



“Viksit Bharat@2047: Digital India and the Social Sector” #

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Recently, we are celebrated 79th Independence Day of India. After completion 78 years of India's Independence, still India is Developing Country. The concept, “Viksit Bharath@2047”, a vision of Government of India, primarily announced by Our Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The word “Viksit Bharat@2047” means, Developed India by 2047. The path to “Viksit Bharat@2047” – the vision to make India a fully developed nation by its 100th year of Independence. It is an ambitious road map that goes beyond the just economic growth, encompassing holistic development across the various sectors. Prime Minister Narendra Modi highlighted four main pillars that will drive the achievement of Viksit Bharat Goal. They are Yuva (Youth), Garib (Poor), Mahilaye (the Women) and Anna data (Farmers). Core objectives and Focus areas of Viksit Bharat Economic Prosperity aim to \$30 trillion Economy, Technological Advancement, Environmental Sustainability and Good Governance. It also emphasizes “Jan Bhagidari” (Peoples Participation), actively seeking the ideas and involvement of the Youth, Women, Farmers and Citizens.

Digital India Programme, launched on 1st July, 2015, is an important initiative of Government of with a vision to transform the country into “Digitally Empowered Society and Knowledge Economy”. As of 2026, it has evolved basic connective mission into a comprehensive ecosystem powering everything from AI Innovation and Financial Inclusion. This Digital India Programme built on three core vision areas, they are Digital Infrastructure like ensuring High speed internet, Unique Digital Identity (Adhaar) and Secure Storage (Digi Locker) are available every citizen. In Governance and Services, integrating services across the Departments and making available them in real-time and Digital Empowerment of Citizens, focusing on Universal Digital Literacy and making digital resources available in all Indian Languages. To achieve its vision, this Programme operates Nine specific focus areas they are, Broadband Highways (via Bharat Net), Universal Access to Mobile Connectivity, Public Internet Access Programme, e-Governance, e-Kranthi (e-Education, E-Healthcare, e-Courts), Information to all (MyGov), Electronic Manufacturing, IT for Jobs and Early Harvest Programmes. Through this Digital India Programme, India would be successfully transforms our society into Digital and Developed Society into upcoming 22 years and it is so much helpful to achieve the Viksit Bharat by the Centenary Yearly of Independence i.e., 2047.

Viksit Bharat@2047 envisions India as a developed nation by 2047, with *Digital India* serving as the backbone for inclusive growth and the *Social Sector* ensuring equitable access to education, healthcare, and employment. Together, they aim to integrate technology with welfare to empower citizens and drive sustainable development. The Digital India Programme, is a Flagship Programme initiated Government of India in 2014 and launched in 2015, with a vision to transform the country into “Digitally Empowered Society”, as of 2026, As of 2026, it has evolved basic connective mission into a comprehensive ecosystem powering everything from AI Innovation and Financial Inclusion. This Digital India Programme built on three core vision areas, they are Digital Infrastructure like ensuring High speed internet,

Digital India in Viksit Bharat@2047:

Digital India in Viksit Bharat@2047 focus on four key thrust areas, they are as following ;

1. **Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI):** Platforms like Aadhaar, UPI, and Digi Locker are seen as *digital public goods* that connect government and citizens, enabling transparency and efficiency.
2. **Connectivity & Access:** India already has 1.2 billion mobile subscribers, near-universal 4G, and rapid 5G rollout. However, rural areas and women face significant digital exclusion, which must be addressed to achieve inclusivity.
3. **Economic Impact:** A 10% increase in broadband penetration can boost GDP by 1.5%. Thus, digital infrastructure is treated as a *production input* rather than a luxury.
4. **Innovation & Fintech:** Digital India supports fintech adoption, e-governance, and technology-driven development, aligning with climate action and energy transition goals.

Social Sector Priorities in Viksit Bharat@2047

Social Sector main priorities in Viksit Bharat@2047 are ;

1. **Zero Poverty:** The vision emphasizes complete eradication of poverty by 2047.
2. **Education:** Universal access to *high-quality school education* and skill development for 100% of the workforce.
3. **Healthcare:** Affordable, comprehensive healthcare for all citizens.
4. **Women Empowerment:** Target of 70% women participation in economic activities.
5. **Employment:** Ensuring meaningful jobs for all skilled labour, integrating social empowerment with economic growth.
6. **Agriculture:** Farmers positioned to make India the *food basket of the world*

Table-1: Comparison: Digital India vs Social Sector in Viksit Bharat@2047:

Goals/ Aspects	Digital India (Technology)	Social Sector (Welfare)
Core Goal	Build digital infrastructure & innovation	Ensure equitable access to education, healthcare, jobs
Key Tools	DPI, UPI, Aadhaar, 5G, AI, fintech	Schools, hospitals, skill centers, welfare schemes
Challenges	Rural digital divide, affordability paradox	Poverty eradication, gender gap, healthcare access
Economic Impact	Boost GDP via digital economy	Strengthen human capital & social equity
Vision by 2047	Tech-driven governance & economy	Inclusive, empowered, and healthy society

Above Table-1, we can the compare of Digital India and Social Sector, though both sectors indicate technology and welfare. Both sectors having different goals and aspects in the achievement of Viksit Bharat@2047.

Synergy of Digital India and Social Sector:

The true strength of *Viksit Bharat@2047* lies in the synergy between Digital India and the Social Sector. Digital platforms can deliver education and healthcare to remote areas, empower women through financial inclusion, and provide farmers with real-time market data. Conversely, a strong social sector ensures that citizens are prepared to leverage digital opportunities, creating a virtuous cycle of growth and empowerment.

In the Indian Economy, Service Sector is the main and fastest growing sector, play the Crucial Role in Digital India, in the Year 2023-24, Service Sector contribution to Indian GDP is 54.4%. Key sub-sectors include Information Technology(IT) which is the major sub sector in service sector with accounting 7.5% to India's GDP and Business Processing Outsourcing (BPO) is the one of the important segment estimated have reached \$ 181 billion in 2018-19, Tele Communications, Health Care, Education and Tourism and Hospitality, Financial Services, Real Estate, Banking, Business Services, Tele communications, Trade and Transport and Government and Social Services etc. It provides employment for 30% of total work force of India. Service Sector is the Key sector, which will play crucial and deciding role in achieving the 'Viksit Bharat'. Major issues in Indian Service sector include skill gaps, inadequate infrastructure and a complex regulatory

environment. Additionally, the service sector faces challenges with jobless growth. There is significant gap between skills of workforce and the demands of modern service industries especially in High-Tech areas. Despite a large youth population, a lack of industrial-relevant skills and insufficient opportunities contribute to youth unemployment. Some sectors particularly Small and Medium Enterprises struggle to retain skilled workers due to low wages and poor working conditions leading to brain drain and low-quality output. In Physical infrastructure, inadequate transportation and logistics network leads to higher costs and delays in service delivery, particularly in remote and rural areas. Another issue in Digital Infrastructure is limited high-speed internet penetration in certain regions and concerns about cyber security hinder the growth of digital services. One more issue in service sector is technology adoption, in this many service sectors outside of IT lag in adopting new technologies for efficiency and Competitiveness. Though service sector contribute to highest share to GDP, but it has not generated correspond level of employment, leading to 'Jobless Growth'.

In Governance, Regulatory and Policy Environment Issues, in this businesses face challenges from complex, frequently changing regulations that can create obstacles. Unlike manufacturing sector, in service sector, there is no single, coherent national service policy leading to a lack of uniform reform and development across sectors. Another major issue is digital privacy concerns over data privacy and security are growing in the digital age and navigating data protection laws is significant challenge. Service-led growth concentrated in urban areas, leading to regional disparities and underdevelopment in rural and backward areas. India's service exports, particularly IT and BPO's are heavily depended on global markets, making the Indian economy vulnerable to external shocks.

Challenges in Viksit Bharat@2047 and Digital India:

There are four main challenges in Digital India and Viksit Bharat@2047, they are as following;

1. **Digital Divide:** Rural and marginalized groups risk exclusion unless infrastructure is designed inclusively.
2. **Affordability Paradox:** While data costs are low, monthly expenses remain burdensome for the bottom 50%.
3. **Implementation Gaps:** Achieving 100% education and healthcare coverage requires massive investment and governance reforms.
4. **Gender Inequality:** Bridging the digital and economic participation gap for women is critical.

Viksit Bharat@2047 integrates 'Digital India's technological revolution' with 'social sector empowerment' to create a holistic model of development. The success of this vision depends on bridging digital divides, ensuring universal welfare access, and leveraging technology for inclusive growth. This Digital India Programme built on three core vision areas, they are Digital Infrastructure like ensuring High speed internet, Unique Digital Identity (Adhaar) and Secure Storage (Digi Locker) are available every citizen. In Governance and Services, integrating services across the Departments and making available them in real-time and Digital Empowerment of Citizens, focusing on Universal Digital Literacy and making digital resources available in all Indian Languages. To achieve its vision, i.e., Viksit Bharat@ 2047, it operates Nine specific focus areas they are, Broadband Highways (via Bharat Net), Universal Access to Mobile Connectivity, Public Internet Access Programme, e-Governance, e-Kranti (e-Education, E-Healthcare, e-Courts), Information to all (MyGov), Electronic Manufacturing, IT for Jobs and Early Harvest Programmes. Through this Digital India Programme, India would be successfully transforms our society into Digital and Developed Society into upcoming 22 years and it is so much helpful to achieve the Viksit Bharat by the Centenary Year of Independence i.e., 2047.

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