciplinary Research (IJFMR). 2024)
[561] Ibid
[562] Ibid
[563] *"India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC)"* (Research and Information System for Developing Countries. 2015)
[564] Ibid
[565] *"Digital Revolution: Transforming Infrastructure, Governance and Public Services".* (Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. 2024)
[566] Ibid
[567] Casey Kelly, Yuanrong Zhou. *"Hydrogen fuel for transport in India"* (International council on clean transportation. 2022)

underscoring their national strategic interests alongside the collective EU agenda. Italy's withdrawal from China's BRI shortly after the IMEC announcement highlighted its shift towards this new corridor. As of mid-2025, IMEC remains in its conceptual and planning phases, with initial diplomatic and technical discussions ongoing. However, it faces significant challenges. The most immediate and significant hurdle has been the escalating conflicts and tensions in the Middle East, particularly the Israel-Hamas conflict and Houthi attacks in the Red Sea.[568] These events directly impact the stability of the region through which a crucial segment of IMEC is planned to pass (Jordan, Israel).[569] Financial commitment is still being worked out. This requires the scale of investment required necessitating significant private sector involvement, which may be hesitant due to geopolitical risks. Logistical and technical hurdles include constructing new rail lines, upgrading ports and integrating diverse technical standards across multiple countries with varying regulatory environments.[570] The exclusion of countries like Turkey, Iran, Qatar and Egypt from the initial framework has drawn criticism and could lead to alternative connectivity projects that compete with IMEC.[571] Political will and continuity are crucial for the long-term success of IMEC. Leaders from participating countries, including those from the EU, have consistently reiterated their commitment to IMEC, recognizing its strategic importance in shaping future global trade and connectivity.

Moreover, *The Global Biofuel Alliance (GBA)* is a global initiative launched by India at the G20 New Delhi Summit in 2023.[572] It has grown to 24 countries and 12 international organizations, including the World Bank, ADB, IEA, UNIDO, WEF, ICAO, IRENA, World Biogas Association and others.[573] Notable members include both G20 and non-G20 nations. The GBA's core functions include standard-setting and certification, work plan with three components: country-level landscape assessments, policy framework development and biofuel capacity-building workshops.[574] It also hosts

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[568] Priyanka Singh *"The Role of India's G20 Presidency in the New Global Order: Achievements and Challenges*" (International Journal for Multidisciplinary Research (IJFMR). 2024)
[569] Ibid
[570] Abdessalam Jaldi, Achouak Lafhal, Alexis Cudey. *"The Indian Presidency of the G20: India at the Helm of Global Governance"* (Policy Center for the New South. 2023)
[571] *"India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC)"* (Research and Information System for Developing Countries. 2015)
[572] The Global Biofuel Alliance (GBA)
https://biofuelsalliance.com/
[573] Ibid
[574] Ibid

events at COP29 and other global forums to drive policy consensus and promote biofuel adoption.[575] India has successfully transitioned the G20-level launch into a functioning global institution by actively shaping sustainable biofuel standards, policies, capacities and trade frameworks. The GBA boosts biofuel trade pipelines and stabilizes supply chains with unified standards, potentially leading to job creation and billions in savings.[576] The GBA positions India alongside the International Solar Alliance (ISA) and the Climate Change Initiative (CDRI) in driving sustainable energy transitions, especially across the Global South. India's strategic impact includes reinforcing the E20 ethanol roadmap, SATAT and PM-JIVAN biogas schemes.[577] The purpose was for boosting global trade, improving energy security and positioning India as a global leader in driving sustainable energy transitions. The GBA's structure, secretariat and diplomatic status in India are under finalization. Its outcomes include enhanced trade, job creation and a clean-energy roadmap.

5.5. Economic Implications for India's Global Positioning

India is on the route to become global economic power, leaving behind US and china to have an impressive image for the world today. The G-20 New Delhi summit has enhanced the international economic standing in the world. It has increased India's global influence. This became possible with India's inspiring governance at the meeting.[578] This summit has made India a global investment hub and has enhanced foreign investment. The summit's emphasis on investment promotion and ease of doing business brought in more foreign capital. The trade relations were improved. India's reaffirmed dedication to multilateral trade agreements and WTO reform enhanced its standing in international commerce.

India got this excellent chance to demonstrate its leadership abilities and economic potential at the G-20 New Delhi Summit. India's hosting of the summit served as evidence of its capacity for global leadership. During its presidency, India utilized its capacity to advance international agendas for cooperation and comprehensive development. It also got to bring together and promote

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575 COP29 Policy Briefing
https://www.unicef.org/media/163361/file/UNICEF%20COP29%20Policy%20Briefing%20-%20English.pdf.pdf
576 The Global Biofuel Alliance (GBA)
https://biofuelsalliance.com/
577 Ibid
578 Abdessalam Jaldi, Achouak Lafhal, Alexis Cudey. *"The Indian presidency of the g20: India at the helm of global governance"* (policy center for the new south. 2023)

collaboration in areas of global concern.[579] Secondly India is advocate of sustainable development. Its commitment to environmentally responsible growth is emphasized by the summit's stress on SDGs and climate action. India's improving economic standing is supported by the summit's focus on trade, investment and innovation.[580] Further growth was seen in India’s economic clout through this summit’s outcome.[581] This G-20 conference in 2023 was a major factor in repositioning India as a rising economic superpower.[582] The occasion gave India the chance to showcase itself as a center for investment, trade and innovation in addition to being a significant force in global governance.[583] India's infrastructure and organizational capabilities, which are essential for drawing in long-term foreign investment, were validated by its ability to organize an international event of this size and complexity.[584] More significantly, the summit put emphasis on India's advantages in fields including manufacturing, renewable energy and information technology.[585] India is now a major destination for investments in solar, wind and other renewable technologies. These superiority is putting it at the forefront of the global push for green energy. The credit of this goes to the agreements and debates facilitated during the summit. India's innovation ecosystem, especially in fintech, digital public infrastructure and e-governance were viewed at this event. These all were also considered economic growth accelerators in India.[586]

5.6. Policy Initiatives and Economic Reforms

India has used the G-20 conference as an opportunity to unveil new economic reforms and policies that will support sustained prosperity in future. A number of measures were taken to improve trade logistics, promote innovation and make doing business in India easier.[587] For this purpose India has planned out some initiatives to support the cause. The goal of these initiatives and reforms drafted was to attract international firms to establish operations in India. These also aimed in increasing

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579 Ibid

580 Mohd Akhter Ali, M.Kamraju. *“The G20 Presidency of India in 2023: Achievements, Challenges and Implications”* (New Delhi. International Journal of Business and Management Research (IJBMR).2023)

581 Ibid

582 Yoganandham. *“India’s g20 presidency focuses on economic cooperation, digital public infrastructure, inclusive multilateralism, governance reform and sustainable tourism - an assessment”* (2023)

583 Ibid

584 Ibid

585 Andrew F. Cooper. “*Between rewards and risks: India as host of the 2023 g20 summit*” (Delhi. Sage. 2023)

586 Aashriti Gautam. “*India and g20: strengthening and shaping global governance”* (Delhi. IJMR, 2022)

587 Manjeet Kripalani. *“India in the g20: rule-taker to rule-maker”* (United Kingdom: Routlege, 2023)

exports and jobs in the country. Some of the other reforms was Tax breaks for foreign investors and measures to encourage the expansion of SMEs.[588] Quite a lot of infrastructure development projects were initiated and these meant to increase connectivity inside India. This was also an important component of these reforms. The G-20 summit's discussions on enhancing international commerce and building robust supply chains were equally in line with these policy initiatives.[589] A more vibrant and competitive business climate might be produced by India's commitment to structural changes, implanting reforms and collaborative initiatives. This is crucial for long-term economic growth of India as well as of the world.

India's 2023 hosting of the G-20 New Delhi Summit had a significant impact on its economic development and international economic standing. This G-20 summit was a rare chance that India got to strengthen its economic structure and discover its future partnerships. India through this showed the world its ambition of becoming the world economic power. Additionally the summit gave India an exceptional chance to demonstrate its diplomatic and economic expertise. The theme of this event was eye catching and convinced the spectators to believe in it. India’s inclusive development dream is praised around the world. The event has accelerated India's economic growth by concentrating on important topics including digital innovation, infrastructure development, climate action and foreign direct investment. On a domestic level, the G-20 meeting resulted in improvements to infrastructure, created excellent job prospects and expansion in industries like services and tourism. Moreover, the establishment of trade agreements and bilateral partnerships with south Asian neighbor and nations has created new markets for Indian enterprises and attracted international investments in crucial areas. In terms of geopolitics, India's leadership during the summit has improved its standing as a Global South representative and bolstered its diplomatic ties. It is anticipated that the summit will have a profound long-term effect on India's economic development. India is in a strong position to maintain its rise as a major economic force in the world with more foreign investment, policy changes and an emphasis on sustainable development. In addition to improving India's standing internationally, the

[588] Lingala Manasa, Bandita Paul et al. *“A study on the impact of g20 on Indian economy”* (International journal of research publication and reviews. 2024)

[589] Ibid

G-20 summit set the groundwork for future years of steady economic expansion, technical development and geopolitical clout.

Conclusion

Once the world's largest economy from 1526-1857, India experienced vey less economic growth under the British Empire, which focused on enriching Britain through resource extraction and trade British colonial focus was to benefit Britain's economy through trade, utilization of resources and infrastructure —precipitating industry decline, poverty, famine and social corruption in Indian sub-continent. In 1947, India gained independence and faced challenges like agricultural backwardness, industrial underdevelopment, poverty, unemployment and displacement. These issues were addressed with economic reforms, industrialization drives, planning, infrastructure development, trade and foreign exchange management. Initially India adopted a mixed method economy and Five Year Plans in the 1950s. The country's GDP grew significantly, reaching $1.85 trillion and making it the fifth largest global economy and a preferred foreign direct investment destination.[590] India's international economic status has changed significantly over the past decade, with projections of GDP growth from $1.8 trillion to the world's third largest by 2030.[591]

India's economic growth since 1947 has been influenced by various internal factors. The factors such as demographic dividend, large market, skilled technical workforce, geographical location, technological advantage, infrastructural development, increased domestic demand, financial superiority, exceptional democratic institutions, cultural ethos and outstanding Indian diaspora. Trade liberalization, deregulation of industries and foreign investment liberalization have accelerated this economic growth. These factors have made India one of the fastest-growing economies globally. India's future economic growth will be shaped by strategic initiatives such as strengthening the demographic dividend, investing in education and skill development, job creation, digital transformation, sustainable development, inclusive growth, global integration, innovation, infrastructure development and agricultural modernization.

India's rise to global economic supremacy has been fueled by a combination of regional and global sources. The liberalization of the Indian economy in the 1990s opened up the country

[590] The Hindu
https://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/is-india-the-worlds-fourth-largest-economy/article69645115.ece

[591] Mukesh Kumar Mishra. *"Emergence of India as a Key Player in Global Economic Affairs"* (Berlin. ResearchGate. 2024)
https://www.econstor.eu/bitstream/10419/284923/1/Mishra-Emergence-of-India.pdf

to global markets and promoted global integration.[592] India's geographical location in South Asia and closeness to key maritime routes have allowed it to benefit from economic relationships with neighboring nations and trade corridors. Initiatives such as SAARC and the Bay of Bengal Initiative have expanded regional influence. On a global scale, India has navigated geopolitical power changes by balancing ties with key powers such as the United States, China and Russia. It has also developed collaboration with the European Union. India's superiority in the Indo-Pacific region and convergence with multilateral organizations such as the World Trade Organization and the Group of 20 is also great contributor to its economic ascent. India's technological prowess, notably in information technology and pharmaceuticals, has boosted its worldwide economy. Balancing regional collaboration and global engagement is critical to India's economic growth and long-term global power position.

India, a founding member of the G-20, has utilized the forum to address global issues, demonstrating its capacity to align its priorities with those of other major economies. Despite political difficulties such as the conflict in Ukraine, India-China border disputes and deteriorating relations between the United States and Russia, India's presidency has offered a forum for debate and diplomacy to address the pressing concerns of world. The G-20's New Delhi summit remains an important venue for international collaboration notably in climate action, inclusive development and economic stability. The G-20 presidency also provides India with a strategic chance to change global governance and advance its national interests. India's leaders have campaigned for the participation of marginalized regions, such as Africa, in global decision-making processes. India's presidency marks a significant step forward in its economic rise as a global economic power.

India's hosting of the G-20 New Delhi Summit in 2023 has had a huge influence on its economic growth and international standing. This summit prioritized inclusive growth, technology transfer, infrastructure development and climate action. The debates and negotiation on these areas have given boost to Indian economy. Domestically, the event resulted in improvements to infrastructure, employment chances and expansion in areas like as services and tourism. As India navigated its way in trade agreements and bilateral partnerships, these partnerships have opened up new markets for Indian businesses and drew foreign investment. India's leadership in the

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[592] Rishab Kumar Jain *"A Study on the Impact on International Trade Post Liberalization in India"* (India. Journal of Production, Operations Management and Economics. 2023)

summit enhanced its status as a Global South representation and boosted diplomatic connections. The summit is likely to have long-term implications for India's economic development, including more foreign investment, stronger relations and sustainable economic growth. This will also provide the basis for long-term economic growth, technological advancement and geopolitical/geo-economic influence of India in region and the world.

Findings

This research study finds out that:

- The summit promoted strategic relationships and cooperation with key world economies, strengthening India's position in global trade and investment networks. These collaborations are expected to increase foreign direct investment (FDI) and strengthen India's position in global value chains in future.
- The 2023 G20 New Delhi Summit demonstrated India's role in global economic governance, focusing on climate financing, digital public infrastructure and inclusive development.
- G20 efforts provide major economic prospects, such as increased access to foreign markets, improved trade partnerships and infrastructure development.
- India's leadership in promoting global economic partnership, focusing on equitable growth, digital public infrastructure and climate financing, demonstrates its growing global status and commitment to creating an open international order.

Recommendations

The study recommends as follows:

- India’s G-20 New Delhi Summit, 2023 promoted strategic relationships and cooperation with key economies, hence strengthening India's position in global trade and investment networks. India should continue its collaborations to increase foreign direct investment (FDI)
- Boost multilateral trade alliances and negotiate trade agreements that lower tariff and non-tariff barriers by utilizing alliances, particularly in high-growth industries like technology, agribusiness and pharmaceuticals. In order to reduce the dangers associated with its excessive reliance on certain markets, India should also investigate trade diversification.
- Academic institutions should conduct more diverse impact assessments, encourage

comparative studies, focus on public awareness campaigns and develop regional case studies to evaluate the long-term economic, social and environmental impacts of India's increased involvement in multilateral forums, such as the G20, BRICS and others. As this necessitates further academic and policy research to understand its global influence on domestic policies and economic growth, offering valuable insights for scholars and policymakers.

- India on path to global economic accent has the potential of global governance, so it should create and sustain strong economic relations with major economic powers of the world.

Post Script Scenario

India remains the fastest-growing global economy until mid-2025, demonstrating high stability amidst global uncertainty. It is trying to establish itself throughout the world as a natural economic powerhouse. This is due to its growth backed by superior investment levels, fiscal discipline, low inflation, the flourishing digital and green economy.

In 2025 the projected GDP growth is recorded between 6.8%–7.1%.[593] This growth is attributed to public infrastructure spending, domestic consumption, digital services and manufacturing. India accounted for over 16% of global GDP growth, the highest for any single country.[594] Q4 FY25 (April-June 2025) saw a 7.4% real GDP growth.[595] This was driven by key sectors like construction, manufacturing, IT, financial services, tourism and digital platforms. Till date, India's services exports rose by over 9% and its fintech sector crossed $200 billion in transaction value.[596] India has managed to control inflation in 2025. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) dropping to 2.82% in May 2025.[597] This was the lowest in six years and well below the Reserve Bank of India's medium-term target of 4%.[598] This marks the fourth consecutive month that Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation remained under the 4% threshold.[599] Food inflation in India remained under control between 2024 and mid-2025 due to a strong Rabi crop, a good monsoon season and government efforts to release food stocks on time. Digital platforms and improvements in food storage and movement

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593 Asian Development Bank
https://www.adb.org/news/adb-forecasts-india-economy-grow-6-7-fy2025#:~:text=SHARE%20THIS%20PAGE,in%20personal%20income%20tax%20rates.

594 World Economics
https://www.worldeconomics.com/Thoughts/India-Contributes-Almost-16-Percent-of-Global-GDP-Growth-Since-2010.aspx

595 *"India's GDP Grows 7.4% in Q4 FY25; FY26 Forecasts Headwinds: Report"* (Entrepreneur India. 2025)
https://www.entrepreneur.com/en-in/news-and-trends/indias-gdp-grows-74-in-q4-fy25-fy26-forecasts/493540#:~:text=India's%20GDP%20Grows%207.4%25%20in,in%20government%20final%20consumption%20expenditure.

596 The Economic Times
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/indias-goods-services-exports-may-cross-900-billion-this-year-piyush-goyal/articleshow/121795449.cms?from=mdr

597 Ibid

598 Financial Express
https://www.financialexpress.com/policy/economy-google-trends-gdp-growth-to-fiscal-deficit-4-most-searchednbsp-economic-terms-3888242/#:~:text=India's%20retail%20inflation%20eased%20to,and%20offering%20relief%20to%20consumers

599 Ibid

also contributed to the stability of supplies. The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) turned slightly negative in April 2025, indicating a decrease in raw material and input costs, thereby keeping inflation low.[600] The Reserve Bank of India expects inflation to remain low and steady throughout 2025-26, benefiting ordinary people.[601] In rural areas, families have more disposable income due to stable food prices. While in cities, people spend more on non-need items like electronics, appliances and cars. This has led to a rise in demand for white goods, automobiles and everyday consumer items like packaged food and personal care products. Overall, good harvests, smart government management and effective monetary policy have contributed to inflation control, increased purchasing power and economic activity in both rural and urban India.

India's external sector in 2025 is stable, with healthy foreign exchange reserves, a strong services export base and improving logistics infrastructure. However, the economy is vulnerable to global oil price volatility due to its high import dependence on energy. The government and Reserve Bank of India have adopted a cautious but proactive stance to manage these vulnerabilities. India's Current Account Deficit is projected at 1.2% of GDP (FY25-26), well within the safe range.[602] India's export performance between January and June 2025 showed a mixed trend. Merchandise exports declined by around 2% compared to the same period last year.[603] This drop was mainly due to weak demand from major markets like Europe and the United States, disruptions in international shipping routes and unstable global commodity prices. However, services exports, such as IT services, consulting and digital support, performed better, growing by about 9% compared to the first half of 2024. This growth highlights the strength of India's service sector, which continues to be a key driver of foreign exchange earnings. The Indian rupee remained relatively stable, trading between ₹84 to ₹85 per US dollar, providing some certainty for importers and exporters in managing currency risks.[604]

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[600] The Economic Times
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/rbi-cuts-crr-by-100-bps-in-four-tranches-to-boost-liquidity-effective-sept/articleshow/121665891.cms?from=mdr

[601] Ibid

[602] Times of India
https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/crude-surge-pressures-indias-fy25-cad-target-ubi-says-every-10-rise-in-oil-may-widen-deficit-by-15-billion-fy26-gap-seen-at-1-2-of-gdp/articleshow/121933828.cms

[603] Ibid

[604] Ministry of Commerce & Industry. India.
https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=2006282

The Union Budget 2025-26, presented by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in February 2025, aims to balance fiscal consolidation and inclusive economic growth. The economic plan is focusing on infrastructure expansion, digital transformation, green energy and middle-class relief. The government set a fiscal deficit target of 4.4% of GDP, down from 5.8% in FY2023-24.[605] This aligned with the medium-term fiscal roadmap aiming for below 4% by FY2026-27.[606] The budget introduced significant tax relief for the middle-income group, offering full income tax rebates for individuals earning up to ₹12.75 lakh/year.[607] The budget continues to focus on growth through capital spending. A record of ₹11.1 lakh crore allocated to capital spending. This observed 14% increase from last year.[608] A national EV charging grid has been launched.[609] A ₹3,000 crore set aside to install 10,000 new charging stations by 2026.[610] To raise funds, the government aims to earn ₹80,000 crore from selling stakes in companies like Shipping Corporation, Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI Bank) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL).[611] It also expanded Goods and Services Tax (GST) to cover online gaming and cryptocurrency transactions.

India's manufacturing sector is predicted to become a global production hub by 2025.[612] This sector is driven by policy initiatives, foreign investment and supply chain shifts. The key manufacturing sectors include electronics, semiconductors, pharmaceuticals, textiles, automobiles, solar PV modules, white goods and telecom & networking products. Moreover Apple plans to manufacture 25% of iPhones in India by 2025.[613] Furthermore the government policies incentivize

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[605] Asian Development Bank
https://www.adb.org/news/adb-forecasts-india-economy-grow-6-7-fy2025#:~:text=SHARE%20THIS%20PAGE,in%20personal%20income%20tax%20rates.
[606] Ibid
[607] Entrepreneur India. 2025
https://www.entrepreneur.com/en-in/news-and-trends/indias-gdp-grows-74-in-q4-fy25-fy26-forecasts/493540#:~:text=India's%20GDP%20Grows%207.4%25%20in,in%20government%20final%20consumption%20expenditure.
[608] Ministry of Finance
https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2035558
[609] Zakir Rather. *"Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure and its Grid Integration in India"* (NITI Aayog. 2021)
[610] Ibid
[611] The Economic Times
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/indias-goods-services-exports-may-cross-900-billion-this-year-piyush-goyal/articleshow/121795449.cms?from=mdr
[612] *"India advanced manufacturing sector"* (Official website of the international trade administration. 2025)
https://www.trade.gov/market-intelligence/india-advanced-manufacturing-sector#:~:text=Introduced%20in%202020%2C%20the%20Production,and%20drones%20and%20drone%20components.
[613] Munsif Vengattil *"Apple moving to make most iPhones for US in India rather than China"* (Reuters. 2025)

battery and EV production, solar module and inverter manufacturing and hydrogen electrolyzer plants.[614] Under this incentive government intents for making India a hub for clean tech manufacturing. Infrastructure improvements have reduced freight costs and improved delivery timelines. Defense manufacturing is a strategic priority.

India’s job market in 2025 is recovering well after the pandemic.[615] Many sectors are hiring more, especially in infrastructure, logistics, hospitality and e-commerce.[616] Most new jobs are being created in infrastructure, construction, retail, hospitality and rural development programs. Also urban areas have seen better job opportunities, with unemployment falling to 7.2% in early 2025.[617] Government schemes and the reopening of services and tourism have also helped. However, challenges like youth unemployment and a mismatch between skills and jobs still remain.

India's digital economy is booming in 2025.[618] This is powered by record-breaking digital payments, rapid growth in AI and software services and strong government support.[619] The country is now a major global provider of digital tools like AI, fintech and e-commerce solutions. In 2024, the UPI system handled over 172 billion payments worth ₹300 lakh crore (around $3.6 trillion).[620] India’s AI industry is one of the fastest-growing, valued at $8 billion in 2025 and expected to reach $12 billion by 2027.[621] Key projects like the IndiaAI Mission and Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) are helping build local AI tools and make online shopping more accessible. It is predicted that by mid-2025, India’s 5G and digital infrastructure cover all cities and 70% of rural areas.[622]

India is transforming into a green economy by 2025, integrating environmental sustainability into its growth model.[623] With a strong policy foundation, international partnerships and rising private investment, India has become a global leader in renewable energy, green hydrogen and electric

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[614] Zakir Rather. *“Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure and its Grid Integration in India”* (NITI Aayog. 2021)
[615] *“Indian job market enters 2025 on steady footing; white-collar hiring in Jan marks 4% YoY growth”* (The Economic Times. 2025)
[616] Ibid
[617] Manoj Kumar. *“India's unemployment rate rises to 5.6% in May as farm jobs decline post-harvest” (*Reuters. 2025)
[618] Deepak Mishra, Mansi Kedia, Aarti Reddy. Et.al *“State of India’s Digital Economy”*(State of India’s Digital Economy (SIDE) Report, 2025)
[619] Ibid
[620] Piyush Gupta. Chirag Chopra *“India’s digital leap: the Unified Payment Interface's unprecedented impact on the financial landscape” (World Economic Forum. 2023)*
[621] Ibid
[622] Ibid
[623] Sonali Agarwal *“India’s Green Transition: Advancing Sustainable Development”* (International Journal of Innovative Science and Research Technology. 2025)

mobility. Till present, in mid-2025, India's installed renewable energy capacity surpassed 180 GW, making it the third-largest global producer.[624] The country operates 50+ solar parks across 12 states.[625] The rooftop solar installations is growing to over 12 GW.[626] The PM-Surya Ghar Yojana (2024) provided subsidies for rooftop solar systems in over 1 crore households.[627] Gujarat's Khavda Solar Park will generate over 30 GW.[628] India added 5 GW of wind capacity in 2024-25, particularly in Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Rajasthan.[629] Electric vehicle adoption is also growing. The EV sale is crossing 2.4 million units in FY2024-25.[630] India is strengthening international partnerships to support its green goals, including being a member of the Global Biofuel Alliance, key participant in the International Solar Alliance and signing green hydrogen export MOUs with Germany, Japan and the Netherlands.

India's investment climate in 2025 is resilient, dynamic and investor-friendly, making it a popular destination for foreign direct investment (FDI) among emerging economies. The country's macroeconomic fundamentals, digital ecosystem and manufacturing potential attract global capital across sectors like electronics, retail, green energy and logistics. In FY2024-25, India received over $105 billion in FDI inflows, crossing the $100 billion threshold for the third consecutive year.[631] Major contributors to FDI-attracting sectors include electronics, renewables, retail, logistics, EVs, auto and logistics.[632] India's pro-business policies and streamlined reforms have improved the ease of doing business, making it one of the top three global FDI destinations.[633] However, challenges such as global

[624] Michael Barnard. "India's Renewable Energy Capacity Surpasses 180 GW — And It's Just the Beginning" (Medium. 2025)
https://medium.com/climate-wins/indias-renewable-energy-capacity-surpasses-180-gw-and-it-s-just-the-beginning-7efc01326ade
[625] Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. India.
https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1983203
[626] Ibid
[627] National Portal of India.
https://www.india.gov.in/spotlight/pm-surya-ghar-muft-bijli-yojana
[628] Ibid
[629] Ibid
[630] PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijlee Yojana
https://www.india.gov.in/spotlight/pm-surya-ghar-muft-bijli-yojana
[631] Business Today. June 2025
https://www.businesstoday.in/latest/economy/story/india-records-8104-billion-fdi-inflow-in-fy-2024-25-services-sector-leads-with-40-growth-477988-2025-05-27
[632] Ibid
[633] Ibid

geopolitical risks, crude oil price volatility, state-level bureaucratic hurdles and the need for skilled labor in AI, semiconductors and green tech remain.

India's economic developments in June 2025 include record FDI inflows, a boom in renewable energy sectors, a significant increase in digital India and AI growth. India recorded over 81.4 billion in FDI for FY 2024-25.[634] Amazon has pledged $15 billion in logistics and e-commerce infrastructure.[635] The country aims to become a global hub for green energy exports, with Adani Green Energy launching Asia's largest solar plant in Rajasthan.[636] India is also accelerating AI adoption across sectors like finance, agriculture, and healthcare. *"Reliance Jio"* unveiled a new AI-driven rural health platform in partnership with Google.[637] Infrastructure expansion continues, with significant spending on transport, logistics, and smart cities. Such as completion of 30% of the Mumbai–Ahmedabad bullet train corridor, announced in June 2025.[638] The stock market rallied in June, with the Sensex crossing 81,000 points for the first time.[639] India signed new a bilateral deal with France to boost pharma and EV trade was finalized. The IT and fintech sectors are rapidly growing, driving job creation and exports. Rapid growth in the IT and fintech sectors is propelling exports and employment creation. In Q1 2025, for instance, TCS and Infosys created more than 20,000 new jobs worldwide.[640] Currently, infrastructure, green energy, digital innovation and international trade integration are the main drivers of India's high-growth. Despite challenges like rural employment and fiscal deficit, India's economic trajectory remains positive and forward-looking.

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https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2131716
[635] Ibid
[636] Adani Green Energy
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[637] https://www.jio.com/
[638] Ministry of Railways
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[640] The Economic Times
https://m.economictimes.com/tech/information-tech/infosys-q1-headcount-drops-by-1908-to-hire-up-to-20000-freshers-in-fy25/articleshow/111838502.cms

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