



Vision 2047: Building a Sustainable and Inclusive Viksit Bharat

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Introduction:

As India approaches its centenary of independence in 2047, the vision of "Viksit Bharat" (Developed India) stands as a guiding beacon. This transformative journey isn't merely about economic metrics but encompasses a holistic reimagining of India's future—one that balances robust economic growth with environmental sustainability and social inclusivity. This article explores the multidimensional pathways toward achieving this vision and the critical challenges that must be addressed.

The Vision of Viksit Bharat:

The concept of Viksit Bharat envisions India as a fully developed nation by 2047—economically prosperous, environmentally sustainable, socially equitable, and globally influential. This vision aims to transform India from a developing economy into a high-income country with quality of life comparable to the world's advanced economies, while retaining its cultural heritage and democratic values.

Key targets include:

Becoming the world's third-largest economy with per capita income exceeding \$18,000

- Achieving carbon neutrality and environmental sustainability
- Eliminating extreme poverty and reducing inequality
- Universal access to quality education, healthcare, and digital infrastructure
- Becoming a global hub for innovation, manufacturing, and services
- Strengthening India's position as a leading global power

Economic Transformation: The Foundation for Growth:

Manufacturing Renaissance:

India's path to developed status requires a significant expansion of its manufacturing sector. The "Make in India 2.0" initiative needs to evolve beyond current frameworks, focusing on high-value manufacturing ecosystems in sectors like semiconductors, electric vehicles, defense technology, pharmaceuticals, and renewable energy equipment.

Success factors include:

- Creating competitive manufacturing clusters with world-class infrastructure
- Deepening integration with global value chains
- Strategic reforms to ease of doing business
- Enhancing labor productivity through skills development and automation
- Promoting domestic innovation and research capabilities

Digital Economy and Innovation Ecosystem:

By 2047, digital technologies will form the backbone of India's economy. The digital transformation journey requires:

- Comprehensive digitalization of government services and public infrastructure.
- Strengthening India's position in emerging technologies like AI, quantum computing, and biotechnology.
- Expanding digital financial infrastructure to reach all citizens.
- Developing robust data governance frameworks that balance innovation with privacy.
- Supporting digital entrepreneurship and startups across tier-2 and tier-3 cities.

Infrastructure Development:

Massive infrastructure development is crucial for sustainable economic growth. India needs to: Modernize transportation networks, including high-speed rail systems, efficient urban transit, and multi-modal logistics Develop smart, sustainable cities that can accommodate urban population growth Upgrade power infrastructure to support 100% renewable energy integration.

Ensure universal access to clean water and sanitation strengthens digital connectivity across all regions.

Environmental Sustainability: Securing the Future:**Clean Energy Transition:**

India's energy transition must accelerate to meet climate goals while supporting economic growth: Expanding renewable energy capacity to reach 80-90% of the power mix by 2047 Developing storage technologies and smart grids to manage intermittency Transitioning to electric mobility across public and private transportation Promoting energy efficiency across industrial, commercial, and residential sectors Exploring green hydrogen as a solution for hard-to-abate sectors.

Climate Resilience and Natural Resource Management:

As climate impacts intensify, India must:

- Implement comprehensive climate adaptation strategies for vulnerable regions
- Restore and protect forest cover, watersheds, and biodiversity
- Adopt circular economy principles to minimize waste and resource use
- Ensure sustainable water management through conservation and efficient use
- Develop climate-resilient agriculture and food systems

Social Inclusion: Leaving No One Behind:

Quality Education and Healthcare for All Human development remains central to the Viksit Bharat vision: Transforming education systems to emphasize critical thinking, creativity, and practical skills ensuring universal access to quality healthcare services

Addressing malnutrition and preventive healthcare Building world-class universities and research institutions creating lifelong learning opportunities to adapt to changing job markets Reducing Inequality and Regional Disparities

Inclusive growth requires addressing persistent inequalities:

Targeting interventions for economically disadvantaged communities Reducing rural-urban and inter-state development gaps enhancing financial inclusion and access to credit Strengthening social safety nets and income support for vulnerable groups Promoting gender equality and women's economic participation.

Governance Reforms: Enabling Progress Administrative Modernization:**Achieving Viksit Bharat requires governance reforms:**

Streamlining bureaucracy and improving policy implementation
Enhancing center-state coordination for national development goals
Strengthening local governance and decentralization
Leveraging technology for transparent and responsive governance.
Building institutional capacity for complex policy challenges.

Participatory Development:

- People's participation must be central to the development process:
- Engaging citizens in policy formulation and implementation
- Strengthening civil society organizations and community institutions
- Promoting public-private-community partnerships
- Enhancing transparency and accountability in governance
- Nurturing active citizenship and democratic values

Global Positioning: India's Role in the World:

Economic Diplomacy and Trade
By 2047, India aims to be a critical node in global economic networks:

Expanding and diversifying trade relationships:

Strengthening regional economic integration, particularly in South Asia and the Indo-Pacific
Aligning trade policy with domestic industrial development goals
Securing stable supply chains for critical resources and technologies
Positioning India as a reliable alternative in global supply chains.

Strategic Leadership:**India's growing economic weight must translate to strategic influence:**

Expanding India's contribution to global public goods and multilateral initiatives.
Leading on issues like climate change, digital governance, and inclusive development
strengthening defense capabilities and security partnerships.
Preserving strategic autonomy while building beneficial alliances.
Projecting India's soft power through cultural diplomacy and knowledge exchange.

Implementation Challenges and Solutions:**Financing the Transition:****The Viksit Bharat vision requires massive financial resources:**

- Expanding the tax base and improving tax compliance
- Developing innovative financing mechanisms for infrastructure and sustainability
- Attracting foreign direct investment aligned with development goals
- Mobilizing domestic savings for productive investments
- Creating effective public-private partnership model

Policy Coherence and Implementation:

Success depends on effective execution:

- Ensuring coordination across different levels of government and policy domains
- Developing measurable milestones and monitoring mechanisms
- Building implementation capacity at all levels of administration
- Adapting strategies based on changing circumstances and learnings
- Maintaining policy continuity while allowing for innovation

Conclusion: The Path Forward:

The journey toward Viksit Bharat by 2047 represents one of the most ambitious development endeavors in human history. Success will require not just government action but a whole-of-society

approach involving businesses, civil society, academia, and citizens. While challenges are significant, India's demographic advantage, growing economic strength, technological capabilities, and democratic resilience provide strong foundations.

The most critical element will be maintaining a delicate balance—between economic growth and environmental sustainability, between global integration and self-reliance, between technological advancement and human development, between urban transformation and rural prosperity. By navigating these complementarities rather than treating them as trade-offs, India can chart a unique development path that may offer valuable lessons for the rest of the world.

As India approaches its centenary of independence, achieving the Viksit Bharat vision would represent not just national progress but a significant contribution to global development, demonstrating how the world's largest democracy can combine economic dynamism with social inclusion and environmental stewardship.

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