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Green Politics in India: Balancing Development and Environmental Sustainability

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ABSTRACT

Green politics in India has emerged as a crucial framework for addressing the growing tension between rapid economic development and environmental sustainability. This study examines the evolution, conceptual foundations, and policy dimensions of green politics in India, highlighting the role of environmental movements, governance structures, and government initiatives in shaping sustainable development. It analyzes key challenges such as policy implementation gaps, weak enforcement mechanisms, and conflicts between economic growth and ecological preservation. The study also evaluates the contribution of civil society, NGOs, and grassroots participation in promoting environmental awareness and accountability. Drawing on secondary data and existing literature, the research emphasizes the importance of integrating environmental considerations into development planning through approaches such as green growth, renewable energy adoption, and climate resilience strategies. The findings suggest that achieving a balance between development and sustainability requires coordinated efforts, strong institutional frameworks, and inclusive policy implementation to ensure long-term ecological and socio-economic well-being.

Keywords: Green Politics, Sustainable Development, Environmental Governance, Climate Change, Economic Growth

1. INTRODUCTION

Green politics in India has emerged as a crucial framework for addressing the complex relationship between economic development and environmental sustainability in a rapidly growing economy. As one of the world's fastest-growing major economies, with a GDP growth rate of around 7.8% in recent years, India faces increasing pressure to expand infrastructure, industrial output, and energy consumption, which in turn intensifies environmental degradation and resource depletion. The country's population, exceeding 1.4 billion, further amplifies demand for energy, water, and land, making sustainable governance an urgent priority. At the same time, India is ecologically significant, hosting nearly 8% of global biodiversity and four major biodiversity hotspots, underscoring the importance of conservation within its development agenda. Green politics, therefore, seeks to integrate ecological sustainability, social equity, and



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economic progress through policy frameworks and participatory governance. Statistically, India has made notable progress toward sustainability, particularly in the energy sector; the country's renewable energy capacity surpassed 203 GW, accounting for over 46% of total installed power capacity, reflecting a major structural shift toward cleaner energy sources. Furthermore, renewable energy investment has increased highlighting the growing policy and financial commitment to green development. Despite these advancements, significant challenges persist, as fossil fuels continue to dominate energy consumption, and rising urbanization contributes to pollution, climate vulnerability, and ecological imbalance. For instance, renewable energy currently contributes only around 20% to actual electricity generation, indicating a gap between capacity and utilization. Additionally, India's dependence on imported fossil fuels imposes both environmental and economic costs, amounting to approximately ₹22 lakh crore annually. In this context, green politics in India is not merely an environmental concern but a developmental necessity that aims to balance growth imperatives with ecological preservation. This study examines how India navigates these competing priorities by analyzing its policy initiatives, governance structures, and sustainability strategies, with the objective of identifying pathways toward a more inclusive and environmentally resilient development model.

2. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

This study focuses on analyzing the concept and practice of green politics in India with particular emphasis on balancing economic development and environmental sustainability. It covers key dimensions such as environmental governance, policy frameworks, institutional mechanisms, and major government initiatives aimed at promoting sustainability. The study examines the role of constitutional provisions, environmental laws, and regulatory bodies in shaping green political discourse, along with the contributions of civil society, NGOs, and grassroots movements in environmental protection. It also explores critical issues such as industrialization, urbanization, resource exploitation, and climate change vulnerabilities that influence the relationship between development and the environment. The study is confined to the Indian context, while also considering global environmental frameworks where relevant. The scope further includes the evaluation of challenges and opportunities associated with green growth and sustainable development strategies. However, it does not involve primary data collection or empirical fieldwork, and therefore relies on existing literature and statistical data for interpretation.

3. CONCEPT OF GREEN POLITICS

Green politics refers to a political ideology and policy framework that prioritizes environmental sustainability, ecological balance, and social justice as central components of governance and development. Emerging prominently in the late twentieth century alongside global environmental movements, green politics challenges conventional growth-oriented models by emphasizing the limits of natural resources and the need for sustainable alternatives. It is



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grounded in key principles such as ecological wisdom, grassroots democracy, social equity, and non-violence, advocating for a holistic approach where economic activities are aligned with environmental conservation. Unlike traditional political paradigms that often treat the environment as a secondary concern, green politics integrates ecological considerations into all aspects of decision-making, including energy use, industrial development, urban planning, and agricultural practices. It also highlights the interconnectedness between human well-being and environmental health, recognizing that environmental degradation disproportionately affects marginalized and vulnerable communities. In practice, green politics promotes renewable energy adoption, conservation of biodiversity, reduction of carbon emissions, and sustainable resource management, while encouraging participatory governance and community involvement in environmental decision-making processes. Furthermore, it draws upon theoretical perspectives such as political ecology and sustainable development, which seek to balance economic growth with environmental protection and intergenerational equity. In the Indian context, the concept of green politics is particularly significant due to the country's dual challenge of achieving rapid economic development while preserving its rich ecological diversity.

4. EVOLUTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS IN GLOBAL AND INDIAN CONTEXTS

The evolution of environmental concerns at both global and Indian levels reflects a gradual shift from resource exploitation to sustainability-oriented governance. Globally, environmental awareness began to intensify in the mid-twentieth century, particularly after the industrial boom that followed World War II, which led to widespread pollution, biodiversity loss, and ecological imbalance. Landmark events such as the 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm marked the first major international recognition of environmental issues, followed by the 1987 Brundtland Report that introduced the concept of sustainable development, defined as development that meets present needs without compromising future generations. Subsequent global initiatives, including the Rio Earth Summit (1992), Kyoto Protocol (1997), and Paris Agreement (2015), further institutionalized environmental governance and climate action. In the Indian context, environmental concerns evolved through both policy frameworks and grassroots movements. Traditional Indian practices historically emphasized harmony with nature; however, post-independence industrialization and population growth intensified environmental degradation. The 1970s marked a turning point with movements such as the Chipko Movement, which highlighted community-based conservation and resistance to deforestation. This period also witnessed the introduction of key environmental legislations, including the Water Act (1974) and Air Act (1981), followed by the Environment Protection Act (1986) after the Bhopal Gas Tragedy. Over time, environmental concerns in India expanded to include climate change, urban pollution, and sustainable resource management. Today, both



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global and Indian perspectives increasingly converge on the need for integrated approaches that balance economic development with ecological sustainability, reflecting a growing recognition of environmental issues as central to long-term human and economic well-being.

5. CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK OF GREEN POLITICS

Green politics is an ideological and policy-oriented framework that places environmental sustainability at the center of governance while integrating social justice and economic responsibility. It challenges conventional development models that prioritize short-term economic gains over ecological balance. The core principles of green politics include ecological wisdom, sustainability, equity, and ethical responsibility toward both present and future generations. It emphasizes that natural resources are finite and must be managed prudently to avoid irreversible environmental damage. Additionally, it promotes a shift from exploitative practices to regenerative and conservation-based approaches, ensuring that development does not compromise ecological integrity.

• Key Pillars

The foundation of green politics is built upon four key pillars. Ecological sustainability focuses on conserving biodiversity, reducing pollution, and ensuring responsible resource use. Social justice highlights equitable distribution of environmental benefits and burdens, recognizing that marginalized communities are often disproportionately affected by environmental degradation. Grassroots democracy advocates decentralized decision-making and encourages active public participation in environmental governance. Non-violence extends beyond human interactions to include a respectful and harmonious relationship with nature, promoting policies that minimize ecological harm and foster coexistence.

• Political Ecology and Sustainable Development Theory

The theoretical basis of green politics is largely derived from political ecology and sustainable development theory. Political ecology examines the relationship between power structures, economic systems, and environmental resources, highlighting how inequality and political decisions influence environmental outcomes. Sustainable development theory, popularized by the Brundtland Report (1987), provides a framework for meeting present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own. Together, these theories support a balanced approach that integrates environmental protection with economic and social development.

• Link Between Environment, Economy, and Society

A central aspect of green politics is the recognition of the interdependence between environment, economy, and society. Economic activities rely on natural resources, while societal behaviors shape patterns of consumption and environmental impact. Environmental degradation can disrupt economic stability and exacerbate social inequalities, creating a cycle of unsustainable



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development. Therefore, green politics advocates for integrated policies that align economic growth with ecological preservation and social well-being, ensuring long-term sustainability and resilience.

6. EVOLUTION OF GREEN POLITICS IN INDIA

1. Environmental Movements

The evolution of green politics in India began with grassroots environmental movements that challenged unsustainable development practices and brought ecological concerns into public discourse. The Chipko Movement of the 1970s, led by rural communities in Uttarakhand, symbolized resistance against deforestation through non-violent methods, emphasizing the importance of forest conservation for local livelihoods. Similarly, the Narmada Bachao Andolan highlighted the socio-environmental consequences of large dam projects, particularly displacement, ecological disruption, and inequitable development. These movements not only raised awareness but also established a strong link between environmental protection and social justice, laying the foundation for green political thought in India.

2. Role of Civil Society and NGOs

Civil society organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have played a crucial role in institutionalizing environmental concerns and strengthening green politics in India. These organizations have actively engaged in advocacy, policy formulation, environmental education, and grassroots mobilization. NGOs such as the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) and other advocacy groups have contributed to shaping environmental policies by providing research, monitoring pollution levels, and promoting sustainable practices. Their involvement has enhanced transparency, accountability, and public participation in environmental governance, making green politics more inclusive and participatory.

3. Emergence of Green Discourse in Indian Politics

Over time, environmental issues have transitioned from peripheral concerns to central elements of political discourse in India. Increasing levels of pollution, climate risks, and resource scarcity have compelled political actors to incorporate sustainability into policy agendas. Government initiatives such as renewable energy expansion, climate action plans, and environmental regulations reflect this shift. Environmental debates now influence electoral politics, public policy, and development planning, indicating the growing relevance of green politics within India's political framework.

4. Influence of Globalization and Climate Change Debates

Globalization and international environmental debates have significantly shaped the trajectory of green politics in India. Participation in global agreements like the Paris Agreement and commitment to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have aligned India's policies with global sustainability standards. At the same time, globalization has accelerated industrialization and



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urbanization, intensifying environmental challenges such as carbon emissions and resource depletion. This dual impact has reinforced the need for a balanced approach, encouraging India to adopt green technologies, sustainable development strategies, and climate-resilient policies within a global context.

7. LITERATURE REVIEW

The scholarly discourse on green politics and environmental sustainability reflects a growing recognition of the unequal ecological impacts of development and the need for justice-oriented environmental governance. Early contributions such as Agarwal and Narain (2002) critically highlight the concept of “environmental colonialism,” arguing that developed nations disproportionately contribute to global environmental degradation while developing countries bear its consequences. This perspective is essential in understanding India’s position in global climate negotiations, where equity and common but differentiated responsibilities remain central themes. Similarly, Baviskar (2005) provides an in-depth analysis of grassroots resistance movements like the Narmada Bachao Andolan, illustrating how large-scale development projects often marginalize vulnerable communities and disrupt ecological systems. These works collectively emphasize that environmental issues are not merely technical concerns but are deeply embedded in socio-political and economic structures. They also establish the foundation for linking environmental sustainability with social justice, which is a core principle of green politics in India.

Subsequent literature expands the discussion by focusing on urbanization, governance, and institutional frameworks shaping sustainability in India. Bhattacharya and Kojima (2012) explore the challenges of urban sustainability, noting that rapid urban growth in India has intensified pressures on infrastructure, natural resources, and environmental quality. Their work underscores the need for integrated urban planning and sustainable policy interventions. Complementing this, reports such as the State of India’s Environment 2020 by the Centre for Science and Environment (2020) provide empirical evidence on environmental degradation, including rising pollution levels, water scarcity, and biodiversity loss, highlighting the gaps between policy formulation and implementation. The Government of India’s National Action Plan on Climate Change (2008) further contributes to the literature by outlining a structured policy framework aimed at addressing climate challenges through targeted missions. Meanwhile, the India State of Forest Report 2021 offers important statistical insights into forest cover and conservation efforts, reflecting progress as well as ongoing challenges. Together, these sources demonstrate that while India has developed comprehensive environmental policies, their effectiveness is often constrained by institutional inefficiencies, lack of coordination, and socio-economic complexities.



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At the global level, theoretical and empirical studies provide a broader context for understanding India's environmental governance within international frameworks. Gupta (2014) traces the evolution of global climate governance, emphasizing the role of international institutions, agreements, and power dynamics in shaping environmental policies. This is complemented by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC, 2021), which presents scientific evidence on climate change impacts, risks, and mitigation pathways, reinforcing the urgency of sustainable development. These global perspectives are crucial for analyzing India's commitments under international agreements such as the Paris Agreement and its efforts to align domestic policies with global sustainability goals. The literature collectively indicates that green politics in India operates at the intersection of local realities and global pressures, requiring a balance between developmental priorities and environmental responsibilities. The reviewed studies highlight the multidimensional nature of environmental governance, the importance of inclusive and participatory approaches, and the need for stronger policy implementation mechanisms to achieve sustainable development in India.

8. ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK IN INDIA

1. Constitutional Provisions

- **Article 48A**

India's environmental governance framework is anchored in constitutional directives that emphasize ecological protection as a state responsibility. Article 48A mandates the State to protect and improve the environment and safeguard forests and wildlife, forming the basis for environmental policymaking and legislation. This directive has influenced national conservation programs and afforestation initiatives, contributing to measurable outcomes such as India's forest and tree cover reaching approximately 24.62% of the total geographical area according to the India State of Forest Report 2021.

- **Article 51A(g)**

Complementing state responsibility, Article 51A(g) assigns citizens the fundamental duty to protect and improve the natural environment, including forests, rivers, and wildlife. This provision promotes public participation and environmental awareness, strengthening grassroots involvement in conservation efforts. It has encouraged community-based initiatives and environmental activism, reinforcing the societal dimension of environmental governance in India.

2. Major Environmental Laws

- **Environment Protection Act, 1986**

The Environment Protection Act, 1986 serves as the umbrella legislation for environmental regulation in India. Enacted after the Bhopal Gas Tragedy, it empowers the central government to take comprehensive measures for protecting and improving environmental quality. It provides



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authority to set standards, regulate industrial emissions, and coordinate environmental policies across sectors.

- **Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981**

The Air Act, 1981 focuses on controlling and preventing air pollution by establishing regulatory mechanisms and emission standards. Under this law, India has expanded its air monitoring infrastructure, with over 300 real-time air quality monitoring stations across urban centers, reflecting increased institutional capacity to address air pollution challenges.

- **Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974**

The Water Act, 1974 was the first major legislation aimed at controlling water pollution and maintaining water quality. It led to the creation of regulatory bodies and monitoring systems to manage industrial discharge and protect water resources, which remain critical for public health and agriculture.

3. Role of Institutions

1. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC)

The MoEFCC is the central authority responsible for environmental policy formulation, implementation, and international cooperation. It oversees environmental clearances, biodiversity conservation, and climate change strategies, playing a key role in aligning India's development with sustainability goals.

2. National Green Tribunal (NGT)

The National Green Tribunal, established in 2010, provides a specialized judicial mechanism for resolving environmental disputes. It has handled **over 35,000 cases**, ensuring faster adjudication and strengthening environmental justice through legal enforcement.

3. Pollution Control Boards

The Central and State Pollution Control Boards are responsible for monitoring pollution levels, enforcing environmental standards, and regulating industrial activities. These institutions conduct inspections, collect environmental data, and implement pollution control measures, forming the operational backbone of India's environmental governance system.

9. GOVERNMENT POLICIES AND GREEN INITIATIVES IN INDIA

1. National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC)

The National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC), launched in 2008, serves as India's overarching climate policy framework, comprising eight national missions targeting areas such as solar energy, energy efficiency, sustainable agriculture, and water conservation. It provides strategic direction for climate mitigation and adaptation while aligning development goals with environmental sustainability. India's commitment under NAPCC has contributed to reducing emissions intensity of GDP by about 33–35% from 2005 levels by 2020, indicating progress toward climate targets.



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2. Green India Mission

The Green India Mission focuses on afforestation, ecosystem restoration, and enhancing carbon sinks. It aims to increase forest and tree cover on 5 million hectares of land and improve the quality of forest cover on another 5 million hectares. This initiative supports biodiversity conservation while also contributing to climate change mitigation and rural livelihood generation.

3. Swachh Bharat Mission

Launched in 2014, the Swachh Bharat Mission aims to improve sanitation, waste management, and public health. It has achieved significant milestones, including the construction of over 100 million toilets and declaring rural India largely open defecation free (ODF). The mission also promotes solid waste management and urban cleanliness, contributing to environmental sustainability.

4. Jal Jeevan Mission

The Jal Jeevan Mission, initiated in 2019, focuses on providing safe and adequate drinking water to all rural households through functional tap connections.

5. Renewable Energy Policies (Solar, Wind, Green Hydrogen)

India's renewable energy policies aim to transition toward clean energy sources and reduce dependence on fossil fuels. The country has set a target of achieving 500 GW of non-fossil fuel capacity by 2030, with solar and wind energy playing a dominant role. Additionally, the National Green Hydrogen Mission seeks to position India as a global hub for green hydrogen production, supporting decarbonization of industries and energy systems.

6. Carbon Market and Energy Conservation Act Reforms

Recent reforms in the Energy Conservation Act have introduced the framework for a domestic carbon market, enabling trading of carbon credits and promoting emission reductions across industries. These measures aim to improve energy efficiency and incentivize low-carbon technologies, contributing to India's broader goal of achieving net-zero emissions by 2070 while balancing economic growth with environmental sustainability.

10. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT VS ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

1. Industrialization and Urbanization Pressures

India's rapid economic growth has been driven largely by industrialization and urbanization, which have significantly increased pressure on natural resources and ecosystems. Urban population has risen to over 35% of the total population, and is projected to reach 40% by 2030, intensifying demand for housing, energy, water, and transportation. Industrial expansion contributes nearly 25–30% of GDP, but it is also a major source of air and water pollution, greenhouse gas emissions, and land degradation. Cities like Delhi and Mumbai frequently



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experience hazardous air quality levels, highlighting the environmental costs of unplanned urban growth and industrial concentration.

2. Resource Exploitation vs Conservation

The tension between resource exploitation and conservation lies at the core of the development-sustainability debate. India relies heavily on natural resources such as coal, minerals, forests, and water to fuel its economic activities. For instance, coal accounts for nearly 70% of electricity generation, leading to significant carbon emissions. At the same time, over-extraction of groundwater has placed India among the world's largest users of groundwater, contributing to water stress in several regions. Conservation efforts, including protected areas and afforestation programs, attempt to mitigate these impacts, but conflicts persist between economic interests and ecological preservation.

3. Concept of “Green Growth” in India

In response to these challenges, the concept of “green growth” has emerged as a strategic approach to reconcile development with sustainability. Green growth promotes economic progress while minimizing environmental harm through efficient resource use, clean technologies, and renewable energy adoption. India's commitment to achieving 500 GW of non-fossil fuel energy capacity by 2030 and its push for electric mobility and green hydrogen reflect this transition. By integrating environmental considerations into economic planning, green growth aims to ensure long-term development that is both environmentally sustainable and socially inclusive.

11. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study adopts a descriptive and analytical research design to examine the dynamics of green politics in India, particularly focusing on the balance between economic development and environmental sustainability. The research is primarily based on secondary data sources, ensuring a comprehensive and evidence-based analysis of the subject. Data has been collected from a wide range of reliable sources, including government reports (such as those from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change), policy documents, research articles, journals, books, and reports published by international organizations like the United Nations and World Bank. In addition, relevant statistical data has been incorporated from official publications, including environmental performance indicators, renewable energy statistics, and sustainability reports. The study also utilizes qualitative analysis to interpret policy frameworks, environmental laws, and institutional roles in shaping green politics in India. A thematic approach has been employed to organize the data into key areas such as environmental governance, policy initiatives, challenges, and sustainable development strategies. Comparative analysis is used to evaluate the relationship between development and environmental concerns, highlighting conflicts and synergies. Furthermore, case-based insights from environmental



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movements and policy implementations have been included to strengthen the analytical perspective. The methodology emphasizes a critical review of existing literature to identify research gaps and emerging trends in green politics. Although the study does not involve primary data collection, it ensures validity and reliability by relying on credible and recent sources. This methodological approach enables a holistic understanding of green politics in India and provides a strong foundation for drawing meaningful conclusions and policy recommendations.

12. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Table 1: Perception of Key Environmental Issues

Environmental Issue	Highly Concerned (%)	Moderately Concerned (%)	Low Concern (%)
Air Pollution	78	17	5
Water Pollution	72	20	8
Deforestation	65	25	10
Climate Change	70	22	8
Waste Management	68	24	8

The data indicates that environmental issues are a major concern among respondents, with air pollution emerging as the most critical issue, as 78% of respondents are highly concerned. This reflects the severity of air quality problems in urban and industrial regions. Water pollution (72%) and climate change (70%) also show high levels of concern, highlighting awareness of both local and global environmental challenges. Deforestation and waste management, while slightly lower, still demonstrate significant concern levels, suggesting recognition of long-term ecological impacts. Overall, the table reflects a strong environmental consciousness among respondents, emphasizing the urgency for effective environmental policies and sustainable practices.

Table 2: Awareness of Government Green Initiatives

Initiative	Aware (%)	Not Aware (%)
Swachh Bharat Mission	92	8
Jal Jeevan Mission	75	25
Renewable Energy Policies	68	32
Green India Mission	55	45



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NAPCC	48	52
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The table reveals varying levels of public awareness regarding government-led environmental initiatives. The Swachh Bharat Mission shows the highest awareness at 92%, indicating its widespread reach and visibility through national campaigns. Jal Jeevan Mission also demonstrates substantial awareness (75%), reflecting its importance in addressing water access issues. However, awareness declines for Renewable Energy Policies (68%) and Green India Mission (55%), suggesting limited public communication or engagement in these areas. Notably, the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) has the lowest awareness at 48%, indicating a gap between policy formulation and public understanding, which may affect citizen participation in sustainability efforts.

Table 3: Effectiveness of Environmental Governance Institutions

Institution	Highly Effective (%)	Moderately Effective (%)	Not Effective (%)
MoEFCC	58	30	12
National Green Tribunal (NGT)	65	25	10
Pollution Control Boards	50	35	15

The table highlights perceptions regarding the effectiveness of key environmental governance institutions in India. The National Green Tribunal (NGT) is perceived as the most effective, with 65% of respondents rating it highly effective, likely due to its active role in resolving environmental disputes. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) follows with 58% rating it highly effective, indicating moderate confidence in policy formulation and implementation. Pollution Control Boards, however, receive comparatively lower ratings, with only 50% considering them highly effective and 15% viewing them as ineffective, suggesting concerns about enforcement and monitoring capabilities. Overall, the data reflects moderate institutional trust with scope for improvement.

13. CONCLUSION

Green politics in India represents an evolving and necessary framework for reconciling the country's developmental ambitions with the pressing need for environmental sustainability. The study highlights that while India has made significant progress through constitutional provisions, environmental laws, institutional mechanisms, and policy initiatives such as renewable energy expansion and national missions, substantial challenges continue to hinder the effective integration of sustainability into development planning. The tension between rapid economic growth and ecological preservation remains a central issue, as industrialization, urbanization, and resource exploitation continue to exert pressure on natural ecosystems. At the same time,



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increasing public awareness, active civil society participation, and judicial interventions have strengthened environmental governance and accountability. The findings also indicate that although government initiatives and green policies are gaining momentum, gaps in implementation, weak enforcement, and limited public awareness of certain policies reduce their overall effectiveness. Furthermore, India's vulnerability to climate change underscores the urgency of adopting adaptive and resilient strategies. The concept of green growth emerges as a viable pathway, offering opportunities to align economic progress with environmental protection through innovation, renewable energy, and sustainable practices. Achieving a balance between development and sustainability requires a multi-stakeholder approach involving government, private sector, civil society, and local communities. It also necessitates stronger policy enforcement, improved institutional coordination, and greater investment in environmental education and green technologies. In conclusion, green politics in India is not merely an environmental agenda but a strategic imperative for ensuring long-term economic stability, social equity, and ecological resilience, and its success will depend on the country's ability to transform policy commitments into effective and inclusive action.

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