

India in 2047: A Reform Blueprint of Concepts to Propel the Journey to Viksit Bharat

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Abstract

India's "Viksit Bharat @2047" vision aims to transform India into a developed nation by the time it reaches its centenary. The vision focuses on achieving a \$30 trillion economy through innovation, technology (Digital Public Infrastructure like UPI/Aadhaar), infrastructure (ports, green energy), and human capital (education, skills). This will require bold reforms in governance, ease of doing business, agriculture, and social welfare, as well as leveraging India's youth demographic while ensuring sustainability and inclusion for a prosperous and self-sufficient future. In the year 2047, India will celebrate one hundred years since it gained its independence. In a little more than twenty years, the nation has the potential to become one of the top three economies in the world, a technical powerhouse, and a decisive voice in global business and geopolitics. On the other hand, this rise is not something that is unavoidable. To achieve that objective, it will be necessary to make courageous choices, implement significant changes, and maintain a firm dedication to inclusive and sustainable growth. It is a to-do list for legislators, industry, and citizens alike, and this special edition of Business Today traces that route with one hundred proposals for radical reform. Diverse ideas have been purposefully included. Some of them are minor adjustments, while others are more significant changes. When taken as a whole, they are indicative of a desire; the growth story of India needs to be advanced even further.

1. Introduction

Viksit Bharat @2047 is India's ambitious national mission to become a developed nation by the time it celebrates its 100th year of independence in 2047. The mission focuses on holistic growth through economic strength (an economy worth more than \$30 trillion), social equity (education, health, and inclusion), technological advancement (research and development, digital infrastructure), sustainability (energy transition, green initiatives), and governance reforms to ensure inclusive prosperity, quality of life, and global leadership. This mission requires sustained high growth, innovation, and systemic transformation across all sectors.

The year 2047 marks the centenary of India's independence, and the country is currently experiencing a significant turning point in its history. Viksit Bharat, which literally translates to "a fully developed India," is not merely an idealistic buzzword; rather, it is a truly transforming national ambition. It envisions a society in which social justice, economic power, innovation, and sustainability are utilized in conjunction with one another to construct a community that is thriving, resilient, and welcoming to everyone. In order for India to reach this milestone, it is imperative that the country take decisive action to overcome the structural barriers that are preventing it from reaching its full potential, while simultaneously constructing upon the foundation laid by seven decades of democratic governance and enormous growth. This necessitates the creation of a reform blueprint, which is a comprehensive agenda

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consisting of one hundred key ideas that have the potential to transform India from a developing nation into a major player in the global economy. At its foundation, this design is based on the concept that progress should not be linear or sector-specific but rather should be comprehensive, inclusive, and focused on the future. Among the many things that need to be incorporated into the Viksit Bharat agenda are governance reforms, economic restructuring, industrial competitiveness, agricultural modernization, health access, education, environmental stewardship, infrastructural modernization, social justice, and technology sovereignty. Each and every one of these pillars makes a contribution to an ecosystem that is interrelated and propels India towards prosperity over the long run. In the year 2024, India's economy was ranked fifth in the world, with a gross domestic product (GDP) of approximately 4 trillion US dollars and an average annual growth rate of 6.5%. In order for India to achieve its goal of becoming a Viksit Bharat by the year 2047, it is necessary for the country to expand at a rate that is consistent with 8–9% per year while also preserving social inclusiveness, ecological balance, and technical autonomy. In order to address this issue, a new paradigm for reform is required, one that goes beyond piecemeal policy adjustments and instead prioritizes a cohesive reform architecture that strengthens markets, institutions, and citizens.

- **Governance and Bureaucracy**

The modern bureaucracy and effective governance that India has established are the cornerstones of the country's change. When India first gained its independence, the administrative structure of the country has been both a source of stability and a barrier to the country's ability to be flexible. In the growing state of the twenty-first century, the rigidity of procedures needs to make way to governance that is outcome-oriented and propelled by digital technology, public feedback, and performance accountability. One of the most important steps in this strategy was the launch of the Mission Karma yogi project in the year 2020. This project's objective is to establish a civil service that is well-prepared for the future. This must be transformed into a forward-thinking administrative design that is driven by data by the year 2047. Rule-bound bureaucracy needs to give way to mission-driven bureaucracy, which is characterized by evidence-based decision-making, lateral entry, and cross-sectorial competency as common practices. "One Nation – One Digital Administration" is the governance model that must be implemented by the year 2047 in order to successfully integrate ministries, agencies, and states into a unified policy ecosystem. As e-governance evolves into governance intelligence, predictive analytics should be utilized to anticipate the challenges that policymakers will face and the requirements of citizens. In the year 2047, the bureaucracy need to be more of a facilitator than a controller, guiding the growth of India with competence, agility, and compassion.

- **The Transformation of the Economy**

One of the most important factors that will decide India's economic destiny is its capacity to sustain high growth while also preserving resilience and inclusivity. In order for India to realize its vision of a Viksit Bharat, it must first strive to reach a gross domestic product of thirty trillion dollars by the year 2047 and then raise the per capita income from approximately two thousand seven hundred dollars in the year 2025 to more than twenty thousand dollars. Growth must be driven by innovation and investment rather than consumption in order to accomplish this goal. Additionally, growth must be fuelled by social welfare alignment, high productivity, and global competitiveness in order to be successful. The demographic dividend that India currently enjoys—65 percent of its population is under the age of 35—will be transformed into a demographic liability if rapid skill development, job creation, and gender inclusion are not implemented. It will be of the utmost importance to incorporate young people into productive enterprises by means of innovation ecosystems, vocational training, and digital platforms. As an additional point of interest, the three pillars of India's Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI), including Aadhaar, UPI, and ONDC, will continue to redefine the efficiency of businesses and the inclusion of financial services. It is anticipated that by the year 2047, the DPI framework would evolve into Digital Bharat 2.0, which will incorporate global data marketplaces, decentralized finance (Deify), and credit scoring based on natural language processing. The objective is to create an economy that is both conscientious and competitive, one that fosters entrepreneurialism while simultaneously ensuring social security. The establishment of India as a manufacturing and knowledge powerhouse would be accomplished through the implementation of a well-balanced emphasis on Vishwa Nirbharta (global interdependence) and Atmanirbharta (self-reliance).

- **Need a push in the manufacturing and industrial sectors**

Over the course of the next twenty years, it will be evaluated whether or not India has the potential to develop into a genuine industrial power. While the provision of services has been the primary driver of recent expansion, a robust comeback of the industrial sector is essential for ensuring long-term employment and prosperity. It is necessary for the manufacturing sector, which presently accounts for 16–17% of GDP, to rise to 25% by the year 2047 in order to encourage exports and increase employment opportunities in India. Together with the Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) initiatives, the Make in India program has begun the process of implementing this technique. On the other hand, in order to accomplish a comprehensive industrial revolution, India must move toward Industry 5.0, which is a combination of automation, human creativity, and sustainability. It is important for India to make it a goal to become a net exporter of high-tech products by the year 2047. This will allow India to gain control over global supply networks rather than becoming dependent on them. In light of this, it is necessary to build innovation districts that are modelled after foreign models such as Shenzhen or Eindhoven. These districts should include industrial clusters that are aligned with academic institutions, start-up companies, and research and development centres.

- **The prosperity of agriculture and rural areas**

Despite the fact that agriculture contributes less than 18% of GDP, it continues to be the primary source of income for over 45% of the population in India. This is a structural imbalance that has to be addressed. Viksit Bharat predicts that in the not-too-distant future, agriculture will be driven by technology, attentive to climate change, and profitable, thereby ensuring the prosperity and dignity of rural populations. When it comes to changes, things like value addition, market accessibility, and sustainability need to be given priority. By the year 2047, agribusiness ecosystems that integrate digital marketplaces, logistics, and food processing should have replaced subsistence farming in rural areas of India. Decentralized and intelligent agricultural marketplaces that connect farmers with consumers all over the world are what platforms like enemy need to develop into in order to fulfil their necessary functions. An artificial intelligence-driven weather forecasting system, satellite-based soil monitoring, and precision agriculture should all be incorporated into farm management. The ability of smallholder farmers to extract value from the supply chain will be made possible through the use of cooperative models, rural start-up companies, and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs). Through the implementation of Rural Bharat 2.0, the overriding goal is to establish villages as centres for entrepreneurship, innovation, renewable energy, and digital literacy. Through the provision of universal internet connectivity in rural areas and the enhancement of farmer incomes, India has the potential to transform its rural areas into engines of inclusive national growth.

- **Acquiring Knowledge for the Future**

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 was the document that lay the groundwork for a significant paradigm shift in the field of education. The four Cs of future learning—critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and communication—need to be fully integrated into India's educational system by the year 2047 in order to adequately educate the country's citizens for the information economy. In India, rote learning needs to be replaced by education that is research-oriented and places an emphasis on interdisciplinary, digital pedagogy, and learning that continues throughout one's life. The reforms that are being implemented need to ensure that the 250 million children who are enrolled in schools and the 40 million students who are enrolled in higher education have fair access, relevant skills, and quality assurance. Virtual reality and augmented reality immersive learning, as well as artificial intelligence teachers, should be a part of Education 4.0 by the year 2047. Partnerships between the public sector and the corporate sector have the potential to expand vocational training and reduce the knowledge gap that exists between the business world and the academic world. The objective of "Skill India 2.0" must also be in line with developing technologies like as biotechnology, robots, cybersecurity, and climate technology in order to guarantee that every young person is adequately prepared for the workforce. As recommended by the National Education Policy (NEP), India's human capital should be dedicated 6% of its GDP to education in order to make it globally competitive. Universities in India need to evolve into international innovation hubs that attract talent, research funds, and entrepreneurs in order to move the country toward being a knowledge superpower by the year 2047.

- **Quality and Access to Health**

A healthy nation is the foundation of a productive and prosperous civilization. India's healthcare system needs to transition from episodic treatment to preventative and universal wellbeing. While the Ashman Bharat initiative has achieved universal health coverage, the objective needs to be extended to "Health for All 2047" by 2047, integrating primary care, telemedicine, and digital health ecosystems. Boosting healthcare expenditures to at least 3% of GDP with a focus on basic and preventative care. Strengthening public health infrastructure with distant telemedicine services, AI-powered diagnostics, and genetic medicine. Protecting health sovereignty by strengthening domestic pharmaceutical, medical technology, and vaccination research capacities. By combining cutting-edge biomedical research with traditional knowledge, India should become a hub for global health innovation by 2047 (AYUSH). The COVID-19 pandemic established India's capacity to produce vaccines and medical technology on a massive scale; the next step is to establish a strong, equitable, and superior healthcare system that guarantees no citizen is left behind.

- **Environment and Climate Leadership**

India's civilizational culture has long emphasized harmony with environment. In the age of the climate crisis, India's leadership in sustainable development and clean energy has the potential to change global environmental politics. India's commitment to attaining Net Zero by 2070 requires it to set the standard for green growth paths by balancing development and ecological management. Improvements in carbon capture, green hydrogen, and circular economy strategies should make up over 75% of India's energy mix by 2047. Water conservation, sustainable agriculture, and smart urban design will be essential to lowering climate concerns. India may use its Life (Lifestyle for Environment) goal to promote sustainable consumerism, waste management, and low-carbon lifestyles. As a representative of the Global South, India might have an impact on climate diplomacy by promoting equitable climate finance and technology transfer. The objective is to make India a climate-resilient civilization where economic growth enhances ecological health rather than degrades it.

- **Future-Oriented Infrastructure**

Development manifests itself externally through infrastructure. To achieve Viksit Bharat, India must undergo a transformation in its infrastructure that is smart, environmentally friendly, resilient, and linked. The National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) and Gati Shakti are two well-established initiatives, but the real game-changer will be a system that seamlessly integrates digital and physical components. The deadline for India to build 5G and 6G-powered smart highways and logistical corridors is 2047. Electric and high-speed train networks connect all major cities. Resilient city infrastructure includes smart water, waste, and energy systems. Sustainable home design and construction is within everyone's price range. Infrastructure investment trusts (Invites), green bonds, and sovereign funds are all necessary tools for attracting local and international investment. The goal is to have a well-connected national grid that covers transportation and opportunities.

- **Urban Living and Social Equality**

Development cannot continue without equity. Viksit Bharat must embody the principles of social justice, gender equality, and inclusive urbanization. By 2047, about half of India's 1.6 billion inhabitants would live in urban areas. To handle this shift, equitable access to safety nets, work, housing, and healthcare is required. Women's empowerment, poverty eradication, and social security for the unorganized sector must be the main goals of reforms. Programs like PM Jan Dhan Yojana, Digital India, and DBT have revolutionized inclusion; now, second-generation inclusion—which guarantees economic mobility, representation, and dignity—needs to be prioritized. In 2047, metropolitan India should adopt the 15-minute city model, where citizens can live, work, and access utilities in a short amount of time. Smart urban governance, renewable energy, and cultural preservation must cooperate to build livable, sustainable communities. Another facet of social equality is ensuring that marginalized groups, women, and minorities are included in decision-making processes. Experiential equality must coexist with legal equality.

- **Digital Sovereignty and Technological Policy**

India is approaching a significant transformation as it nears the centenary of its independence in 2047, evolving from a burgeoning economy to a fully developed nation, or Viksit Bharat. The objective of establishing a sovereign,

technologically advanced, inclusive, and resilient nation propelled by innovation, autonomy, and global leadership underpins the Indian government's vision for Viksit Bharat 2047. The focus has decisively shifted from mere economic growth to technical sovereignty and policy innovation, as India's economy has ascended to the fifth largest globally, representing approximately 7% of global GDP, with the IMF forecasting it to reach \$7.3 trillion by 2030 and potentially \$30 trillion by 2047. The manner in which India will oversee, regulate, and protect its technological future—encompassing data governance, digital infrastructure, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, semiconductors, and quantum computing—is intrinsically connected to the journey toward 2047. Control over data, algorithms, networks, and innovation ecosystems, which define state power in the twenty-first century, exemplifies sovereignty that transcends territorial bounds. India has achieved significant advancements in digital transformation through its Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) revolution, encompassing Aadhaar, Unified Payments Interface (UPI), Cowin, and Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC). As of 2025, India leads in digital payments, processing over 131 billion UPI transactions yearly, valued at ₹200 trillion (\$2.4 trillion), which constitutes more than 45% of the global real-time payment volume. Programs such as the IndiaAI Mission, the National Quantum Mission, and the National Cybersecurity Strategy (NCS) exemplify India's commitment to enhancing domestic capabilities, while the Digital Personal Data Protection Act (DPDP) 2023 signifies a pivotal advancement in defining individual data rights and accountability for digital entities. By 2047, technical sovereignty will encompass more than mere independence (Atmanirbharti); it will signify strategic autonomy, or the ability to develop, produce, and govern technology in accordance with Indian standards while assertively participating in global value chains. Power and governance will shift to artificial intelligence and data in the coming decades. AI could enhance India's GDP by \$1 trillion by 2047 and its data economy to over \$500 billion by 2030, according to NASSCOM. Digital sovereignty requires balancing innovation and regulation to protect privacy, transparency, and national security. In critical businesses like semiconductors and cloud infrastructure, avoiding external technical reliance and domestic digital monopolies that limit competition and data ownership are challenges. The India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) seeks to make India a global centres for chip design and manufacturing by 2030, with incentives totalling ₹76,000 crore (\$9 billion). Quantum computing expenditures aim to establish India in the top five frontier research nations. Thus, technology is essential to Viksit Bharat 2047, a vision in which innovation protects sovereignty, digital policy empowers citizens, and India becomes a trusted global digital power that shapes the future technological order's governance, architecture, and ethics.

2. Conclusion

It is a test of execution as much as it is a test of desire to travel the path that leads to Viksit Bharat. As a result, it requires societal transformation, changes to existing institutions, and leadership that is founded on ethics and innovation. India's progress must be marked by social harmony, environmental sustainability, and worldwide leadership in science and technology by the year 2047. This is in addition to the country's material wealth. In order to be both daring and feasible, the one hundred reform efforts that are included in this blueprint need to strike a balance between ambition and inclusivity. If India's administration gets more flexible, its industry becomes more imaginative, its education becomes more empowering, and its citizens become more involved, then India has the potential to become a true civilizational superpower, a beacon of hope and advancement in a world that is fragmented. Viksit Bharat 2047 is a collective national commitment to turn India's historical inheritance into a sustainable global future and its demographic potential into democratic prosperity. This pledge was made by the Indian government of India. When it comes to policy, it is more than just a destination. In light of the fact that India saw more than 13.9 lakh cyber-attacks in 2023, a significant rise in ransom ware, and phishing attempts that targeted important infrastructure, digital sovereignty also necessitates readiness in the area of cybersecurity. By the year 2047, India's reform strategy has to involve the establishment of a multi-layered cyber command and resilience architecture. This framework should incorporate artificial intelligence-enabled threat detection, local encryption technologies, and a national cyber workforce. Additionally, India's influence in the regulation of information technology on a global scale would be bolstered by international collaboration within the framework of projects such as the Quad Critical and Emerging Technologies Partnership and the Global Digital Compact.

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