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INDIA'S ECONOMIC TRAJECTORY 2024-2026 IN REFERENCE TO MANUFACTURING, ENERGY SECURITY, EMPLOYMENT AND GLOBAL CHALLENGES - AN ASSESSMENT

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Abstract

India's economic trajectory from 2024 to 2026 is poised for significant transformation, influenced by strategic advancements in manufacturing, energy security, and employment. The manufacturing sector is expected to gain momentum under the government's push for Atmanirbhar Bharat, bolstering self-reliance and creating competitive advantages in global markets. With the Make in India initiative and evolving industrial policies, India aims to attract foreign investment, enhance production capabilities, and diversify its manufacturing output, particularly in high-tech sectors like electric vehicles, defense, and renewable energy technologies. In the energy sector, India faces the dual challenge of securing sustainable energy while meeting the growing demands of a large and diverse population. The government's focus on renewable energy expansion, such as solar, wind, and green hydrogen, alongside efforts to reduce dependence on fossil fuels, will be pivotal in shaping energy security. This includes significant investments in energy infrastructure, grid modernization, and international collaborations.

Employment, a key concern, will see mixed outcomes. While growth in manufacturing and the green economy may generate jobs, there is a need for upskilling programs to match the emerging needs of the job market. The gig economy and digitalization will offer new opportunities, yet challenges related to job quality and wage disparity persist. On the global front, India's economic growth faces external headwinds, including supply chain disruptions, geopolitical tensions, and climate change. Navigating these challenges while leveraging its demographic advantage and strategic positioning will determine the success of India's economic trajectory over this period. In this background, this research paper delves into important and urgent issues that are highly pertinent in today's fast-changing and interconnected world, emphasizing their relevance in the contemporary global context.

Keywords: Economic Trajectory, Employment, Energy Security, Digitalization, Economic Growth, Green Economy and Supply Chain Disruptions.

The theme of the article

India's economic trajectory for the period 2024-2026 is shaped by a blend of challenges and opportunities across key sectors such as manufacturing, energy security, employment, and its response to global uncertainties. As one of the world's fastest-growing major economies, India is poised for significant transformation, yet must navigate several external and internal hurdles. Manufacturing remains central to India's ambition to become a global economic powerhouse. The government's push for "Make in India" and the Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme are expected to drive industrial growth and elevate the country's position in global supply chains. However, the sector faces challenges related to infrastructure bottlenecks, labor skill mismatches, and the need for more efficient production processes. Energy security is another critical area in India's economic planning. As the nation transitions to renewable energy, the balancing act between growing energy demand and environmental sustainability is paramount. India aims to meet its renewable energy targets while ensuring adequate energy security through diversification of energy sources, including solar, wind, and nuclear power.

In terms of employment, India is grappling with a dual challenge: creating quality jobs for its growing workforce while addressing labor market rigidities and skill shortages. The demand for skilled workers in emerging technologies, coupled with the need for labor-intensive jobs in rural areas, creates an employment paradox. On the global stage, India's economic resilience will be tested by geopolitical tensions, trade disruptions, and climate challenges. The country's ability to adapt to these dynamics will significantly influence its economic growth prospects for the next three years. These intersecting factors manufacturing, energy, employment, and global challenges will define India's path towards sustained economic development in the coming years.

Statement of the problem

The rapid economic growth of India over the past few decades has positioned it as one of the world's largest and fastest-growing economies. However, India's economic trajectory for the years 2024-2026 faces significant challenges that need careful analysis and intervention. One of the key areas of focus is the manufacturing sector, which is vital for driving job creation, technological innovation, and economic diversification. Despite the government's push for the Make in India initiative, the sector is still grappling with issues like outdated infrastructure, skill gaps, and global supply chain disruptions. Another crucial factor is energy security. As India seeks to meet its growing energy demand, the transition to renewable energy sources while

ensuring the stability of its traditional power grid poses both opportunities and risks. The rise of energy demand amidst global climate change and geopolitical tensions complicates this transition.

Moreover, employment remains a persistent issue. While India's working-age population is increasing, there is a notable mismatch between available jobs and the skills of the labor force. The rise of gig economy jobs, automation, and AI further complicates the labor market, creating challenges in ensuring decent employment for all. Finally, India's economic trajectory is influenced by global challenges, including supply chain disruptions, inflation, trade tensions, and geopolitical conflicts. These external factors could undermine India's growth potential and require adaptive policies. This study will assess the interplay between these factors and propose strategic solutions for sustainable growth from 2024 to 2026.

Objective of the article

The overall objective of the article is to evaluate India's economic path from 2024 to 2026, with a focus on crucial sectors such as manufacturing, energy security, and employment. It examines how these sectors can contribute to economic growth while tackling global challenges. The goal is to assess India's strategies for sustainable development and adaptability to changing global circumstances, using secondary sources of informations and statistical data relevant to the theme of the article.

Methodology of the article

The methodology of the article involves a comprehensive review of secondary sources, including government reports, industry publications, and academic studies, to analyze India's economic trajectory from 2024 to 2026. Statistical data related to key sectors manufacturing, energy security, and employment will be examined to identify trends and challenges. The article will employ a qualitative analysis to assess the impact of global dynamics on India's growth prospects, including geopolitical, technological, and environmental factors. Comparative case studies and expert opinions will be incorporated to support the evaluation of India's strategies for sustainable development. This methodology ensures an evidence-based approach to understanding the country's economic outlook and resilience.

Additionally, the article will analyze policy frameworks and government initiatives aimed at boosting manufacturing, securing energy resources, and creating employment opportunities. It will also explore the role of innovation and technological advancements in driving economic growth. The research will assess how India's strategies align with global

sustainability goals and international best practices. Finally, the findings will be synthesized to provide actionable insights into the future of India's economy amidst evolving global challenges. In short, the data are meticulously organized and analyzed to align with the research objectives, providing valuable insights, actionable policy recommendations, and other significant outcomes.

Global Economic Uncertainties: Elections, Market Volatility and Trade Shifts in 2024

The globe is changing quickly; in 2024, elections will be held in Indonesia, America, and India. Uncertainties in politics and the economy have had an impact on the world economy; Europe is now dealing with pressure to remain competitive and rising energy prices. The reopening of the Chinese economy following the Covid - 19 suspension has not resulted in a surge in economic growth since the real estate sector's overcapacity and financial difficulties have become more apparent. The recent strengthening of the US dollar and the Federal Reserve's reassessment of its policy rates has caused emerging market currencies to decline. Financial markets are reassessing fiscal prudence, policy rates, and inflation, which is also driving up borrowing costs for sovereigns. Global stock markets are not particularly alarmed by uncertainty in economic growth and profitability, and investors are not particularly alarmed by concerns to financial stability. Of the top three, the US stock market could be the most volatile. Businesses now face increased competition and restricted access to foreign markets, upending the EU's underpinnings. Given that internal development levers would be comparatively more significant than external ones, India's export growth is anticipated to become more significant in the next years.

India's Manufacturing and Energy Security: Pathways to Sustainable Growth

India's poor manufacturing capacity and reliance on Chinese supply chains make it difficult for the country to produce essential items like solar energy components. Despite competition from rising and advanced countries, India has to develop alternate sources of supply, improve its domestic supply chain, and draw in both international and local investments in order to become a competitive and innovative economy. India has made energy transformation and climate change top goals. For public policy to remain competitive, energy affordability and security must be acknowledged. Despite the high intensity of imports, India should prioritize electric transportation and develop its own technologies and raw resources. Public transportation is a cost-effective energy transition option, and both municipal and national governments should encourage its usage. The young of India also need to be educated and skilled in artificial

intelligence. Increased autonomy for academic institutions, resource transfers, and cooperation between companies and academic institutions are also crucial.

Transforming Agriculture and Regulation: A Roadmap for Inclusive Development

The agricultural industry must be liberated, empowered, and expanded away from crops that rely on water in order to become competitive. Policies that assist farmers, agricultural research, and increased irrigation cover are crucial. By implementing risk-based laws, reducing restrictions, and letting companies concentrate on their primary goals, governments may promote innovation and increase competitiveness. Indian banking authorities have taken action to curb excessive speculation and safeguard the physical, mental, and emotional well-being of investors. But in order to combat the rising consumption of ultra-processed foods which has increased by more than 33% since 2006 strict front-of-the-pack labeling regulations are required. The influence of lifestyle, eating habits, and work culture on mental health must be addressed by the state. Regulations that are optional impede the implementation of higher education. Women, farmers, young people, and the impoverished should be the main targets of inclusive development policies that prioritize mental health, education, and skill development. For women to participate in the labor force, governments must remove all legal and regulatory barriers.

Industrial Growth and Energy Transition: Navigating India's Economic Challenges

In order to increase capital creation and employment growth, the Industrial Sector and Employment and Skill Development support deregulation. The Industries research emphasizes how states' ease of doing business and industrial activity are positively correlated. India must contend with issues such as the European Union's trade restrictions, which might have an impact on exports and current account deficits. artificial intelligence's (AI) possible effects on job creation in India, indicating that worries might not be warranted. In labor-intensive nations like India, it also calls into question whether artificial intelligence is really necessary because it might both increase demand for power and water and replace a declining work force. High energy costs and increasing reliance on sporadic power sources are linked to climate change and the energy transition, two major worldwide concerns. While the need for an energy transition is prompted by global warming, low-carbon resources like nuclear power, biofuels, and natural gas plants assist lower emissions and prices. Geopolitical vulnerabilities must be taken into account in India's energy transition plans in order to prevent the country's vital imports from becoming more dependent on outside sources. Because China needs inexpensive power for the manufacturing and processing of rare earths and key minerals, the West's emphasis on wind and

solar energy has led to a rise in coal use in China. This intricate interaction makes it clear that India has to concentrate more on adaptation and reducing emissions. With robust balance sheets in the business and financial sectors, the Indian economy is expanding steadily. Globalization is slowing down, though, thus liberalization is needed to encourage growth.

Global Economic Trends and India's Outlook for Fiscal Year 2026

Despite a downturn in manufacturing brought on by supply chain disruptions and poor demand, the global economy grew steadily in 2024. But the performance of the services sector was superior, and it helped many economies thrive. Services inflation persisted notwithstanding a reduction in inflationary pressures. Different monetary easing strategies may be adopted by central banks, which might cause uncertainty regarding policy rates and the direction of inflation. With commodity price shocks and geopolitical unpredictability acting as headwinds, India's economic prospects for Fiscal Year 2026 remain balanced. Consumer confidence, corporate pay increases, and consistent investment are crucial domestic factors. India needs to become more globally competitive. Growth dynamics, commodity prices, and monetary policies all have an impact on the state of the world economy, which in turn affects capital flows, trade balances, and inflation. This interdependence is made more difficult by supply chain interruptions, geopolitical conflicts, and climate-related disruptions.

Global Economic Trends and Geopolitical Challenges in 2024

2024 saw a year of tremendous political activity, regional turmoil, and cyberattacks. The confrontations between Russia and Ukraine, as well as Israel and Hamas, have had an influence on oil and food security, resulting in rising prices and inflation. Cyberattacks rose, and geopolitical tensions altered global trade. Despite these hurdles, global economic growth remained moderate in 2023. Despite increasing interest rates, advanced economies had stable growth in 2024 as inflation moderated and employment remained strong. Growth rates in Europe fluctuate with nations such as Spain, France, Poland, and the United Kingdom benefiting from their services sectors, while manufacturing-intensive countries such as Germany and Austria experience low demand. Political changes in France and Germany have created policy uncertainty in Europe's essential economic systems. In early 2018, supply problems affected Japan's economy, while China's growth was hampered by slow private consumption, investment, and real estate sector issues.

Global Economic Trends 2024–2026: Purchasing Managers' Index, Inflation and Monetary Policy Shifts

The worldwide Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) continues in the expansion zone, showing continued growth in the services sector but contraction in manufacturing. In 2024, the worldwide manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index rose, first growing before contracting due to weakening circumstances. However, growth in consumer and intermediate products compensates the decrease. Significant declines in production were observed in all areas, with the Eurozone leading the way. India saw the most output expansion, while North America saw uneven growth. Business, consumer, and financial services all saw growth, according to global services signals, with financial services growing at the quickest rate. Tighter monetary policies and supply chain adjustments have caused inflation rates to slow down and approach central bank goals. But there is still a chance of coordinated pricing pressures. While core goods inflation has dropped to almost nothing, sustained services inflation has caused disinflation to stall. Worldwide supply chains are under pressure as a result of recent interruptions in shipping and worldwide supply systems, which have raised the cost of commodities. Commodity price gains appear to be restricted in 2025–2026; following a weakening in 2024, a small fall is anticipated. There is still a chance of coordinated price hikes, particularly when the world economy is struggling. As a result of a sharp drop in inflation, major central banks have begun to reduce policy rates. However, there may be variations in the rate reduction pace among nations, and the terminal and year-ahead policy rates are unpredictable. There was more uncertainty around the long-term policy rate in 2023 and 2024, as seen by the lower US market forecasts for the Federal Funds Rate (FFR).

Geopolitical Uncertainty and Economic Risks: Impact on Growth, Inflation, and Markets

Advanced economies saw a decline in sovereign bond rates as a result of monetary policy easing and inflation management. However, the gap between the two biggest economies in the world has widened due to rising bond rates brought on by deflationary pressures and global uncertainties. Growth, inflation, financial markets, and supply chains are all impacted by geopolitical uncertainty, which provide serious dangers to the future for the world economy. The escalation of tensions in the Middle East and Russia-Ukraine may cause market repricing and disturbances in the energy sector. The World Trade Uncertainty Index and the Geopolitical Economic Policy Uncertainty Index both indicate elevated risks as a result of trade disputes and

global economic policy. In G20 economies, import restrictions impact 12.7% of imports, which may raise prices, discourage investment, and impede innovation.

India's Economic Growth Fiscal Year 2025: Rural Demand, Sectoral Performance and Recovery

According to the National Statistical Office, an upsurge in rural demand and an increase in private final consumption spending would propel a 6.4% real GDP growth in Fiscal Year 2025. Additionally, a 6.4% increase in gross fixed capital creation is anticipated. It is anticipated that the industrial sector would expand by 6.2%, while the agricultural sector will recover. At 7.2%, the services sector is predicted to continue to grow strongly. Global economy were rocked by the COVID-19 pandemic, although post-pandemic patterns indicated quick growth, halting irreversible production loss. With the agricultural, industrial, and service sectors all performing above trend levels, the aggregate Gross Value Added exceeded pre-pandemic trends. The performance of industrial subsectors varies, with utilities returning to pre-pandemic levels and building accelerating. While mining is operating below pre-pandemic levels, manufacturing is rebounding. While commerce, hotels, transportation, and communication services are slowly catching up, financial, real estate, and professional services have recovered the most. Lockdowns, travel restrictions, and a decline in the demand for entertainment and hospitality are among the difficulties. Supply chain interruptions and diminishing global demand caused the industrial sector to have slow development in Fiscal Year 2025; the agriculture and services sectors grew by 6.2%. The agricultural sector experienced consistent growth in Fiscal Year 2025, achieving a growth rate of 3.5%. In Fiscal Year 2025, the manufacturing sector in India saw a 6.6% rise, with the first quarter seeing a robust 8.3% increase. With a growth rate of 7.1% in Fiscal Year 2025, the services sector is still doing well. Expansionary zones, more employment, and robust performance in the hospitality industry, air freight operations, and IT enterprises are all displayed by high-frequency indicators. The first and second quarters of Fiscal Year 2025 saw 6.7% and 5.4% increase in India's GDP, respectively, suggesting a 6.0% GDP growth in the first half of the current fiscal year. Private consumption grew as a result of rural demand, since rural families reported higher consumption expenditures.

Conflicting Urban Demand and Capital Formation Trends in India's Economy

Indicators of urban demand reveal conflicting patterns; for example, passenger car sales decreased to 4.2% Year on Year (YoY) in April–November 2024 from 9.2% the year before. Fast-moving consumer goods sales in metropolitan areas saw moderate growth. Air passenger traffic witnessed 7.7% Year on Year rise, although real GDP growth decreased due to a

weakening of Gross Fixed Capital Formation. Moderate residential investment may have contributed to the second quarter of Fiscal Year 2025's capital formation growth deceleration, but the market normalization inventory overhang suggests strong demand momentum. Given the apparent green shoots in capital creation, the pause in investment activity is probably only temporary. In 2024, union government capital expenditures increased by 8.2%, and this trend is anticipated to continue. In the second quarter of Fiscal Year 2025, manufacturing businesses' seasonally adjusted capacity utilization was 74.7 percent, which was higher than the long-term average. Overall economic stability has been maintained since the COVID-19 epidemic thanks to budgetary management that has maintained general government savings. This has guaranteed comfortable financing of the current account deficit and stopped the total savings-investment imbalance from growing. Capital spending increased from 75% to 95% year over year, indicating an improvement in the Union government's fiscal discipline metrics. The Union's tax revenue kept by the states was constant, even though tax devolution resulted in a decline in non-debt receipts.

India's Economic Landscape 2024: Tax Growth, Inflation and External Sector

Although the state's own tax revenue and the union's Gross Tax Revenue (GTR) have both risen, union tax devolution has improved total tax revenue positions. 23 states relied heavily on the Goods and Services Tax as their main source of income, with Manipur and Nagaland being the most heavily affected. The states with the largest shares of non-tax revenue were West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, and Maharashtra. Compared to 2024, state revenue expenditures grew by 12% annually, while committed liabilities and subsidies grew by 10.4% and 25.7%, respectively. Spending on the capital account decreased by 5.6%. Higher capital spending was associated with a reduced revenue shortfall, while 11 states maintained a revenue surplus. Due to a 0.9 percentage point drop in core inflation, retail headline inflation has decreased from 5.4% in Fiscal Year 2024 to 4.9% in April–December 2024. Vegetables and pulses have been the main drivers of the increase in food inflation from 7.5% in Fiscal Year 2024 to 8.4% in the 25th fiscal year. Due to unstable international conditions, India's external sector saw a range of changes. In 2024, India's merchandise exports increased 1.6% year over year, despite a drop in commodity prices. Nonetheless, exports of non-petroleum and non-gems and jewelry increased by 5.2% and 9.1%, respectively. In order to keep its current account deficit at 1.2% of GDP, India has managed to balance its trade deficit with record remittances and a surplus in services trade. The external sector has remained stable due to the capital account's easy financing, as seen by the

17.9% annual growth in gross foreign direct investment inflows in 2024. Investor confidence in lucrative departures was demonstrated by the reduction in net foreign direct investment intake caused by repatriation, which rose 33.2% year over year.

India's Economic Outlook 2024: Geopolitics, Labor Growth and Tech in Banking

The worldwide geopolitical and monetary policy changes in 2024 have caused volatility in foreign portfolio investments in India. In order to service 90% of its external debt, India's foreign exchange reserves grew from 616.7 billion to 704.9 billion. Future changes in international policy may have an impact on export industries, requiring strategic alliances and diversification in high-value industries like semiconductors and biotechnology. The banking and financial industry continues to be steady, well capitalized, and able to meet the financing demands of the economy. Scheduled commercial banks' (SCBs') credit disbursal is increasing, however this development is being restrained by tighter regulations. Because to solid operational performance, significant capital buffers, and a decline in asset impairments, the banking industry is stable. Profitability increased in Fiscal Year 2025, and gross non-performing assets decreased to 2.6% of gross loans. Long-term stability of the financial system is safeguarded, but short-term dynamics are called into doubt because of discrepancies in loan and deposit growth. These cycles typically last 41 months, and a decline in credit growth is typically the means by which they converge. With 51.9% of new non-performing loans in retail lending portfolios, unsecured credit such as credit cards and personal loans is under stress. India's labor market has expanded significantly in recent years, and the unemployment rate for people over 15 has decreased. With net Employees' Provident Fund Organization subscriptions tripling between Fiscal Years 2019 and 2024, the formal sector has also experienced notable expansion. Artificial Intelligence (AI) has the potential to increase worker quality, boost productivity, and generate jobs when it is incorporated into the labor market. The workforce must be prepared for a future where human and machine intelligence operate together by placing a high priority on education and skill development. It is anticipated that the global economy would develop steadily in 2024, but at a somewhat slower pace in the near future.

Global and Domestic Economic Challenges: Forecast for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

While European manufacturing is struggling, the services sector is thriving. Global inflationary pressures are abating, but coordinated pricing pressures might result from geopolitical upheavals. Domestically, manufacturing capacity utilization is still above average, investment activity is anticipated, and rural demand is strong. Seasonal vegetable prices and

Kharifharvestar competitors are predicted to help reduce food inflation in the fourth quarter of Fiscal Year 2025, but weather-related events and global commodity prices still pose a threat. In Fiscal Year 2026, the domestic economy is predicted to increase by 6.3% to 6.8%, necessitating careful policy management and grassroots deregulation to meet global challenges.

Evaluating India's Economic Path: Manufacturing, Energy, and Employment (2024-2026)

India's economic trajectory from 2024 to 2026 will be shaped by strategic advancements in manufacturing, energy security, and employment. The government's push for Atmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliance) aims to boost domestic manufacturing, targeting sectors like electronics, automobiles, and defense. Initiatives such as the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme are expected to attract foreign and domestic investments, driving innovation and creating job opportunities. A key challenge will be overcoming infrastructural bottlenecks and enhancing technological adoption in manufacturing processes. Energy security will be pivotal to India's growth. The shift towards renewable energy sources, particularly solar and wind, alongside efforts to reduce dependency on coal, aims to address both environmental concerns and growing energy demands. By investing in energy storage technologies and enhancing grid infrastructure, India plans to strengthen its energy resilience. However, balancing energy demand with sustainable practices will require coordinated policy efforts and innovation.

Employment remains a crucial aspect. While India's young workforce offers significant potential, the challenge will be creating quality jobs amidst rising automation and digitalization. Skill development initiatives and fostering an environment conducive to entrepreneurship will be key to addressing employment gaps. Additionally, India's focus on gig economy growth could provide flexible income opportunities, although it requires comprehensive labor reforms and social security coverage to ensure workers' welfare. To achieve this, India must enhance its policy frameworks, streamline labor laws, and invest in digital infrastructure. Strategic partnerships with global players in advanced manufacturing and energy sectors will be crucial for attracting foreign investment. Strengthening local supply chains and fostering innovation ecosystems will further propel India's economic resilience and growth. Overall, India's success will depend on how well it integrates manufacturing growth, energy diversification, and employment creation into a cohesive economic strategy.

Leveraging Key Sectors for Sustainable Growth and Global Challenges

Sustainable economic growth is crucial for addressing the complex challenges of today's world, including poverty, inequality, and environmental degradation. By leveraging key sectors such as agriculture, energy, technology, and education, countries can promote inclusive development while also safeguarding the planet's future. Agriculture, especially in developing nations, plays a pivotal role in fostering economic growth. By adopting sustainable farming techniques, promoting agroecology, and ensuring food security, agriculture can enhance productivity while preserving natural resources. Investments in rural infrastructure and market access also help empower local communities and reduce poverty. The energy sector is another critical driver of sustainable growth. Transitioning to renewable energy sources, such as solar, wind, and hydroelectric power, can reduce dependency on fossil fuels, mitigate climate change, and create green jobs. Governments must incentivize clean energy investments and ensure equitable access to energy for all, including marginalized groups.

Technology is reshaping the global economy, offering innovative solutions to economic challenges. Digital transformation, through enhanced access to information, automation, and artificial intelligence, can boost productivity across sectors. Moreover, promoting the digital inclusion of underserved populations can address inequalities and empower women and youth, creating new economic opportunities. Education serves as the foundation for a skilled workforce capable of driving innovation and sustainable development. Expanding access to quality education, particularly for women and marginalized communities, can equip individuals with the tools needed to adapt to emerging challenges and contribute to economic growth. By integrating these sectors in a coordinated and inclusive manner, governments can foster long-term, sustainable development that addresses both global challenges and local needs, ensuring that economic growth benefits all.

Assessing India's Strategies for Sustainable Development and Global Adaptability

India's strategies for sustainable development focus on balancing economic growth with environmental preservation, social equity, and climate resilience. At the core of these efforts are initiatives like the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC), which outlines eight national missions to address issues like solar energy, energy efficiency, sustainable agriculture, and water conservation. The Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) emphasize environmental cleanliness and sustainable urbanization, addressing sanitation and water infrastructure while promoting green cities. India's

push for clean energy is another pivotal aspect, with a target of achieving 500 GW of renewable energy capacity by 2030 and becoming net-zero by 2070. This aligns with global efforts to tackle climate change, while also addressing domestic concerns such as energy poverty. The Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, aimed at providing LPG connections to rural households, is a significant move toward reducing deforestation and improving health outcomes.

However, India faces challenges in adapting these strategies to changing global circumstances, particularly with respect to the global supply chain shifts, rising geopolitical tensions, and fluctuating commodity prices. The ongoing efforts to diversify the economy, promote digital innovation through Digital India, and foster resilience through policy frameworks such as the Make in India campaign and Startup India help mitigate external shocks. Yet, the road to achieving sustainable development is not without obstacles. Issues such as overpopulation, income inequality, inadequate access to quality education, and healthcare, as well as air pollution, demand integrated solutions to ensure India's long-term adaptability in an ever-changing global landscape. India's success in achieving sustainability will depend on strengthening these strategies, fostering innovation, and expanding international cooperation.

Conclusion

India's economic trajectory from 2024 to 2026 is poised for significant developments, driven by strategic advancements in manufacturing, energy security, employment, and global challenges. In the manufacturing sector, the government's push for Atmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliance) through initiatives like the Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme is expected to enhance domestic production capabilities and reduce dependency on imports. The focus on high-tech manufacturing, including electric vehicles, semiconductor production, and renewable energy equipment, positions India to become a global manufacturing hub, potentially attracting foreign investments and creating millions of jobs. Energy security remains a critical concern as India continues to diversify its energy sources. With the increasing demand for electricity, the country is investing in renewable energy, particularly solar and wind power, to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and enhance its energy independence. This shift is also aligned with India's commitments to climate change mitigation under the Paris Agreement. However, energy security challenges persist, and further investments in storage solutions and grid modernization will be necessary to ensure sustainability.

In the employment sector, India faces a dual challenge: addressing unemployment, especially among youth and women, while improving the quality of jobs. Skill development

programs and a focus on the gig economy will be essential in creating a more flexible workforce. Additionally, the shift toward digitization and technological innovation will open new job avenues but also demands reskilling for workers in traditional sectors. Global challenges, including supply chain disruptions, trade tensions, and geopolitical instability, will continue to influence India's growth prospects. To navigate these uncertainties, India must strengthen its domestic resilience, expand its trade partnerships, and prioritize long-term policy stability. Overall, India's economic growth trajectory is promising but will require sustained efforts to address structural challenges, leverage technological advancements, and ensure inclusive growth.

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