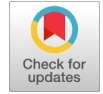




# Bhartiya Model of Inclusive Governance: A Comparative Study of Social and Economic Development of Selected Areas

Meenu Sharma, Supriya David, Nisha Kumari



**Abstract:** *The Bhartiya Model of Inclusive Governance is highly significant for the socioeconomic development of the people. Irrespective of the goals, governance is about actors' capacity to work toward aspirations and aims resulting from the dynamic interactions and power struggles between the state and society's players. Ensuring that no one is left behind, particularly women, youth, and persons with disabilities, inclusive governance promotes an integrated approach to peacebuilding, the rule of law, access to justice, and economic recovery. The objectives of this paper are to study the factors or barriers responsible for the non-implementation of the welfare schemes and rural development programs for the socioeconomic development of the people in the selected districts for inclusive governance, to study the factors or barriers responsible for the nonparticipation, to find the relation between socioeconomic development and inclusive governance and to suggest measures for effective implementation of Bhartiya Model of inclusive governance for inclusive governance. The research question for this study is: Is there a relationship between economic development and inclusive governance? What factors affect the implementation of the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance? How has the Bhartiya inclusive governance model improved people's living standards and economic growth? Do the schemes and policies available under the institution provide ample scope for people to participate in governance? Is the current status of inclusive governance giving enough opportunities to people? How do governance factors manifest themselves in and shape the processes and outcomes of delivering selected services? Inclusive governance facilitates the identification of innovative solutions to complex problems, thus leading to more effective and sustainable policies.*

**Keywords:** *Inclusive Governance, Socioeconomic Development, Democratic Decentralisation, Transparent, Efficient, People's Participation, Rural Development.*

## Nomenclature:

SEP: Strategic Economic Plan

NERLP: North East Rural Livelihood Project

SHGs: Self-Help Groups

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## I. INTRODUCTION

Inclusive governance is instrumental in nurturing and fortifying the roots of democracy. Ensuring that every individual has a say in the decision-making process reinforces the principles of representation and fairness. Inclusive governance fosters a society in which power is distributed equitably among all citizens and in which the rights of minorities are protected. It empowers marginalized communities by giving them agency and the platform to voice their concerns and aspirations. By rectifying past injustices, inclusive governance aims to create a more just and equal society with equal access to opportunities and resources. Inclusive policies ensure that public services are accessible to all citizens, regardless of socioeconomic background or location. Education, employment, healthcare, and women's empowerment are essential for ensuring the socioeconomic development of the people. The local government at the regional level ensures inclusive development through democratic decentralization. According to Fukuyama (2013), governance refers to a state's capacity to establish and implement laws and provide services, regardless of the type of regime in power (i.e., authoritarian, democratic, or a combination of both). Inclusive governance seeks to enhance anti-corruption initiatives by leveraging technology to encourage citizen participation and foster collaboration among government agencies, civil society, and the media to combat corruption.

Ensuring that no one is left behind, particularly women, youth, and persons with disabilities, inclusive governance promotes an integrated approach to peacebuilding, the rule of law, access to justice, the decentralisation of national services, and economic recovery. Inclusive governance seeks to enhance anti-corruption initiatives by leveraging technology to encourage citizen participation and foster collaboration among government agencies, civil society, and the media to combat corruption.

In response to the tribal people of undivided Assam's request for autonomy, the Constituent Assembly of India included the Bordoloi Sub-Committee report in Articles 244(2) and 275(1) and in the Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution. The Sixth Schedule provision permits the creation of the regional council, autonomous district council, autonomous council, and territorial council. The North Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act of 1971 significantly altered the Sixth Schedule, and subsequent amendments made further adjustments. In Northeast India, 10 councils have broad authority and



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responsibilities under the Sixth Schedule. While autonomous district councils, development councils, and others are exempt from the Sixth Schedule's provisions, their standing and benefits differ from those of autonomous district councils and other councils covered by the Sixth Schedule. The socioeconomic and political developments in the hill regions were also deplorable, and the administrative and judicial infrastructure was nominal; modern administration has yet to be established in many areas. In North East India, the Autonomous District Councils are a distinctive form of local government, essential to both the democratic decentralisation of power and the hill tribes' right to self-determination [1]. With legislative and executive authority over water, soil, land, and regional customs and culture, the Sixth Schedule establishes a foundation for independent, decentralized governance. These organizations have also been granted the authority to decide specific civil and criminal cases. As a result, the councils under the sixth schedule now have more authority than the local governments in the rest of the country under the 73rd and 74th Amendments. However, significant research gaps remain in understanding the impact of this governance structure, underscoring the urgent need for further studies.

## II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Rural and urban areas have long, complex, and highly interdependent interactions. Yet if rural-urban ties are not leveraged effectively, neither rural nor urban areas will gain. The connections between rural and urban areas must be strengthened to combat this and secure the growth of the rural sector. According to research, strengthening the links between rural and urban areas is essential for developing the food sector and rural economic growth. Several Socioeconomic and demographic factors, individually or collectively, contribute to long life and well-being. Improved sanitation, increased attention to maternal health, and better childcare facilities greatly reduced infant mortality. Demographic increases in the older population and increases in life expectancy are indicators of societal and national development and of efforts to improve socioeconomic conditions [2]. Among the various factors responsible for human longevity and high population growth, a few sociodemographic factors, namely sex, place of residence, Education, personal income, health status, marital status, occupation, caste, and leisure time activity, have been identified. Socioeconomic background, such as Education, experience, age, and family, plays an important role in shaping the ambitions of aspirants. The importance of rural-urban ties in the economy has expanded due to economic restructuring and the state's diminished role in social security and infrastructure development. When considering rural-urban connectedness, it is important to promote cooperation between state actors and civil society organisations. In Northeast India, civil society organizations are essential for preserving and expanding rural-urban ties [3]. The socio-cultural, environmental, political, and economic well-being of the rural poor living in relatively remote locations is improved through the dynamic process of rural development. The idea of rural development is

crucial in a nation like India, where the bulk of people reside in rural areas. One of Nagaland's least developed districts is Tuensang, where many citizens suffer from poverty, illiteracy, a lack of technology and medical care, and inadequate basic infrastructure. SHGs have been instrumental in tackling these concerns since the North East Rural Livelihood Project (NERLP) first introduced the Self-Help Groups (SHGs) methodology. This is especially true of women's collective efforts [4]. Mahatma Gandhiji frequently argued that a village economy differs from an industrial economy and that a nation can advance only when the villages are self-sufficient. The Indian economy's rural sector is given more attention as a result. The government highly values its Khadi and Village Industries projects, which form the foundation of India's rural economy. The Prime Minister's Employment Creation Program has increased the number of industries, but additional work is needed to advance rural industries in the economy. The e-agriculture prototype for the rural tribal farming community in North-East India showed that the cost of providing farm advisory services was reduced by 3.6 times compared to the traditional extension system, saving each farmer Rs. 2,400 (USD 53) annually. Compared to the traditional extension system, farmers needed 16 times less time to access services and 3 times less time to receive them [5]. Through its CSR and sustainability initiatives, NEDFi, a public limited company and division of the Ministry of Development in India's Northeast, set out to improve the lives of several disadvantaged rural artisans, particularly women. The water hyacinth craft project that NEDFi initially undertook as a CSR endeavour successfully met the firm's and the community's economic and social goals, respectively. In light of this, the company's CSR/sustainability initiatives may have eventually evolved into creating "shared value" due to the program's success in economically empowering rural poor people and releasing the creative potential of women artisans [6]. Prenatal care access has been linked to rural economic development, primary health care accessibility, social cohesiveness, and government investment in essential infrastructure such as electrification and paved roads. Enhancing women's autonomy and these village elements in rural India can encourage safer development. In India and Assam, the two main health indicators are underweight and malnutrition (according to NFHS-3 & NFHS-4). In northeastern India, Assam has a sizable proportion of people living below the poverty level. Health and nutrition statistics have not significantly improved in Assam. The infant mortality rate is 48, and over 36.4% of children under the age of 5 have stunted growth (NFHS-4). The health of children in rural Assam is quite bad. In rural settings, 55% of children are undeveloped [7]. It may not be practical to undertake rural electrification in this remote area of northeastern India due to its dispersed population and the high cost of installing transmission lines. The imbalances have led to a shortage of necessities, and the Northeast remains in an economic downturn. The growth of local self-sufficiency includes distributed energy solutions [8]. The main issues affecting farmers' access to





and use of ICT in Northeast India include a lack of trust in IT operations, an inconsistent power supply, inadequate network connectivity, and limited awareness of ICT's advantages [9]. The environment and the climate are both impacted by human-driven economic and social activity. India's Northeast is a hotspot for biodiversity. Although it is one of the least industrialised regions in the nation, the area is developing quite quickly. Despite limited development, the region and India are concerned about rising temperatures and unpredictable rainfall [10]. Thousands of small, rural homes in the Northeast coexist with various castes and in small-town settings. These businesses rely on regional materials and conventional methods accessible to Northeastern rural residents (e.g., sugar cane and bamboo, pottery industry, silk fabric manufacturing, brass and bell metal, terracotta, etc.). The Northeast's rural population has relied on the home industry for a stable income. Several rural household industries in the region do not match the requirements despite numerous efforts by the federal and state governments. To provide existing small-scale companies and local industries with a new lease on life, the government (headquarters) has implemented a cluster development policy. Tribes could create institutions that followed traditional customary rules and practices after India gained independence from British rule. This was done to allay their fears of being exploited by non-tribal people and to safeguard their cultural identity and interests. There are indigenous local systems that are independent and semi-autonomous. There were occasional changes made. Most of these modifications were made to meet the administrative requirements of the state's numerous growth policies. It is the only village-level entity that upholds its traditional essence in the contemporary local government setting. Several names are known, including the Village Councils in Mizoram and Nagaland, and the Village Authority in Manipur. The government has implemented policies and programs to reduce urban poverty. Urban local governments (ULBs) act as middlemen to combat poverty in their areas. Support groups are typically formed by persons from similar socioeconomic backgrounds who have common aims and cooperate by adhering to a set of standards (SHGs). Women's participation in SHGs has improved the social standing of local participants [11]. The government has implemented policies and programs to lessen urban poverty. Urban local governments (ULBs) serve as intermediaries in fighting poverty in their communities. People from comparable socioeconomic origins who share goals and collaborate by adhering to norms generally establish support groups (SHGs). The general social status of local participants in SHGs has increased due to women's increased participation in the workforce. For rural tribal farmers in northeast India, finding relevant agricultural knowledge is a challenge. There haven't been as many successful e-agriculture efforts in rural India's tribal farming communities. These eight tribal-dominated states in northeastern India, where most people live in poverty, lack crucial village-level ICT programs. Low and erratic agricultural yields and frequent natural disasters worsen the issue in northeast India. A study project called e-Arik—Arik, which in the Adi tribal language of Arunachal Pradesh signifies agriculture, has been put in place in light of the dire

situation in the area. The e-Arik project's experience demonstrates positive outcomes for project sustainability and growth in Northeast India.

### III. RESEARCH GAP

Most previous studies abroad highlight the following trends: the connections between rural and urban areas must be strengthened to combat this and to secure the growth of the rural sector. In Northeast India, civil society organizations are essential for preserving and expanding rural-urban ties. The socio-cultural, environmental, political, and economic well-being of the rural poor living in relatively remote locations is improved through the highly dynamic process of rural development; the Prime Minister's Employment Creation Program has increased the number of industries. Still, additional work is needed to advance rural sectors of the economy. Through its CSR and sustainability initiatives, NEDFi, a public limited company and division of the Ministry of Development in India's Northeast, set out to improve the lives of several disadvantaged rural artisans, particularly women. Prenatal care access has been linked to rural economic development, primary health care accessibility, social cohesiveness, and government investment in essential infrastructure such as electrification and paved roads. In northeastern India, Assam has a sizable proportion of people living below the poverty level. Health and nutrition statistics have not significantly improved in Assam. It may not be practical to undertake rural electrification in this remote area of northeastern India due to its dispersed population and the high cost of installing transmission lines. The environment and the climate are both impacted by human-driven economic and social activity. India's Northeast is a hotspot for biodiversity. Although it is one of the least industrialised regions in the nation, the area is developing quite quickly. The Northeast's rural population has relied on the home industry for a stable income.

Several rural household industries in the region do not match the requirements despite numerous efforts by the federal and state governments. Tribes could create institutions that followed traditional customary rules and practices after India gained independence from British rule. This was done to allay their fears of being exploited by non-tribal people and to safeguard their cultural identity and interests. There are indigenous local systems that are independent and semi-autonomous. Women's participation in SHGs has improved the social standing of local participants. For rural tribal farmers in northeast India, finding relevant agricultural knowledge is a challenge. An inclusive governance model needs to be followed in the Northeastern states of India.

There is a need to address local government issues adequately. Studies have shown that a change in stakeholders' attitudes (people, regional representatives, policymakers, and other professionals) towards inclusion is required for inclusive governance to succeed. Laws, legislations, and policies to guide the implementation of inclusive governance should be considered. Inclusion



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should be accepted, and reforms should be implemented at all levels of the governance system. Most studies recommended that transformation in societal beliefs and attitudes would support transformation in the governance system. The analyses indicated a lack of compliance by the states, poor conceptualisation and execution of the need for quality programming for inclusive governance, and a significant challenge to its implementation in India. The role of national institutes could not be neglected for inclusion to be successful. The proper positioning of human resources, evaluation, policy and program adaptation, and feedback were imperative for the optimal use of existing resources to meet people's basic needs. The studies recommended promoting environmental, economic, and social accessibility within government institutions so that everyone had the same rights and access to services regardless of their living standards. The role of local government in the process of inclusion was analyzed. It was found that the involvement and participation of the people significantly impacted the inclusive governance process. None of the above literature is related to the inclusive governance provisions in the Northeast region of India. So, this is the significant research gap.

## A. Major Research question

- i. Is there any relation between economic development and inclusive governance?
- ii. What factors affect the implementation of the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance in selected areas of Assam and Meghalaya?
- iii. How has the Bhartiya Model of inclusive governance improved the living standards of the people and economic growth in Assam and Meghalaya?
- iv. Do the schemes and policies available under the institution provide ample scope for people to participate in governance?
- v. Is the current status of Inclusive Governance in Assam and Meghalaya giving enough opportunity to people?
- vi. How do governance factors manifest themselves in and shape the processes and outcomes of the delivery of selected services in Assam and Meghalaya?

## IV. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The data is collected through structured questionnaires from residents in 50 villages across the states of Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, and Arunachal Pradesh. The primary tool, a structured questionnaire, is administered to 500 residents in the randomly selected 50 villages in Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, and Arunachal Pradesh. Random sampling is used to collect primary data. Secondary data for the research is collected from books, research papers, and new websites related to the study. The research design is descriptive, and the role of the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance in the socioeconomic development of the people is analysed using simple statistical methods.

## A. Bhartiya Model of Inclusive Governance

Inclusive governance is instrumental in nurturing and fortifying the roots of democracy. Ensuring that every

individual has a say in the decision-making process reinforces the principles of representation and fairness. Inclusive governance fosters a society in which power is distributed equitably among all citizens and in which the rights of minorities are protected. It empowers marginalized communities by giving them agency and the platform to voice their concerns and aspirations. By rectifying past injustices, inclusive governance aims to create a more just and equal society with equal access to opportunities and resources. Inclusive policies ensure that public services are accessible to all citizens, regardless of socioeconomic background or location. It calls for providing culturally sensitive services tailored to meet the population's diverse needs. Inclusive governance can provide valuable insights into its implementation and impact. Measuring the effectiveness of inclusion strategies is critical to ensure they achieve the desired outcomes. By evaluating and monitoring the implementation of inclusive policies, the study will identify areas for improvement and best practices that can be replicated elsewhere. These evaluations will include qualitative and quantitative data to capture the complete picture of the impact of inclusive governance initiatives. Conducting surveys and interviews with community members will provide valuable insights into their experiences with inclusive governance.

Additionally, analysing data on the representation of marginalised groups in decision-making bodies will help assess progress toward inclusive governance. Inclusive governance is a powerful approach that recognises the importance of diversity and inclusivity in decision-making. By amplifying the voices of marginalized communities, inclusive governance promotes equity, strengthens democracy, and leads to more effective and sustainable policies.

## B. The Role of Inclusive Governance in Strengthening Democracy and Equity

Inclusive governance is instrumental in nurturing and fortifying democracy's roots. Ensuring that every individual has a say in the decision-making process reinforces the principles of representation and fairness. By rectifying past injustices, inclusive governance aims to create a more just and equal society where everyone has equal access to opportunities and resources.

## C. Mechanisms to Ensure Participation from Diverse Groups in Governance

Inclusive governance requires ongoing efforts to educate and raise awareness about the importance of inclusivity. It involves building bridges between different communities and fostering dialogue and collaboration. These efforts should include initiatives to improve access to justice, ensuring that legal systems are responsive and accessible to all members of society. By creating spaces for open and respectful discussions, inclusive governance enables the exchange of ideas and perspectives, leading to more informed and inclusive decision-making processes.





#### D. The Impact of Inclusive Policies on Public Administration

One significant outcome of inclusive governance is the transformation of public administration. When decision-making processes are inclusive, they become more transparent and provide opportunities for continuous feedback from citizens. This engenders trust and fosters cooperation between governments and communities, resulting in more effective and impactful policies.

#### E. Evaluating the Effectiveness of Inclusion Strategies in Governance

Measuring the effectiveness of inclusion strategies is critical to ensuring they achieve the desired outcomes. This study will evaluate and monitor the implementation of inclusive policies, identifying areas for improvement and best practices that can be replicated elsewhere. These evaluations must include qualitative and quantitative data to capture the complete picture of the impact of inclusive governance initiatives.

Inclusive governance is a powerful approach that recognizes the importance of diversity and inclusivity in decision-making processes. By amplifying the voices of marginalized communities, inclusive governance promotes equity, strengthens democracy, and leads to more effective and sustainable policies. Through inclusive governance, this study will build a society that truly values and respects the rights and aspirations of all its citizens.

#### F. Emerging Trends and Predictions in Governance Practices

The fast-paced nature of the modern world brings forth emerging trends and predictions that will undoubtedly influence governance practices. By staying informed and adaptable, countries can proactively incorporate these trends into their governance systems, ensuring that inclusivity remains at the forefront.

#### G. Anticipating the Impact of Demographic and Social Changes on Governance

Demographic and social changes can profoundly shape governance practices. As societies become more diverse, the importance of inclusive governance grows. Governments must be prepared to adapt their strategies to accommodate the unique needs and aspirations of their changing populations.

#### H. The Potential of Emerging Technologies and Innovation in Governance

Emerging technologies and innovation have the potential to revolutionize governance practices, making them more inclusive, transparent, and efficient. By harnessing the power of artificial intelligence, data analytics, and digital platforms, governments can create systems that enhance the participation and representation of all individuals within society. Technological advancements can bridge access gaps and empower marginalised communities to engage actively in the governance process. Governments must invest in digital literacy and infrastructure to ensure that the benefits of emerging technologies are accessible to all.

#### I. Preparing for New Forms of Participation and Policy Making

The future of inclusive governance will undoubtedly witness new forms of participation and policy-making.

Emerging tools and methodologies, such as participatory budgeting and deliberative democracy, offer exciting avenues for citizens to engage directly in decision-making processes.

Governments must be open to embracing these new forms of participation and actively involve citizens in shaping policies that directly impact their lives. Governments can build trust and create a sense of ownership within communities by creating spaces for collective decision-making and supporting participatory initiatives.

#### J. Envisioning the Evolution of Inclusive Governance Practices

The evolution of inclusive governance practices is a dynamic and ongoing process. As societies progress, governance systems must adapt and evolve alongside them. Envisioning the future of inclusive governance involves reflecting on achievements and challenges to date and setting bold aspirations for a more equitable and participatory future.

#### K. The Ongoing Importance of Equity and Fairness in Governance

As we navigate the path toward inclusive governance, one principle remains constant: the importance of equity and fairness. To achieve genuinely inclusive governance, we must ensure that no one is left behind and that the needs and aspirations of all citizens are given equal consideration.

#### L. Socio-Economic Development

India's world ranking, a measure of its global economic standing, improved from 142 to 138. This improvement is reflected in its per capita GDP (PcGDP), which rose from 34% of the global average in 2014 to 041% in 2022. Over the same period, absolute poverty has decreased from 7.4% to 2.5% (unadjusted) and from 5.1% to 0.9% (adjusted for in-kind payments). Under the Jal Jeevan Mission, the Demchok hamlet in Leh, which is 13,800 feet above sea level and experiences temperatures as low as minus 40 degrees, received its first tap water connection in July 2022, relieving women of the laborious task of carrying water. The average Indian's life has improved during the past ten years. Under the PM Ujjwala Yojana, more than 10.3 crore women received free gas connections; under the Swachh Bharat Mission, 11.7 crore toilets were constructed; 52.6 crore Jan Dhan accounts were opened; under the PM-AWAS Yojana, 3.47 crore pucca houses were built for the impoverished; under the Jal Jeevan Mission, 11.7 crore households received tap water connections; and under the Ayushman Bharat Scheme, 6.9 crore hospital admissions were made. There are many tales of better lives hidden behind these figures. Between 2015–16 and 2019–21, an estimated 13.5 crore Indians are thought to have been lifted out of multidimensional poverty. Reduced deprivations in cooking fuel, years of education, cleanliness, and nutrition are the leading causes of this drop, which can be attributed to extensive policy attention.

With 3.43 crore people leaving multidimensional poverty, Uttar Pradesh saw the most significant drop in the number of impoverished people. Notably, from 7 in



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2016 to 14 in 2021, the number of states with fewer than 10% of the population living in multidimensional poverty doubled.

The country's rural and urban areas saw declines in the Gini coefficient, a measure of inequality, from 0.283 to 0.266 and 0.363 to 0.314, respectively. Primary healthcare spending as a percentage of government health expenditures climbed from 51.3% in Financial Year 15 to 55.9% in Financial Year 2020. This increase in primary healthcare spending signifies a greater focus on preventive care and public health, which can lead to improved health outcomes for the population. In the financial year 2020, the share of government health expenditures for primary and secondary care increased from 73.2% in 2015 to 85.5%.

However, the use of government facilities for primary healthcare and the increase in the burden of tertiary diseases have reduced the share of primary and secondary care in private health spending from 83.0% to 73.7% over the same period.

With public and private institutions, India's educational system serves almost 26 crore children from various socioeconomic backgrounds. The National Education Policy 2020, a comprehensive framework for education reform, aims to ensure that all students aged three to eighteen have access to high-quality education. It seeks to develop an educational system deeply rooted in Indian culture that can make India a global knowledge superpower. In Financial Year 23, schools' basic facilities continued to improve compared to previous years.

Most government schools now have drinking water, boys' and girls' restrooms, and handwashing stations. Providing the necessary resources and establishing these school assets have been made possible by the Samagra Shiksha Scheme and the Swachh Bharat Mission, prioritizing drinking water and sanitation in schools. The government supports smart

classrooms and ICT laboratories in schools through the Samagra Shiksha Scheme's Information & Communication Technology component. This includes support for instructional software, hardware, and e-content. As of July 10, 2024, Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen had built 2.39 lakh community toilet complexes and 11.57 crore toilets. The Jal Jeevan Mission connected 11.7 crore households to tap water (as of July 10, 2024).

In the past nine years, 2.63 crore homes for the impoverished have been built under PM-AWAS-Gramin (as of 10 July 2024). Since 2016, 10.3 crore LPG connections have been made available through the PM Ujjwala Yojana (as of June 2, 2024). As of March 31, 2019, the Saubhagya scheme had electrified 21.4 crore rural households since 2015. 4.29 lakh common service centres are operational in rural areas of Digital India as of July 2024. The Gram Sadak Yojana completed 15.14 lakh km of road building during 2014–15 (as of July 10, 2024) [12].

### M. The Relation Between Economic Development and Inclusive Governance

Economic development is about enhancing per capita income, improving living conditions, and creating more job opportunities. Inclusive governance is the key to citizens' economic development. The Bhartiya model of inclusive governance, which places citizens at the heart of the process, ensures citizens' socio-economic development by encouraging their active participation in governance, decision-making, and welfare programs.

## V. DATA ANALYSIS

How effective has the chosen delivery method been for the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance in the context of development? This question piques curiosity and invites further exploration.

**Table I: The Bhartiya Model of Inclusive Governance's Selected Method of Delivery**

S.N.	Delivery	Strongly Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Strongly Dissatisfied	Total
1	Grievance redressal of local people	2	18	3	-	-	23
2	Providing basic facilities (foodgrains, water, electricity, drainage)	13	22	13	7	-	55
3	Housing scheme	10	24	5	6	-	45
4	Primary education	18	19		9	-	56
5	Local market facility	-	5		7	-	12
6	Regular People's participation in local government meetings	5	15	7	6	-	33
7	Hassle-free online services related to property, certificates, and financial assistance	10	7	5	5	6	33
8	Antyodaya empowerment, and macro pragmatism.	7	72	12	8	-	99
9	Sanitation and fuel	8	68	10	9		95
10	Financial inclusion and entrepreneurship	6	29	9	5		49
	Total	79(15.8%)	279(55.8%)	64(12.8%)	62(12.4%)	6(1.2%)	500

Source: Data Collected by the Author from the Field

Most of the respondents(55.8%) are satisfied with grievance redresses of local people, financial inclusion and entrepreneurship, Sanitation and fuel, Antyodaya empowerment, macro pragmatism, hassle-free online services related to property registration, obtaining certificates, applying for financial assistance, regular People participation in a local government meeting, Local market facility, Providing basic facilities (foodgrains, water,

electricity, drainage), primary education and housing scheme. 15.8% of the respondents are delighted with grievance redresses of local people, financial inclusion and entrepreneurship, Sanitation and fuel, Antyodaya empowerment, macro pragmatism, hassle free online services related to property registration, obtaining





certificates, applying for financial assistance, regular People participation in local government meetings, Local market facility, Providing basic facilities (foodgrains, water, electricity, drainage), primary education and housing scheme. Hence, to a large extent, the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance’s selected delivery method has been appropriate to the development context.

Administrative reforms have significantly enhanced the relevance of the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance support to the Northeast region of India in the Governance sector. This positive impact reassures the audience of the model's effectiveness and potential for further development and improvement.

**Table II: Administrative Reforms Influenced the Relevance of the Bhartiya Model of Inclusive Governance**

S. N	Reforms	Strongly Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Strongly Dissatisfied	Total
1	Sixth schedule of the Indian constitution	33	62	7	-	-	102
2	73 <sup>rd</sup> Amendment Act	13	22	13	7	-	55
3	E-governance	10	38	12	7	-	67
4	Good governance	10	7	5	5	6	33
5	Online services	7	72	12	8	-	99
6	People's participation in governance	8	68	10	9	-	95
7	Use of technology and digital payment	6	29	9	5	-	49
	Total	87(17.4%)	298(59.6%)	68(13.6%)	41(8.2%)	6(1.2%)	500

Source: Data Collected by the Author from the Field

Most of the respondents(59.6%) are satisfied with the Sixth schedule of the Indian constitution, the 73rd amendment act, E-governance, Good governance, Online services, People participation in governance and Use of technology and digital payment, administrative reforms that influenced the relevance of the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance, which emphasizes the participation of all sections of society in the decision-making process, support to the Northeast region of India in the Governance sector. 17.4% of the respondents are delighted with the Sixth schedule of the Indian constitution, the 73rd amendment act,

E-governance, Good governance, Online services, People participation in governance and Use of technology and digital payment, administrative reforms influenced the relevance of the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance support to the Northeast region of India in the Governance sector.

What evidence is there that the support for the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance, a crucial element, has contributed to an improvement in local government capacity, including institutional strengthening?

**Table III: Bhartiya Model of Inclusive Governance’s Support**

S.N.	Evidence	Strongly Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Strongly Dissatisfied	Total
1	Collaboration between different levels of government, public-private partnerships, and incentives to improve local economic development	10	7	5	5	6	33
2	Public Disclosure of Local Undertakings	7	72	12	8	-	99
3	Increased productivity and employment opportunities	8	68	10	9	-	95
4	Public hearings, social audits,	10	7	5	5	6	33
5	Awareness among citizens about their political and fundamental rights	7	72	12	8	-	99
6	Development of infrastructure	8	68	10	9	-	95
7	Increase in interstate trade	6	35	-	5	-	46
	Total	56(11.2%)	329(65%)	54(10.8%)	49(9.8%)	12(2.4%)	50

Source: Data Collected by the Author from the Field

Most of the respondents (59.6%) are satisfied with collaboration between different levels of government, public-private partnerships, and incentives to improve local economic development, increase interstate trade, development of infrastructure, Awareness among citizens about their political and fundamental rights, public hearings, social audits, Public Disclosure of Local Undertakings, increased productivity and employment opportunities.

However, this also underscores the importance of further analysis to fully understand the Bhartiya model's impact on local governance capacity and institutional strengthening.

Has the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance effectively improved governance at the local level in the northeast region of India? And could these local successes potentially lead to nationally significant results?



# Bhartiya Model of Inclusive Governance: A Comparative Study of Social and Economic Development of Selected Areas

**Table IV: The Bhartiya Model of Inclusive Governance has Been Effective in Helping Improve Governance**

S.N.	Helping in Improving Governance at the Local Level	Strongly Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Strongly Dissatisfied	Total
1	Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North East Region (PM-Devine)	13	22	13	7	-	55
2	National health insurance protection scheme	6	14	2	1		23
3	Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY)	10	7	5	5	6	33
4	Deendayal Antodaya Yojana	10	38	12	7		67
5	Deendayal Upadhyay Gram Jyoti Yojna for rural electrification	6	35	-	5		46
6	Jdy, jam, pmsby	8	45	5	7	3	68
7	North east special infrastructure development scheme (nesids)	7	12	4	2		25
8	The North East Strategic Economic Plan (SEP)	7	15	3	2		27
9	Pradhan mantri gram sadak yojana (pmsy-i)	8	7	5	5	6	31
10	Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana	6	23	3	5	3	40
11	Initiative to combine value addition to the inherent skills of the local community with production and marketing for sustainable livelihood	7	12	5	4	4	32
12	Physically sending officials to the remotest corners of the state, they regularly go and attend to the people.	8	28	7	7	3	53
	<b>Total</b>	<b>96(19.2%)</b>	<b>258(51.6%)</b>	<b>64(12.8%)</b>	<b>57(11.4%)</b>	<b>25(5%)</b>	<b>500</b>

*Source: Data Collected by the Author from the Field*

Most of the respondents (51.6%) are satisfied that the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance has been effective in improving governance at the local level in the Northeast region of India. These regional results aggregate into nationally significant results. These include physically sending officials to the remotest corners of the state to seek administrative benefits. Officials regularly go and attend to the people. Initiative to combine value addition to the inherent skills of the local community with production and marketing for sustainable livelihood, Deendayal Upadhyay Gram Jyoti Yojna for rural electrification, JDY, JAM, PMBSY, North East Special Infrastructure Development

Scheme (NESIDS), The North East Strategic Economic Plan (SEP), Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, Deendayal Antodaya Yojna, Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), National health insurance protection scheme and Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North East Region (PM-DevINE)

One of the key aspects of the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance is its effective collaboration with other agencies and international and national delivery partners. This collaborative approach has significantly enhanced the delivery of governance services, making the model more adaptable and effective.

**Table V: The Bhartiya Model of Inclusive Governance has Worked Effectively with Other Agencies**

S.N.	Other Agencies and Sectors	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
1	Local government, including autonomous councils	10	38	12	7		67
2	Infrastructure	10	17	5	5	6	43
3	Judiciary	7	72	12	8	-	99
4	Education	8	68	10	9		95
5	Health	8	27	5	5	6	51
6	Banking	6	23	3	5	3	40
7	Financial assistance	7	32	5	4	4	52
8	Defence, protection of citizens	8	28	7	7	3	53
	<b>Total</b>	<b>64(12.8%)</b>	<b>305(61%)</b>	<b>59(11.8%)</b>	<b>50(10%)</b>	<b>22(4.4%)</b>	<b>500</b>

*Source: Data Collected by the Author from the Field*

Most of the respondents (61%) agree that the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance has worked effectively in collaboration with other Agencies and international and national delivery partners to deliver governance services. These agencies and services include local government (including autonomous councils), defence and protection of citizens, financial assistance, banking, health, education, the judiciary, and infrastructure. This collaborative approach

ensures that all stakeholders are included in the governance process.

How effective has the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance been in partnering with civil society and the private sector, in terms of resource sharing, policy development, and implementation, to promote good governance in the Northeast region of India?





**Table VI: The Bhartiya Model of Inclusive Governance has been Partnering with Civil Society and the Private Sector**

S.N.	Effectiveness	Strongly Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Strongly Dissatisfied	Total
1	Accountability	16	53	15	10	5	99
2	Responsibility	15	55	12	0	0	98
3	Transparency	1	28	4	3	0	36
4	Check corruption	9	53	4	3	0	69
5	Control terrorism	5	54	5	3	0	67
6	Overall growth and development of infrastructure, industrial production	4	45	3	2	0	54
7	Ease of access to information and modern communication tools	7	62	12	5	7	93
	<b>Total</b>	<b>57(11.4%)</b>	<b>350(70%)</b>	<b>55(11%)</b>	<b>26(5.2%)</b>	<b>12(2.4%)</b>	<b>500</b>

Source: Data Collected by the Author from the Field

It is noteworthy that a significant majority of the respondents (70%) express their satisfaction with the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance. This model has been effective in partnering with civil society and the private sector to promote good governance in the Northeast region of India, leading to overall growth and development of infrastructure, industrial production, ease of access to

information and modern communication tools, control of terrorism, check corruption, and increase transparency, responsibility, and accountability in the functioning.

Do Stakeholders perceive the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance as a strong advocate for improving government effectiveness and integrity in the Northeast region of India?

**Table VII: Stakeholders Perceive the Bhartiya Model of Inclusive Governance**

SN.	Stakeholders	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
1	Students	5	54	5	3	0	67
2	Patients	4	45	3	2	0	54
3	Govt. Employees	7	62	12	5	7	93
4	Citizens	20	53	15	6	5	99
5	Local representatives	10	55	12	5	0	98
6	Private sector employees	4	28	4	0	0	36
7	District officials	9	53	4	3	0	69
	<b>Total</b>	<b>59(11.8%)</b>	<b>350(70%)</b>	<b>55(11%)</b>	<b>24(4.8%)</b>	<b>12(2.4%)</b>	<b>500</b>

Source: Data Collected by the Author from the Field

Most respondents (70%) agree that a diverse range of stakeholders view the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance as a strong advocate for improving government effectiveness and integrity in the Northeast region of India. These stakeholders, including students, parents, government employees, citizens, local representatives, private sector

employees, and district officials, represent a broad spectrum of perspectives and interests.

Considering the technical capacity and institutional arrangements of the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance, it is a crucial factor in providing governance support to national and local governments in the Northeast region of India.

**Table VIII: The Bhartiya Model of Inclusive Governance is well-suited to Providing Governance Support to National and Local Governments**

S.N.	Technical Capacity and Institutional Arrangements	Strongly Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Strongly Dissatisfied	Total
1	Competitive markets	9	53	4	3	0	69
2	Banking system	4	45	3	2	0	54
3	Local government	7	62	12	5	7	93
4	Social audit	20	53	15	6	5	99
5	E- services centre at the district level	10	55	12	5	0	98
6	Incorporate public perspectives into policy implementation	4	28	4	0	0	36
7	Fostering diversity at the organisational level	9	50	5	3	0	67
	<b>Total</b>	<b>63(12.6%)</b>	<b>346(69.2)</b>	<b>55(11%)</b>	<b>23(4.6%)</b>	<b>12(2.4%)</b>	<b>500</b>

Source: Data Collected by the Author from the Field

It's reassuring to note that a significant 69.2% of respondents are satisfied with the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance. This model, with its robust technical capacity and institutional arrangements, is well-suited to provide governance support to national and local governments in the Northeast region of India. It excels at fostering diversity at the organisational level, incorporating public perspectives into policy implementation, establishing district-level e-services centres, conducting social audits,

managing local governments, and facilitating a robust banking system and competitive markets.

It is crucial to examine the factors that enhance or impede the performance of the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance in this area. This exploration will not only deepen our understanding but also engage us in the research process.



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**Table IX: Factors and Impediments Enhance or Impede the Performance of the Bhartiya Model of Inclusive Governance**

S.N.	Contributing Factors and Impediments	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
1	Lack of people's participation	2	18	3	-	-	23
2	Lack of faith in people	13	22	13	7	-	55
3	Lack of resources	10	24	5	6	-	45
4	Lack of proper infrastructure	18	19		9	-	56
5	Natural and geographical barriers	-	5		7	-	12
6	Lack of proper utilization of resources	5	15	7	6	-	33
7	Unemployment	10	7	5	5	6	33
8	Ethnic conflicts	7	72	12	8	-	99
9	Language problems	8	68	10	9		95
10	Lack of commitment	6	29	9	5		49
	<b>Total</b>	<b>79(15.8%)</b>	<b>279(55.8%)</b>	<b>64(12.8%)</b>	<b>62(12.4%)</b>	<b>6(1.2%)</b>	<b>500</b>

Source: Data Collected by the Author from the Field

Most of the respondents (55.8%) agree that a comprehensive evaluation of the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance's performance is necessary. Factors such as lack of people's participation, lack of commitment, language problems, ethnic conflicts, unemployment, lack of proper resource utilization, natural and geographical barriers, lack of proper infrastructure, lack of resources, and

lack of people's faith in governance all play a role in this evaluation.

Are the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance's approaches, resources, models, and conceptual framework relevant to achieving the planned outcome? This is a key aspect that we will delve into in this analysis, as it is crucial for understanding the model's effectiveness.

**Table X: Bhartiya Model of Inclusive Governance's Approaches, Resources, Models, and Conceptual Framework**

S.N.	Outcome	Strongly Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Strongly Dissatisfied	Total
1	Bhartiya model of inclusive governance's approaches	10	38	12	7	0	67
2	Resources	10	17	5	5	6	43
3	Models	7	72	12	8	0	99
4	Conceptual framework	8	68	10	9		95
5	Methods	8	27	5	5	6	51
6	Sufficiently sensitive to the political and development constraints of the country	6	23	3	5	3	40
7	Efforts by the government	15	60	12	11	7	105
	<b>Total</b>	<b>64(12.8%)</b>	<b>305(61%)</b>	<b>59(11.8%)</b>	<b>50(10%)</b>	<b>22(4.4%)</b>	<b>500</b>

Source: Data Collected by the Author from the Field

Most respondents (61%) are satisfied with the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance's approaches, resources, models, and conceptual framework and find them relevant to achieving the planned outcome. They are sufficiently

sensitive to the country's political and development constraints.

Has the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance's governance strategy and execution been efficient and cost-effective?

**Table XI: Bhartiya Model of Inclusive Governance's Governance Strategy and Execution**

S.N.	Strategy and Execution	Strongly Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Strongly Dissatisfied	Total
1	Empowerment through education and skill development	10	38	12	7	0	67
2	Rapid and inclusive growth	10	17	5	3	8	43
3	Social welfare schemes	7	72	12	8	0	99
4	Providing basic amenities	8	68	10	9	0	95
5	Protections for marginalised groups	14	50	8	10	9	91
6	Enhance citizen empowerment	15	60	12	11	7	105
	<b>Total</b>	<b>64(12.8%)</b>	<b>305(61%)</b>	<b>59(11.8%)</b>	<b>48(9.6%)</b>	<b>24(4.8%)</b>	<b>500</b>

Source: Data Collected by the Author from the Field

Most of the respondents (61%) are satisfied that the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance's strategy and execution have been efficient and cost-effective in enhancing citizen empowerment, protecting marginalised groups, promoting rapid and inclusive growth, providing basic amenities, and implementing social welfare schemes.

"Socio-economic development" in relation to inclusive governance, and the relation between economic development and inclusive governance





**Table XII: Socioeconomic Development in Relation to Inclusive Governance**

S.N.	Development	Strongly Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Strongly Dissatisfied	Total
1	Improvement in living standard	20	55	17	10	8	110
2	Increasing employment opportunities and income sources	15	60	12	11	7	105
3	Implementation of social and economic welfare schemes	7	72	12	8	0	99
4	Financial inclusion	8	68	10	9	0	95
5	Equal wages and employment for women	14	50	8	10	9	91
	<b>Total</b>	<b>64(12.8%)</b>	<b>305(61%)</b>	<b>59(11.8%)</b>	<b>48(9.6%)</b>	<b>24(4.8%)</b>	<b>500</b>

Source: Data Collected by the Author from the Field

Most of the respondents (61%) are satisfied with socioeconomic development under the Bhartiya Model of inclusive governance, which improves living standards, increases employment opportunities and income sources, implements social and economic welfare schemes, promotes

financial inclusion, and ensures equal wages and employment for women.

- What changes should be made in the current set of governance partnerships to promote long-term sustainability?

**Table XIII: Changes in the Current Set of Governance Partnerships to Promote Long-Term Sustainability**

S.N.	Changes	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
1	More emphasis on the uniform implementation of rules and regulations	7	72	12	8	-	99
2	Participation of civil society in decision-making processes.	10	40	3	2	0	55
3	Low-interest-rate financing and sustainable finance to promote sustainability.	20	55	17	10	8	110
4	Sharing information, technology, and resources	14	50	8	10	9	91
5	Encouraging accountability	8	68	10	9		95
6	Involving civil society:	7	40	3	0	0	50
	<b>Total</b>	<b>66(13.2%)</b>	<b>325(65%)</b>	<b>53(10.6%)</b>	<b>39(7.8%)</b>	<b>17(3.4%)</b>	<b>500</b>

Source: Data Collected by the Author from the Field

Most respondents (65%) agree that changes should be made to the current set of governance partnerships to promote long-term sustainability. This includes involving civil society in decision-making processes, encouraging accountability, sharing information, technology, and resources, promoting low-interest-rate financing, and

emphasising uniform implementation of rules and regulations. The active participation of civil society is seen as a key factor in these changes.

- Has the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance worked effectively with other international delivery partners to deliver on good governance initiatives?

**Table XIV: The Bhartiya Model of Inclusive Governance Has Worked Effectively with Other International Delivery Partners**

S.N.	Good Governance Initiatives	Strongly Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Strongly Dissatisfied	Total
1	Infrastructure development by the international agency	5	27	7	5	3	47
2	Social welfare schemes by the international agencies	20	55	17	10	8	110
3	International border-related issues	14	50	8	10	9	91
4	International trade-related issues	8	68	10	9		95
5	Protection of the rights of minorities	7	72	12	8	-	99
6	Providing basic amenities to the people	8	35	7	5	3	58
	<b>Total</b>	<b>62(12.4%)</b>	<b>307(61.4%)</b>	<b>61(12.2%)</b>	<b>47(9.4%)</b>	<b>23(4.6%)</b>	<b>500</b>

Source: Data Collected by the Author from the Field

The Bhartiya model of inclusive governance, with its effective collaboration with other international delivery partners, has made a significant global impact. It has successfully delivered good governance initiatives, including infrastructure development by the global agency, social welfare schemes by international agencies, addressing international border-related issues, tackling international trade-related issues, protecting the rights of minorities, and providing basic amenities to the people. This global impact

is reflected in the respondents' 61.4% satisfaction rate, a testament to the model's success.

**VI. CONCLUSION**

The Bhartiya model of Inclusive governance is not just a concept; it is a fundamental approach that recognizes the importance of inclusivity in shaping policies and



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initiatives. By including diverse perspectives in governance, inclusive governance facilitates the identification of innovative solutions to complex problems, thus leading to more effective and sustainable policies. The Bhartiya Inclusive Governance model emphasizes the importance of inclusivity in decision-making and highlights the justice system's pivotal role in upholding the principles of equality and fairness in governance. Moreover, it bolsters trust in institutions and strengthens the bond between citizens and their governments. The Bhartiya Inclusive Governance Model addresses persisting historical and systemic inequities. It empowers marginalized communities by giving them agency and the platform to voice their concerns and aspirations. By rectifying past injustices, inclusive governance aims to create a more just and equal society with equal access to opportunities and resources. This study will help understand the impact of the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance on the social and economic development of the people living in the northeastern states of India. The study will provide knowledge about the various changes and challenges to the social and economic development in this region, knowledge about the different social dimensions of the development, the PPP model, private initiatives and activities in the social and economic development, the role played by the local administration and local government for inclusive governance, how efficiently and effectively the essential services can be provided at the local level to the less advantaged members of society, how the government can enable local people to generate employment, increase production, maintenance of infrastructure, the safety of the people, good social environment and equal opportunities for all for socio-economic development. The knowledge about the local barriers and needs of the people, as well as the need for rules and regulations for the public and private agencies dealing with financial, essential, legal, and welfare services. Knowledge of the need for education, employment, health, and skill development in this region can be generated to ensure the proper implementation of the Bhartiya model of inclusive governance. This study will provide data on implementing the Bhartiya Model of inclusive Governance at the local level in the Northeastern states of India, on various practices of inclusive governance, on the roles of multiple governance agencies, and on suggestions for improving governance at the grassroots level. The study will help understand the various challenges to inclusive governance and the possible solutions in northeast India. Data on the impact of different social and economic welfare schemes at the grassroots level will help formulate and implement more effective or alternative schemes, policies, and programs for citizens in this region.

## DECLARATION STATEMENT

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