

# **Vision of Viksit Bharat @2047: A Bird's - Eye View**

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## **Abstract**

India's vision for Viksit Bharat @2047 aims to transform the country into a developed, self-reliant, and globally competitive nation by its 100th year of independence. With a GDP of \$3.7 trillion in 2024, India has made significant economic progress, but challenges like skill gaps, digital divide, infrastructure limitations, and climate risks remain barriers to sustainable growth. This paper attempts to follow a descriptive research approach using secondary data gleaned from government reports, international organizations' reports, and industry researches to identify the key issues and explore possible solutions in relation to the vision of Viksit Bharat. The findings highlight six key areas viz; education and skill development, digital transformation, infrastructure growth, economic expansion, social equity, and environmental sustainability. Achieving 100 percent literacy, expanding 5G and AI-driven governance, increasing women's workforce participation up to 50 percent, and growing the economy to \$30 trillion are some of the major goals for 2047. Additionally, India aims to develop 500+ smart cities, increase renewable energy capacity to 1,000 GW, and work towards net-zero emissions. By addressing these key issues through policy reforms, technological advancements, and sustainability measures, India is on track to becoming a global economic powerhouse by 2047. This study provides insights into the necessary interventions required to achieve this ambitious vision.

## **Introduction**

The 21<sup>st</sup> century can be India's century. It is the 5<sup>th</sup> largest economy in the world today and most estimates will be the world's 3<sup>rd</sup> largest economy by 2027 as its GDP crosses US\$ 5 Trillion. By 2047, India is capable of becoming a US\$ 30 trillion economy with the quality of life of a developed nation. It will be a Viksit Bharat.

India's vision for Viksit Bharat @2047 aims to transform the country into a developed, self-reliant, and globally competitive nation by its 100th year of independence. Historically, India has progressed from an agrarian economy to becoming the world's fifth-largest economy, with a GDP of \$3.7 trillion in 2024. However, challenges like skill gaps, digital divide, infrastructure bottlenecks, and climate risks must be addressed to sustain this growth.

## **Roadmap to 2047**

To achieve this transformation, six key issues have been identified:

1. **Education & Skill Development** – Achieving 100 percent literacy and training 500 million people in AI and digital skills.

2. **Digital & Technological Growth** – Expanding internet penetration to 100 percent and develop AI-driven governance.
3. **Infrastructure & Urban Development** – Developing 500+ smart cities and expanding highways from 144,000 km to 250,000 km.
4. **Economic Growth & Employment** – Boosting GDP to \$30 trillion, to increase women's workforce participation from 32percent to 50percent, and to create 600 million jobs.
5. **Social Equity & Inclusion** – Strengthening healthcare and financial inclusion, reducing poverty to below 1 percent.
6. **Environmental Sustainability** – Achieving 1,000 GW renewable energy capacities and moving toward net-zero emissions by 2070.

By addressing these key issues through policy reforms, technological advancements, and sustainability measures, India is set to become an economic powerhouse and global leader by 2047.

## **Literature Review**

The concept of Viksit Bharat @2047 envisions India as a developed, self-reliant, and globally competitive nation by 2047. The transformation relies on education, digital infrastructure, industrial growth, sustainable development, and social equity. Existing literature highlights the importance of policy frameworks, economic reforms, and technological advancements in shaping India's progress.

### **1. Education and Skill Development**

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 advocates for multidisciplinary learning, digital education, and vocational training to bridge the skill gap (Government of India, 2020). The World Economic Forum (2021) predicts that by 2030, over 85 million jobs could remain unfilled due to skill shortages, highlighting the urgent need for skill-based education. Study by Agarwal & Sharma (2022) emphasizes the role of e-learning platforms like SWAYAM and DIKSHA in democratizing education access and improving human capital development.

### **2. Digital Transformation and Technological Advancement**

Digitalization is a key enabler of economic and social progress. Basu & Mishra (2021) suggest that AI, block chain, and automation can enhance governance, reduce bureaucratic inefficiencies, and improve public services. The Digital India Initiative (2015) has expanded internet penetration, e-governance, and financial inclusion (MeitY, 2023). A report by NASSCOM (2023) predicts that India's AI-driven economy could contribute \$500 billion to GDP by 2027, reinforcing the need for greater AI adoption.

### **3. Infrastructure and Urban Development**

Infrastructure development is critical to India's growth. NITI Aayog (2022) highlights that investments in smart cities, high-speed rail, and expressways are essential for urbanization and economic expansion. The Gati Shakti National Master Plan (2021) aims to enhance connectivity and reduce logistical costs. Chakraborty & Patel (2023) emphasize the role of public-private partnerships (PPPs) in housing, transport, and sanitation

development. The Smart Cities Mission (2015) has led to over 100 smart cities being developed across India, improving urban infrastructure and quality of life.

#### **4. Economic Growth and Industrialization**

Economic self-reliance and entrepreneurship are vital for Viksit Bharat. Deloitte (2022) projects that India's economy could surpass \$10 trillion by 2047, given stable policies and technology investments. The Make in India initiative (2014) has significantly boosted manufacturing and FDI inflows, contributing over 17% of GDP (Ministry of Commerce, 2023). Research by Gupta & Singh (2023) highlights the role of MSMEs and startups in job creation, with over 100,000 registered startups under Startup India.

#### **5. Social Equity and Inclusive Development**

Ensuring inclusive development is crucial for long-term stability. Sen & Banerjee (2022) argue that despite economic growth, income inequality remains a challenge. They recommend direct benefit transfers (DBT) and social security programs to enhance financial inclusion. Women's empowerment programs like Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (2015) and MUDRA Yojana have significantly improved female labor force participation and entrepreneurship (Ministry of Women & Child Development, 2023). The UNDP Human Development Report (2023) states that India's Human Development Index (HDI) has risen from 0.554 in 2000 to 0.645 in 2023, but further investment in healthcare and education is needed.

#### **6. Environmental Sustainability and Climate Resilience**

A sustainable development approach is crucial for India's future. The National Solar Mission (2010) has positioned India as the 5th largest solar energy producer globally (International Energy Agency, 2023). Verma & Joshi (2022), stress that India must achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2070 to align with global climate commitments like the Paris Agreement. A World Bank (2023) study warns that climate-related disasters could reduce India's GDP by 2.5% annually if sustainability measures are not effectively implemented.

Review of above existing literature on the subject helped in accruing a depth insight about the topic and also helped in setting the objectives of the study. The study is based on the two following objectives;

1. To identify key issues which need to be addressed to make India a developed nation by the year 2047, and
2. To searching out the plans, policies and programs of different Indian and foreign institutions, organisations, commissions and government bodies which may help India in converting her dream of vision of viksit Bharat into reality by 2047.

### **Research Methodology**

The present study is an academic endeavour applying a descriptive research design, using only secondary data to identify key issues which need to be addressed to make India a developed nation by the year 2047 and searching out the plans, policies and programs of different Indian institutions, organisations, commissions and government bodies which may help India in converting her dream of vision of viksit Bharat into reality by

2047. For the said purpose the data have been collected from reliable sources such as; Government Reports – NITI Aayog Vision 2047, NEP 2020, Economic Surveys, International Reports – World Bank, UNDP, IMF on economic and social indicators,

Industry & Research Publications – Reports from NASSCOM, Deloitte

The data collected so far have been presented through diagrams and graphs in order to make more understandable.

The study adopts a systematic data selection process, using the PRISMA model to identify relevant sources:

**1. Identification:**

- Government Reports: NITI Aayog Vision 2047, NEP 2020, Economic Surveys
- International Reports: World Bank, UNDP, IMF, IEA
- Industry Research: Deloitte, NASSCOM, Brookings India, ORF
- Initial records: 150+ reports and datasets.

**2. Screening:**

- Removal of duplicates and irrelevant studies.
- Shortlisted 80 reports based on relevance.

**3. Eligibility:**

- Assessment of data credibility and consistency.
- Further refinement to 30 key reports.

**4. Inclusion:**

- Final 15 sources selected for analysis (GDP trends, literacy rates, employment statistics, digital penetration, sustainability targets).
- Data used to project India's economic, social, and technological progress toward 2047.

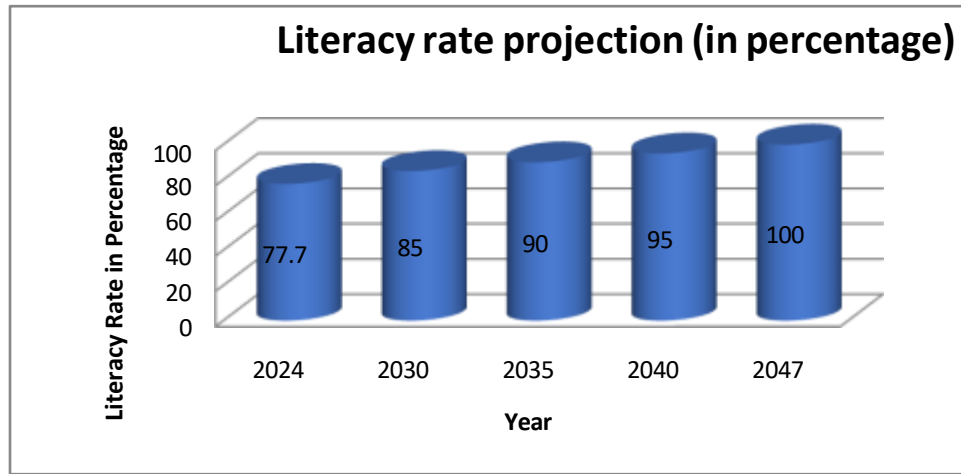
## **Data Analysis and presentation**

### **Objective 1: Identifying Key issues in India's Vision of Viksit Bharat @2047**

#### **1.1 Education and Skill Gaps**

Despite reforms like the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, India's literacy rate is 77.7% as of 2024, with rural areas lagging behind. The World Economic Forum (2021) estimates that by 2030, over 85 million jobs worldwide may remain unfilled due to skill shortages, highlighting the need for skill-based education. Additionally, India's Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education is 27.1%, significantly lower than developed countries. NEP 2020 has a target of achieving 50 percent GER in higher education whereas the Vision Viksit Bharat approach paper intends to achieve 100 percent literacy in India by the year 2047. The diagram -1 presents the literacy rate projection during 2024 – 2047.

Diagram-1



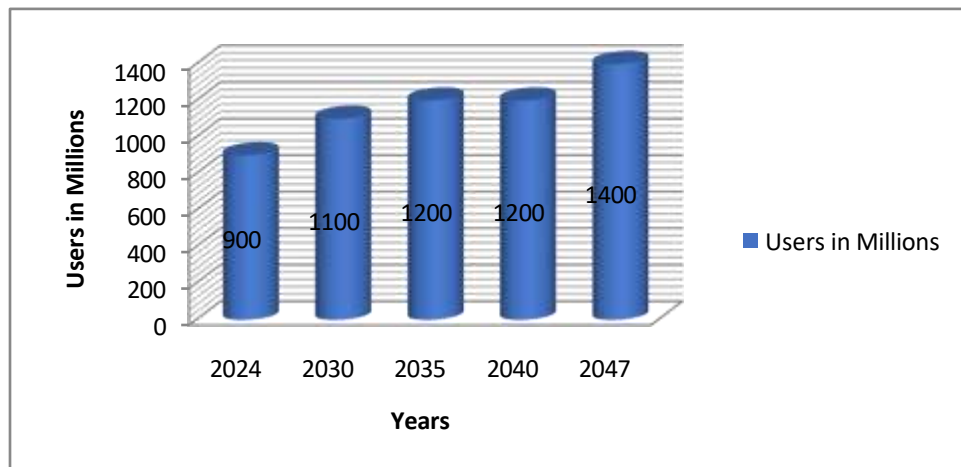
**Source:** Adapted from report of Government of India (2023), UNESCO (2023)

It is evident from the diagram-1 that the literacy rate stands 77.7 percent in 2024, and is targeted to reach 100% by 2047. This highlights the importance of education reforms, digital learning platforms, and vocational training. Government initiatives like NEP 2020 and Skill India Mission will play a crucial role in achieving this goal.

## 1.2 Digital Divide and Technological Disparities

Internet penetration in India has reached 66 percent (900 million users), rural areas still lack digital literacy and access to high-speed internet. Though the 5G rollout is underway, only 45 percent of the population has access to high-speed internet. Expanding digital infrastructure and AI-based learning platforms is crucial for bridging this gap. The following diagram-2 depicts the projection of internet penetration during 2024 to 2047.

Diagram-2



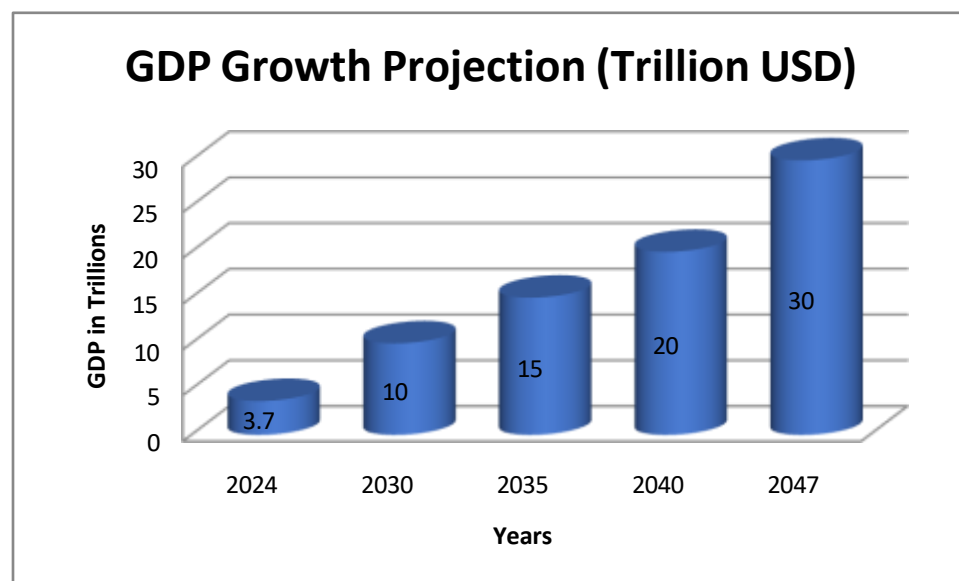
**Source:** Adapted from Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (2023) and TRAI (2024)

India's internet penetration is expected to grow from 900 million users (66 percent) in 2024 to 1.4 billion (100 percent) by 2047. This growth will drive digital inclusion, e-learning, AI-driven governance, and fintech expansion. However, rural digital access remains a challenge that needs targeted policies.

### 1.3 Employment Gaps & Economic Disparities

Economic disparities and Employment gaps are also identified as barrier to make India a developed nation by 2047. As per estimates of Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy [CMIE], 2024, India's unemployment rate stood at 7.5 percent in 2024, with youth unemployment at 12 percent, indicating a mismatch between education and job opportunities and as per estimates of Ministry of Commerce & Industry, 2023 Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) contribute 30 percent of GDP, many lack access to credit and digital tools, restricting their growth. Furthermore, report of ILO speaks that women's workforce participation remains low at 32%, limiting inclusive economic progress. In spite of these odds the vision of viksit Bharat aims to become US\$ 30 trillion economy by 2047 to be called as developed nation which is presented by diagram-3.

**Diagram-3**

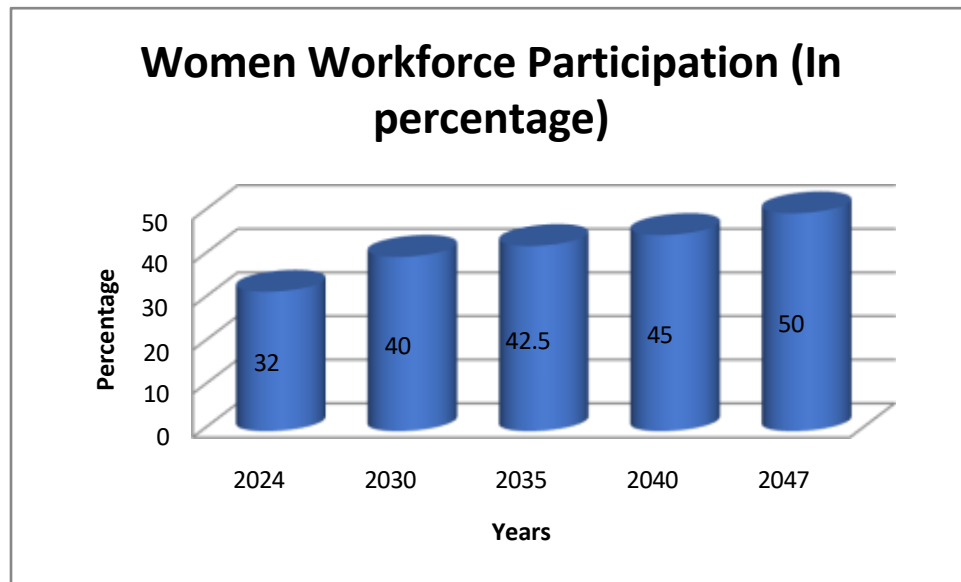


**Source:** Adapted from Deloitte (2023), NITI Aayog (2023)

The GDP of India is expected to rise from \$3.7 trillion in 2024 to approximately \$30 trillion by 2047. This projection suggests about rapid industrialization, increased FDI, and expansion of the digital economy. To achieve this, manufacturing, MSME growth, and service sector advancements must be prioritized.

Further an attempt has been made to present the current state of women workforce participation and targeted women participation with the help of following diagram -4.

Diagram -4.



**Source:** Adapted from reports of International Labour Organization (2023), and Ministry of Women & Child Development (2023)

As per the data contained by diagram-4, women's workforce participation amounted at 32 percent in 2024, and is expected to rise up to 50 percent by 2047. This indicates greater gender inclusivity in the workforce, supported by policies like MUDRA Yojana, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, and entrepreneurship schemes. Ensuring equal job opportunities and workplace inclusion will be key.

#### 1.4 Infrastructure and Urbanization Challenges

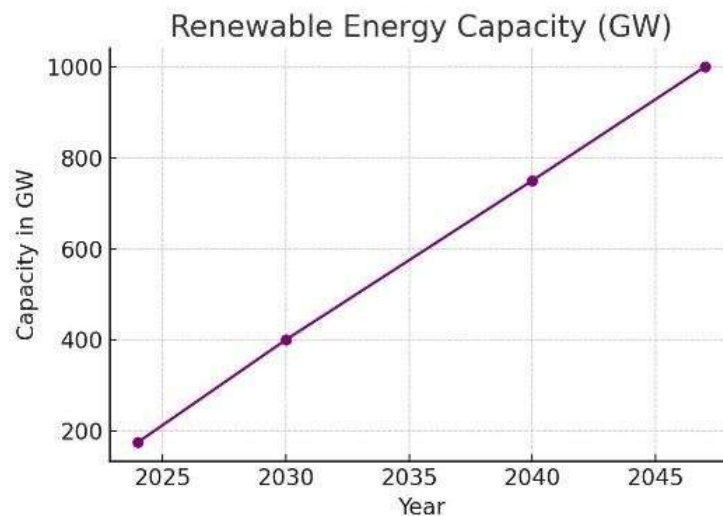
Report of NITI Aayog, 2023 speaks that India has 144,000 km of highways, but high logistics and transportation costs slow down economic expansion. While 100 smart cities are under development, infrastructure, urban housing shortages, traffic congestion, and pollution remain major challenges. Building State-of-the-art infrastructure has been a government priority as reflected in higher public spending as well as policies focussed on ensuring adequate financing and monitoring of government targets. There has been a massive expansion of highway network to over 145000 kms with expressways also coming up. Railways have improved both capacity and introduction of new trains like Vande Bharat that are speeding up travel with better quality of service. Air travel has expanded and breaking records as India is now the 5th largest domestic aviation market and has witnessed 100 percent growth in the construction of airport from 74 airports in 2014 to 148 airports in 2023.

#### 1.5 Environmental Sustainability and Climate Risks

Report of International Energy Agency [IEA], 2023 says that India is the third-largest carbon emitter, releasing 2.9 billion tons of CO<sub>2</sub> annually although renewable energy capacity stands at 175 GW, coal remains the dominant energy source. Without strong sustainability policies, climate-related disasters

could shrink India's GDP by 2.5% annually as per estimates of World Bank, 2023. The Graph-1 presents projection about India's renewable energy capacity to be increased from 175 GW (2024) to 1,000 GW by 2047.

**Graph-1**



**Source:** Adapted from International Energy Agency (2023), World Bank (2023)

The graph-1 says that India's renewable energy capacity is projected to increase from 175 GW (2024) to 1,000 GW by 2047. This shift is necessary to reduce carbon emissions and energy dependency on fossil fuels. Investments in solar, wind, and EV infrastructure will be crucial to meeting climate goals.

## **Objective 2: Potential ways to address issues**

### **2.1 Strengthening Education and Skill Development**

It is versioned that target of 100 percent literacy will have to be achieved by 2047 through digital learning initiatives like SWAYAM and DIKSHA as per approach paper of Government of India, 2023 regarding vision viksit Bharat. Expanding Skill India Mission to train 500 million people in AI, robotics, and block chain by 2047 and also to increase vocational training and STEM education for aligning with industry needs will be greatly helpful in overcoming the challenge of strengthening education and skill development.

### **2.2 Enhancing Digital Infrastructure and Accessibility**

Expanding 5G and broadband connectivity in rural areas under the Bharat Net initiative and increasing smart phone penetration from 80percent (2024) to 98 percent by the year 2047 will be helpful in ensuring affordable digital access to Indian masses. Development of AI-driven e-governance and smart learning platforms may play significant role in enhancing digital infrastructure and its accessibility.

### **2.3 Economic Growth and Industrial Expansion**

Report of Ministry of Commerce & Industry, 2023 suggests that the issue of economic growth and industrial expansion may be resolved by strengthening MSMEs and start-ups by providing easier credit access and digital tools. Attempt should be made to increase manufacturing sector's contribution to GDP from 17



percent to 30 percent through ‘Make in India’ campaign. Women’s workforce participation should be brought up to 50 percent by 2047 which is currently about 32 percent, through initiatives like MUDRA Yojana as per ILO, 2023. To become Viksit Bharat, 600 million jobs will have to be created by 2047 through industrial expansion and digital economy growth as suggested by Deloitte, 2023.

#### **2.4 Sustainable Urbanization and Infrastructure Development**

NITI Aayog, 2023 aimed to expand highways from 144,000 km to 250,000 km by 2047 to improve the connectivity across the country. It is also planned to develop 500+ smart cities with AI-powered traffic management and green infrastructure for the accomplishment of the goal of sustainable urbanisation and infrastructure development (Smart Cities Mission, 2023). Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, 2023 planned to strengthen affordable housing projects under PMAY for accommodating growing number of urban population.

#### **2.5 Achieving Environmental Sustainability and Climate Goal**

Achieving Environmental Sustainability and Climate Goal, there should be expansion of renewable energy capacity up to 1,000 GW by 2047, including 500 GW solar energy (IEA, 2023). A serious attempt will be made to increase electric vehicle (EV) adoption from 5 percent in 2024 to 80 percent by 2047, reducing fossil fuel dependence (NITI Aayog, 2023). In this regard, the state will have to implement net-zero emissions strategies to align with the Paris Agreement and global climate targets in the opinion of World Bank report, 2023.

### **Conclusions**

Unlocking human potential is the cornerstone of Viksit Bharat @2047, driving India toward a future of innovation, self-reliance, and global leadership. By harnessing the power of education, digital transformation, infrastructure, industrialization, social equity, and environmental sustainability, India can position herself as a hub of economic prosperity and technological advancement. However, to realize fully this vision, it is imperative to address critical challenges such as; skill gaps, digital disparities, bureaucratic inefficiencies, and environmental sustainability. Strategic policy execution, targeted investments, and inclusive growth strategies will be the key drivers in this transformation. The next two decades will be decisive in shaping India’s trajectory, ensuring equitable opportunities, enhanced digital integration, and sustainable development. With the right mix of technological advancements, progressive reforms, and people-centric policies, India is poised to emerge as a global economic powerhouse and a leader in digital and social progress by 2047.

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