VISIONIAS
INSPIRING INNOVATION

India
75
AND BEYOND

Delhi   Jaipur   Hyderabad   Pune   Ahmedabad   Lucknow   Chandigarh   Guwahati

Introduction

उत्तरंयत्समुद्रस्यहिमाद्रेश्चैवदक्षिणम्।
वर्षंतद्भारतंनामभारतीयत्रसंततिः।।

uttaram yatsamudrasya himādreścaiva daksinam
varsam tadbhāratam nāma bhāratī yatra santatih

i.e., The country that lies north of the ocean and south of the snowy mountains is called Bhāratam (Bharata Varsha); there dwell the descendants of Bharata.

- Vishnu Purana (2.3.1)

India, that is Bharat, is **not** just a **piece of land** but a **symbol of historical civilization** with **deep socio-cultural roots.** From the times of **Indus Valley Civilization,** it has flourished and has had links across the world. This prosperity attracted one and all, including the British Empire. The British empire colonized the sub-continent for about 200 years, leaving it poorer and globally less significant. For instance, India's share in global GDP decreased from 22.6% in 1700 to 3% in 1947.

India **awoke to life and freedom** at midnight on **August 15, 1947.** It pledged **to bring people of India together** and **remove the socio-economic hardships** from life of every Indian by creating shared prosperity. It also provided an opportunity to reclaim India's voice in the world and influence global views.

The 75th year of India's independence presents an occasion to look back on how much **difference** has been **made to the life of every Indian** and **how much of its past glory is revived.** It also provides an occasion to **define future aspirations,** especially when India is on the cusp of becoming the **most populous nation in the world.**

To take stock of 75 years of India's Independence and chart out a future course, it is important to understand what has been India's approach and its achievements in the last 75 years? What are the factors limiting India's achievements? What roadmap can be adopted to create a developed, proud, united and a duty-bound India@100?

What has been India's approach and its achievements in last 75 years?

Over the last 75 years, India's policy approach is guided by aspirations to **reinforce its civilizational strengths, cultural diversity, and people's efforts** to achieve prosperity and make India an inspiration for the rest of the world. It can be better understood through India's actual approach and achievements in various fields as given below:

Field	Policy Approach	Achievement
Polity	It follows the core of **Indian Constitution:** ❖ **Sovereign Socialist Secular Democratic Republic;** ❖ **Separation of power** between executive, legislature and the judiciary; ❖ **Parliamentary form of Government** with a **federal structure;** ❖ **Welfare State** to protect **unity and integrity** of India.	Largely untouched core of Indian Constitution despite events like imposition of emergency and phases of political instability. In fact, the core has further strengthened to: ❖ Establishment of **Panchayats and Municipalities.** ❖ **The Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996.** ❖ **Expansion of Fundamental Rights** via Right to Privacy etc.
Economy	❖ Started with the **Mixed Economic Model** under **Industrial Policy Resolution, 1948** promoting Government Monopolies, License, Quota and Permit (LQP) systems and limitations on Foreign Funds. ❖ **New Industrial Policy, 1991** changed it to **Liberalization, Privatization and Globalization** (LPG) etc.	Over the years, India has embraced secular economic growth with: ❖ **Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of ₹147.36 lakh crore in 2021-22 from ₹2.79 lakh crore** in 1950-51 (at constant prices). ❖ **Foreign Trade rising from $2.54 billion in 1950-51 to over $1426 billion** in 2021-22. ❖ **Forex Reserves** rose from **₹911 crore** in 1950-51 to **₹45,42,615 crore** (as on August 5, 2022). ❖ **Self-sufficiency** in foodgrains etc.
People and Society	Being a **secular and welfare state**, the Constitution of India guides state approach towards people and society through: ❖ **Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity.** ❖ **Set of Fundamental Rights** such as **Right to Equality, Right to Education, Right to Privacy etc.** ❖ **Universal Adult Franchise etc.**	❖ **Significant improvement in health indicators** (IMR, MMR, Life Expectancy etc.). E.g. Life Expectancy rising to **70.8 years** in **2020** from **31 years** in **1950**. ❖ **Increased Educational Infrastructure and Literacy.** E.g., Literacy rate of **77.7%** in **2017-18** from **18.3%** in **1951**. ❖ **Reduced poverty levels** with increased access to **bare necessities,** i.e., **water, sanitation, housing, micro-environment, and other facilities.** ❖ **Rising women empowerment** and participation of lower castes/tribes in **political, economic,** and **social sphere.**

Field	Policy Approach	Achievement
Foreign Policy	As a force of Global Good, India works for International peace and a just international order while preserving its strategic autonomy through pillars and policies such as: ❖ **5S:Samaan** (Respect), **Samvaad** (Dialogue), **Sahyog** (Cooperation), **Shanti** (Peace) and **Samriddhi** (Global Prosperity); ❖ **Indian in Thought** (Middle Path) with **Multipolar Focus**, ❖ Act as an **international force multiplier**, ❖ **Policies such as Neighborhood First, Act East Policy (for Southeast Asia), Look West (for West Asia).**	While permanent membership of **United Nations Security Council (UNSC)** is still elusive, India plays its role in international peace and just international order by: ❖ Helping other **African and Asian nations in liberation.** ❖ **Protection of strategic autonomy of 3rd world** through **Non-Aligned Movement.** ❖ Promotion of **South-South Cooperation.** ❖ **Building Global Partnership** for **Sustainable Development** such as **Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation.** ❖ Member of most of the **major multilateral forums** such as **G20, BRICS, QUAD** for rules-based order.
Science and Technology	Key to **economic and social success**, India's Science and Technology policies are guided by: ❖ **Capacity Building** (institutions and manpower with special focus on gender equality). ❖ **Development of Indigenous technologies** with special focus on emerging sectors. ❖ **Promotion of Science and Technology** and its **cross-sectoral applications** for development, national security and supporting grass-roots development for weaker sections, women and other disadvantaged sections. ❖ Spread **Science among masses** for scientific temper.	Driven by multiple institutions, inter-ministerial collaborations and schemes, India: ❖ Ranks 3rd in **Scientific Publication** and **number of PhDs; 46th in Global Innovation Index.** ❖ It has **3rd largest pharmaceutical sector** and is among top **IT product exporters globally.** ❖ **1st Asian country** to send successful missions to **Mars** and launched a **record 104 satellites** on **PSLV-C37** in a single mission. ❖ **Successful indigenous programmes and technologies such as nuclear programme, supercomputing mission, cryogenic engines, atomic clocks, Hydrogen fuel cell** etc. for self-reliance.

Legislations that shaped India

- **Giving foundation to democracy - Representation of the People Acts 1950 and 1951:** While the 1950 Act laid down the procedure and machinery for preparing electoral rolls and demarcating constituencies, the 1951 Act did the same for conducting elections.

- **Reforming Hindu customs – Hindu Marriage Act 1955 and Hindu Succession Act 1956:** The acts collectively improved social position of women by outlawing polygamy, introducing the concept of divorce, and conferring full ownership in family property.

- **Redrawing the political map: The seventh Constitutional amendment** enacted in 1956 introduced the concepts of linguistic states and Union territories, both of which have stood the test of time.

- **Taking on untouchability - Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989:** Despite the poor record of their enforcement, this law explicitly recognizes the discrimination and violence that the community faces and provides them a dedicated legal recourse to deal with it.

- **Protection and Conservation- Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 and Forest Conservation Act, 1980:** These acts collectively created a conservation ecosystem for India in the form of National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries etc. They have also acted as a base for programs like Project Tiger, conservation programmes for critically endangered species etc.

- **Removing the veil of secrecy- Right to Information Act, 2005:** The law has improved the transparency in the system and in turn has increased the accountability in the ecosystem. RTI is acknowledged as one of the most progressive transparency legislations in the world.

- **Welfare with positive externalities – Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005:** The job guarantee scheme not only generates employment but creates positive externalities by creation of local assets, improved purchasing power among others.

Landmark Judgements

- **A.K.Gopalan V. State of Madras [1950] and Maneka Gandhi v. Union of India [1978]:** These cases laid the foundation for usage of Law of Personal Liberty in India. It established that the procedure established by law must be fair, just and reasonable.

- **His Holiness Kesavananda Bharati Sripadagalavaru v. State of Kerala [1973]:** It stated that although no part of the Constitution was beyond the Parliament's amending power, the "basic structure of the Constitution" could not be abrogated even by a constitutional amendment.

- **Public Interest Litigation- Mumbai Kamgar Sabha, Bombay [1976]:** It highlighted that representative actions, pro bono publico (professional work undertaken voluntarily and without payment) and like broadened forms of legal proceedings are in keeping with the current accent on justice.

- **Shah Bano's Case [1985]:** Granting of maintenance under Section 125 of Code of Criminal Procedure (Cr.P.C.) against previous precedent, thus creating a milestone in the journey of Gender Justice.

- **Indra Sawhney v. Union of India and others [1993]:** The propositions of 50% threshold in reservations, the bar against reservations in certain types of posts and the exclusion of 'creamy layer' were propounded in this case.

- **S. R. Bommai v. Union of India [1994]:** In this judgement, the SC attempted to curb the blatant misuse of Article 356 of the Constitution of India, which allowed President's rule to be imposed in States.

- **National Legal Services Authority v. Union of India & Ors. [2014]:** Recognition of Transgender Persons as a Third Gender and above binary genders under our Constitution and the laws.

- **Navtej Singh Johar v. Union of India [2018]:** It removed Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) thus decriminalizing homosexuality.

What are the factors limiting India's achievements?

India is among few exceptional nations of the world outside the developed countries with so many achievements. But in terms of its size, talent and overall potential it is limited due to various factors such as:
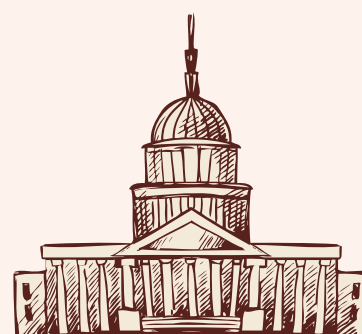
❖ **Misuse of power and issues in functioning of Political Parties:** The imposition of National Emergency in 1975 highlighted the vulnerability of the Indian Constitution to authoritarian regime. Exploitation of these vulnerabilities can be seen in following areas-

▸ Misuse of Article 356 (used over 125 times) to remove state governments.

▸ Interference from Centre in State Affairs through Governor's office, undermining duly elected state government (federalism).

▸ Political parties in India faces issues of:

◇ Non-transparent election funding (₹15,078 crore in 15 years to national parties).

◇ Criminalization of Politics (MPs with criminal cases increasing from 24% in 2004 to 43% in 2019).

◇ Growing politics of defection, sectarian politics etc.; undermining Indian Democracy.
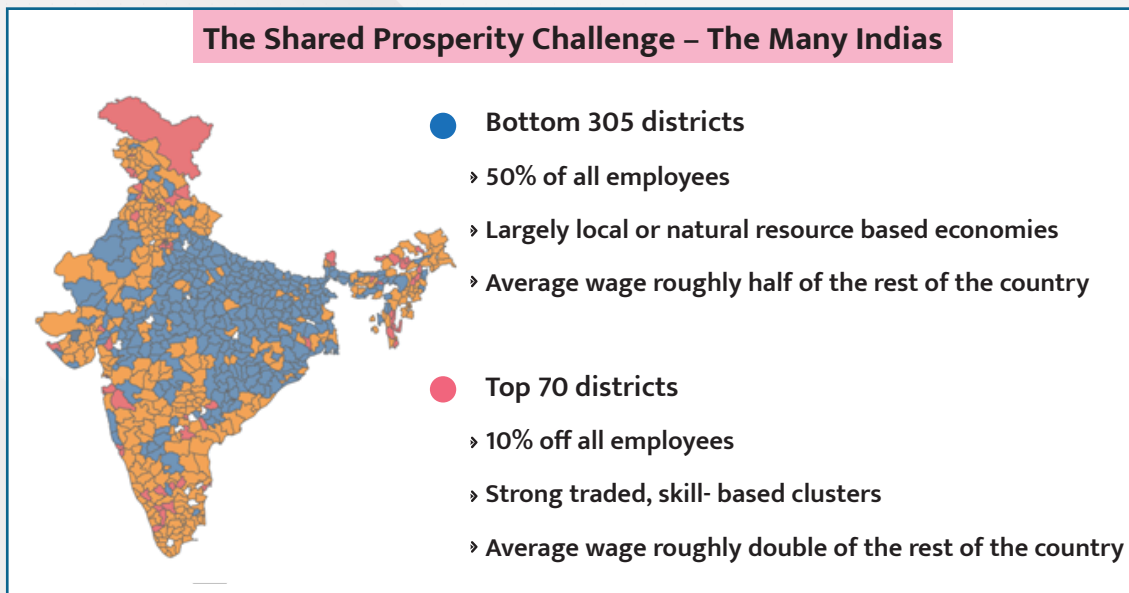
How have Indian Institutions fared since independence?

Indian institutions have been built on its British heritage and therefore legal context of Indian administration, generalist character of civil services, secretariat system, office procedures, management of districts, revenue administration, police system, reorganization of judiciary, rule of law, budgeting, accounting, auditing and a number of other structural and functional areas have their roots in British rule.

However, since independence these institutions are keeping up with the demands of a rapidly evolving economy and are adjusting to the needs and requirements of the citizens:

▪ **From restricted autonomy to autonomy with assertive leadership of Election Commission** to bringing inclusiveness, rule of law, efficiency, and accountability of the election process.

▪ **From a tight separation of power to a pro-active role of Supreme Court** for safeguarding rights and privileges of citizens, in consequence of and response to inefficiencies and weaknesses in executive, as and when required.

▪ **From a law and order and regulatory focus towards welfare and development** by administrative system.

▪ **From a centralised system to popular participation in administration, particularly of development,** occurs through the panchayati raj institutions, municipal governments, cooperatives and voluntary organisations.

▪ **From the developmental (especially agriculture) and building financial infrastructure role to core central banking** functions like Monetary Policy, Bank Supervision and Regulation etc by RBI.

▪ **From state-led regulation of industry to growth of independent regulatory agencies** like Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) in telecommunication, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) in shares and stock exchanges, etc.
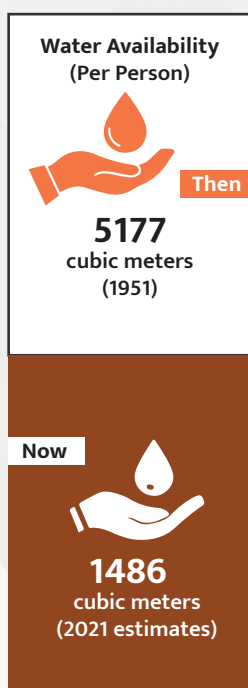
- ❖ **Lack of Good Governance:** India ranks 52nd in Chandler Good Government Index with major negatives of corruption, lack of transparency, poor rule of law, high deficit, etc. This is largely due to:
  - ▸ **Poor Implementation of laws** such as Right to Information, Prevention of Corruption Act, Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Act etc.
  - ▸ **Lack of Code of Ethics** to guide Civil Servants, Restricted and inefficient devolution of Funds, Functions and Functionaries to local governments.
- ❖ **Overburdened and opaque Judiciary:** India has a strong and independent judiciary to ensure protection and welfare of the people. But it suffers from various issues such as:
  - ▸ **Huge pendency of cases** with lack of manpower, infrastructure, and funds,
  - ▸ **Lack of transparency** (e.g., in judges appointment) and corruption,
  - ▸ **Outdated laws** with unclear definitions and low legal awareness among people.
- ❖ **Economic Constraints and Regional Disparities:** Though India has emerged as 5th largest economy, it ranks 144th in GDP (nominal) per capita with:
  - ▸ **Agriculture as the biggest employer** even after 75 years of independence.
  - ▸ **Lower investment in human capital formation** and lack of large-scale formal/vocational training.
  - ▸ **Large Informal Sector** leading to lack of job security, social protection etc.
  - ▸ **Poor competitiveness of exports** due to high logistics cost, low productivity etc. leading to trade deficit.
  - ▸ **High Subsidy burden** due to populist schemes despite high fiscal deficit.
  - ▸ **High Regional Disparities** in growth and development. E.g. As per National Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI), MPI in Kerala was 0.71% while it was 51.91% in Bihar.

The Shared Prosperity Challenge – The Many Indias

🔵 **Bottom 305 districts**
  › 50% of all employees
  › Largely local or natural resource based economies
  › Average wage roughly half of the rest of the country

🔴 **Top 70 districts**
  › 10% off all employees
  › Strong traded, skill- based clusters
  › Average wage roughly double of the rest of the country

- ❖ **Visible Caste, Class, and Gender Divides:** While access to bare necessities and other essentials for a dignified life has increased (education, health, clean cooking fuel, electricity etc.), but the Indian society faces multiple deficiencies such as:
  - ▸ **Poor Quality of Education:** Despite rising literacy rate, the overall educational outcomes are not encouraging due to quality issues. E.g., poor learning outcomes, only 27.1% Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education and only 46.2% of graduates being employable.
  - ▸ **Dismal Health Outcomes:** India ranks 101 out of 116 in Global Hunger Index with 15.3% population being undernourished, 17.3% under 5 age children wasted, and 34.7% under 5 age children stunted.

▶ **High Gender Gap:** As per Global Gender Gap Index, India ranks 135 among 146 countries due to low participation of women in the workforce, lower literacy and access to quality education and Poor Health and Survival due to problems of discrimination.

▶ **Higher Poverty and Inequality among Lower Castes and Tribes:** As per Global MPI, 5 out of 6 multi-dimensionally poor in India belong to lower castes or tribes due to lack of resource ownership, social discrimination, poor access to health and quality education, low social mobility etc.

❖ **Multiple Internal and External Security Threats:** India faces multiple external and internal security threats such as:

▶ **External Security Threats:** It includes hostile neighborhood (China and Pakistan) leading to unsettled borders and state-sponsored terrorism, high energy import dependence, growing militarization of space, threats to rules-based global order, freedom of navigation, cyber attacks, growing competition for scarce resources etc.

▶ **Internal Security Threats:** It includes militancy, insurgency in Northeast, Left-Wing Extremism (Naxalism), Communal Violence, regionalism, organized crimes (human trafficking, money-laundering, Narco-terrorism etc.), sub-national bankruptcies, impact of climate change, water scarcity, unemployment etc.

❖ **Emerging threats to Sustainable Development:** India is the 3rd largest carbon dioxide emitter in the world, after China and USA. The growing urbanization and resource needs due to rising population and developmental needs has created multiple environmental issues such as:

▶ **Air Pollution, Water Pollution, Noise Pollution, Water Scarcity, Deforestation, Increased Natural Hazards risk** (e.g., forest fires, landslides), **High Municipal Solid Waste production, Loss of biodiversity and other natural resources.** E.g. As per World Air Quality Report (2021), India is home to 63 of the 100 most polluted cities.

Water Availability (Per Person)

Then

5177 cubic meters (1951)

Now

1486 cubic meters (2021 estimates)

10 INDIAN CITIES IN TOP 15 MOST POLLUTED PLACES

GLOBAL RANK	COUNTRY	STATE	CITY
1	India	Rajasthan	Bhiwadi
2	India	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
3	China	Xinjiang	Hotan
4	India	Delhi	Delhi
5	India	Uttar Pradesh	Jaunpur
6	Pakistan	Punjab	Faisalabad
7	India	Uttar Pradesh	Noida
8	Pakistan	Punjab	Bahawalpur
9	Pakistan	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Peshawar
10	India	Uttar Pradesh	Bagpat
11	India	Haryana	Hisar
12	India	Haryana	Faridabad
13	India	Uttar Pradesh	Greater Noida
14	India	Haryana	Rohtak
15	Pakistan	Punjab	Lahore

❖ **Inability to utilize India's soft power:** Despite being the oldest civilizational nation with rich cultural legacy and diverse ecological system, India has achieved limited success to build 'Brand India'. E.g.

▶ India ranks 54th in Global Travel and Tourism Development Index.

▶ Indian art and crafts share in the global market is still considerably low despite its rich cultural heritage and skillful craft persons, including tribes.

❖ **Lack of Research and Innovation Culture:** Though India has a rich legacy of medicine, mathematics, astronomy, metallurgy, architecture etc., today it lacks the culture of research and innovation due to:

▶ **Low spending on Research and Development** (0.7% of GDP or $43 per Capita, as per NITI Aayog's India Innovation Index 2021).

▶ **Lack of training and motivation** from teachers at school for basic research.

▶ **Greater focus on theory based learning** rather than hands-on-learning.

❖ **Distrust in Media and Civil Society:** Due to lack of objectivity, media trials, secrecy of funding, corporatization of media and civil society, the trust in Media and Civil Society is on decline. Add to that, the problems of attacks on honest journalists, activists etc. creates a vacuum in integral and honest journalism.

Where do we stand?: Comparing India with other nations after 75 years of independence

Indicator	India	Comparison
Population	India's population grew more than 3 times between 1960 and 2021.	India's population is now catching up with China (most populous country). With majority of the countries experiencing 1.5-2 times rise in their population.
Human Development Index (HDI)	India's HDI improved from 0.11 in 1950 to 0.64 in 2019.	Despite the progress in absolute terms, its ranking has consistently dropped. Two comparable countries — Indonesia and Saudi Arabia have surpassed India.
GDP Per Capita	India's GDP per capita increased about 28 times from 1960s to 2021.	For developed countries, this figure has remained around 25 but when compared to developing countries, India has underperformed. For instance, China's per capita income increased by 141 times from 1960s to 2021.
Infant Mortality Rate (IMR)	India's IMR improved from 161.8 in 1960 to 27 in 2020.	Although, there has been significant improvement in absolute numbers, peers like Turkey, Bangladesh and Egypt have surpassed India with IMR less than 25.

Path to a developed nation: Not there, yet not far.

Vinay: Hey Vini, do you know that India is aspiring to be a developed country by 2047?

Vini: That's wonderful. But can India achieve and sustain the high growth rate required for it?

Vinay: Well, India has progressed quite a lot in the last 75 years of independence to become the world's 5th largest economy.

Vini: Is that enough to become a developed country?

Vinay: Not quite. But in those 75 years it has created a strong industrial base, infrastructure and made investment in human capital to become a high-income country.

Vini: Sounds good. But we still have a high percentage of the population living in poverty, along with issues of unemployment, informal economy, limited technological innovation among others.

Vinay: Yes, that is true. But the government has taken various initiatives to address these issues and stimulated innovation to build a better India.

Vini: That sounds encouraging. I hope the benefits of these initiatives reach all sections and regions of the society.

Vinay: Yes. I also hope for the same. Bringing prosperity and happiness in life of all is essential for sustainable development.

Vini: Right. I will also work hard and contribute my bit to building the nation.

Vinay: Yes Vini. I think as a citizen it is our responsibility. May the force be with us.
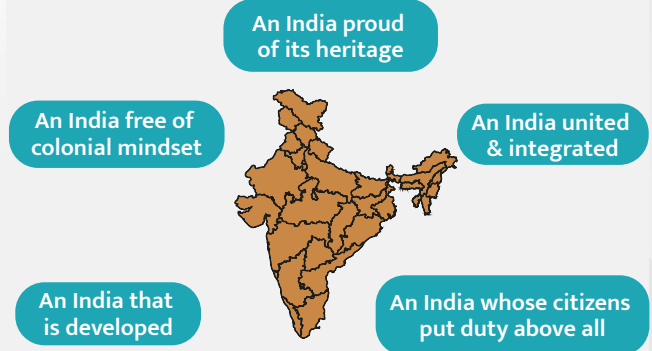
India@100: Roadmap for a Developed, Proud, United and Duty-bound India

An aspirational India which overcomes these limitations and realizes its potential will require 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikaas, Sabka Vishwaas and Sabka Prayaas'.

Giving a direction to India's aspirations and dreams for 2047, from the ramparts of the Red Fort, the PM urged people to take five pledges in the next 25 years, popularly called the 'Amrit Kaal'.

Following aspirations and the associated efforts needed would determine the trajectory of India@100-

An India proud of its heritage

An India free of colonial mindset

An India united & integrated

An India that is developed

An India whose citizens put duty above all

India @100: 5 Pledges for Citizens

❖ **Political Leadership for a leading nation:** Political Leadership plays a key role in policymaking and allocation of resources to keep a country physically, economically, and socially safe. Being a democracy, India needs honest, intelligent, confident, yet humble leadership at all levels.

Current Measures for Accountability of Political Leadership

▶ **Electoral Reforms such** as- **Disqualification of convicted MP/MLAs, Introduction of NOTA (None Of The Above) in EVMs, VVPAT (Voter-verified paper audit trail) and electoral bonds for political funding** etc.

▶ **Deletion of non-existent registered unrecognized political parties** by Election Commission of India (ECI).

▶ Supreme Court to review **rationale behind freebies** which are pushing State Governments towards Bankruptcy for free and fair elections.

Further Measures to be taken in Amrit Kaal

In next 25 years, India needs greater political and electoral reforms for better, healthier and improved democracy such as:

▶ Strengthening of **Model Code of Conduct and empowering election commission.**

▶ **Greater financial transparency** through proper monitoring of expenditure or State Funding for free, fair and credible elections.

▶ **Promotion of team-work** between centre and states/UTs (Cooperative and Competitive Federalism). This becomes more critical as in next few years India **will likely see delimitation of constituencies** as the freeze on constituencies ends in **2026.**

▶ **Exploring accountability measures** for elected representatives. E.g. **Right to Recall** to punish non-performance.

▶ Improving voting percentage through **greater accessibility, ease of enrolment** etc. for **inclusive elections.**

▶ Ensure **independent media and civil society** to strengthen democracy.

Towards Strengthened Indian Federalism

Over the last decade, India has seen a range of policy choices and initiatives that have deepened India's federal character.

Most fundamentally, the changes made in 2015-16 based on the **recommendations of the Fourteenth Finance Commission,** creation of **NITI Aayog** as a Think Tank replacing the Planning Commission and establishment of the **GST Council to deliberate and jointly take decisions.**

Although, these efforts have ignited several initiatives like the Aspirational District Programme, they face some major challenges including fragmented action and limited resources. These challenges and the associated vision for India's federal structure have been adequately summed up below.

Current Challenges	India@100
○ No clear division of labour in areas of concurrent policy authority	○ Union government provides information, incentives, and tools
○ Rising fiscal space for states not systematically matched with rising capacity	○ State (and regional) governments design strategies that deploy central and own tools and resources
○ Lack of effective entities below the state level	○ Regional and especially metropolitan government entities are strengthened

Heterogeneity as a challenge	▶	Heterogeneity as an Advantage

To achieve this vision, the Prime Minister called for a **"Competitive Cooperative Federalism"** strategy.

Cooperative Federalism signifies a horizontal relationship between the Centre and the States. This means the two entities cooperate and tackle shared issues to serve the larger public interest. On the other hand, **Competitive Federalism**, professes a vertical relationship between the States and the Central government while states compete among themselves.

Cooperative and Competitive Federalism, when seen in combination provides the best of both worlds. It creates synergy between Centre and States, taking forward the **idea of One Government** and at the same time, it encourages **competition among states driving efficiency, optimization, and innovation.**

❖ **Good Governance as a bedrock to development:** Governance system of a country plays an important role in policymaking, its regulatory framework and adherence to Rule of Law. The regulatory framework and rule of law in turn influence every aspect of people's life from protecting their socio-politico-economic rights to creation of opportunities.

GOOD GOVERNANCE

- Consensus oriented
- Accountable
- Transparent
- Responsive
- Equitable and inclusive
- Effective and Efficient
- Follows the rule of law
- Participatory

Current Measures for Good Governance

▸ **Right to Information Act, 2005** for transparency and accountability.

▸ **Citizens Charter** for participatory and responsive service delivery.

▸ **Use of Information and Communication Technology** for equitable, inclusive, efficient and effective governance. E.g. **Common Service Centres** under **National e-Governance Plan (NeGP).**

▸ **Engagement of Civil Society** and **people in** decision making for participatory and consensus-oriented governance. E.g. Gram Sabhas under Panchayati Raj Institutions.

▸ **Mission Karmayogi** for capacity building of government employees for excellence in action (**Yogah Karmasu Kaushalam**, motto of Indian Administrative Service) to improve productivity and maximize results.

CIVIL SERVANT
- Imaginative & Innovative
- Proactive & Polite
- Creative & Constructive
- Professional & Progressive
- Transparent & Tech-enabled
- Energetic & Enabling

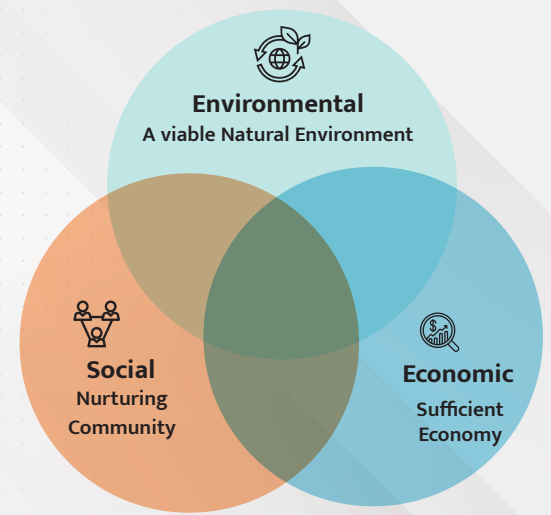## Further Measures to be taken in Amrit Kaal

In next 25 years, citizen-centric and future ready administration becomes critical to end corruption, inequalities, unemployment etc. in India and ensure proper implementation of current measures through:

▸ **Effective delegation of funds, functions** and **functionaries** to local governments.

▸ **Promoting values of empathy and Social Intelligence** to ensure that decision-makers understand the needs of all sections of society.

▸ **Replace Silos of governance through convergence** to promote Ease of Doing Business.

▸ **Promote Performance and Accountability** for citizen-centricity and Ease of Living for common man.

▸ **Remove political interference** in functioning of institutions like RBI, Bureaucracy, Police, Investigative Agencies etc. As Thiruvalluvar said- "The enemies cannot destroy the king who has at his service the respect and friendship of the wise men who can find fault, disagree, and correct him."

❖ **Sustainable Development is development that matters:** Starting with an immediate goal of a $5 trillion economy, in Amrit Kaal India will see targets of $10 trillion and around $20 trillion or more by 2047. The demographic potential will peak by 2041 and urbanization will reach around 50% by 2050. At the same time, it will see India's success towards achieving SDGs by 2030, its Nationally Determined Contributions to Paris Agreement and steps to achieve Net Zero Target by 2070; highlighting the need for sustainable development for an efficient, inclusive and resilient development.

Environmental
A viable Natural Environment

Social
Nurturing Community

Economic
Sufficient Economy

Current Measures for Sustainable Development

▸ Ratification of Paris Agreement with updated Nationally Determined Contributions, Clean Development Projects etc.

▸ National Clean Air Programme (2019), Coal Tax, Ban on "Single Use Plastics" etc. to control pollution

▸ Increased investment in renewable energy to promote clean fuels from solar to hydrogen

Further Measures to be taken in Amrit Kaal

▸ **Universalist outlook** with strengthening of local environmental laws, rules etc. to work for Net Zero Target

▸ **Effective management of contradictions** through cooperative, consultative and inclusive approach for inclusive society

▸ **Self-reliant economy** to utilize India's economic and demographic potential through competitiveness, regulatory reforms etc.

❖ **Making Society Equal and Equitable:** Niti with Nyaya is an important requirement for just society and to overcome current inequalities and inequity. It requires removing specific social injustices and deprivations through affirmative actions.

Current Measures for Social Issues

Education

▸ New Education Policy (2020) and Schemes for Affordable and Quality Education for All

Health

▸ National Health Policy (2017) with Ayushman Bharat and other initiatives for comprehensive healthcare and wellness

Further measures to be taken in Amrit Kaal

Education

▸ Improve Education infrastructure with skills for formal jobs and entrepreneurship with special focus on women/SCs/STs

Health

▸ Achieve Public Health Expenditure target of 2.5% of GDP for better Healthcare Infrastructure, facilities, safety for health workers and values-based healthcare

Standard of Living

- Universal access to drinking water, sanitation etc. through Har Ghar Jal. Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, PM Ujjwala Yojana, PM Awas Yojana, Saubhagya scheme etc.

Standard of Living

- Ensure efficiency and effectiveness of Social Transfers to address hidden inequalities within families and sections like transgenders, Persons with Disability etc.

❖ **Technology as a transformer:** In the last few decades, emerging technologies have become an important tool for efficiency, effectiveness and building a better India. It is visible across sectors like Education, Healthcare, Agriculture and other sectors, with start-ups and technology enterprises supported by the Government with need for certain steps to address issues of privacy, security and risks of job loss.

Current Measures for Transformation through Technology

- National e-Governance Plan to improve delivery of Government services to citizens and businesses.
- Digital India to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy.
- Other initiatives such as Startup India, Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM), Swayam initiative for Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) etc.

Further Measures to be taken in Amrit Kaal

- Have a Data Protection Law to protect the right to privacy and responsible use of data.
- Human-centered approach to align business models with societal priorities.
- Startups for Rural India to ensure that the benefits reach the remotest locations and to the neediest of all.
- Embracing new technologies like Blockchain, Web 3.0, 5G, Artificial Intelligence etc. early and by providing it a conducive environment to flourish.

❖ **Taking Global Leadership:** As India emerges on the global map, its responsibilities also become global. The changing global order, rising geostrategic challenges and growing political influence of India demands India to:

- **Emerge as Regional Leader** by becoming a **Net Security Provider** in the **Indian Ocean Region**, especially due to fragile states in the region.
- **Expand India's Strategic Reach** into the Pacific and beyond to become a **Responsible Global Power** building bridges among nations. It requires **self-dependence** in **defence capabilities** for modernized armed forces and cooperation with others.

> "To embrace the whole world in friendship is wisdom. This wisdom is not changeable like the flowers that bloom and fade."
>
> - Thiruvalluvar

❖ **Taking Pride and learning from India's Heritage:** A country becomes great when people take pride in it and its character. As the oldest living civilization and birthplace of democracy, we should work on the socio-educational system which takes pride in India and its civilization. To enable this, Indian thought and philosophies can be integrated to enrich the social, economic and educational ecosystem.

> **"The philosophy of the school room in one generation will be the philosophy of government in the next."**
>
> **- Abraham Lincoln**

Conclusion

75 years may be a very short time in the life of a nation, but it is a long time from a human life span perspective. The efforts from Indian people in the next 25 years shouldn't be just limited to an **Aatma Nirbhar Bharat** but to emerge as a **hub of knowledge and innovation (Vishwa Guru).** It will help India to shape the **global order** towards the outlook of **Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam** and to meet evolving needs of **Mutual Sensitivity, Mutual Respect and Mutual Interests** for a united India and the world.

On completion of 75 years of Independence, the PM urged people to take 5 pledges (Panchpran) for every citizen for next 25 years (Amrit Kaal) for an:

| India which is Developed | India which is free of colonial mindset | India which is proud of its heritage | India which is united and Integrated | India where citizens put duty above all |

India's Approach

- **Polity:** Guided by Ideals of the Constitution for a democratic state with separation of power.
- **Economic:** An extension of Liberalization, Privatization and Globalization which replaced the License, Quota and Permit Ecosystem in 1991.
- **People and Society:** Welfare State with guaranteed fundamental rights.
- **Foreign Policy:** Working towards International peace and a just International Order.
- **Science and Technology:** Achieve Self-reliance and use it for benefit of all.

Achievements

- **Democracy reaching to grassroots** with expanding rights of citizens.
- **5th Largest Economy of the World** with growing foreign trade, high Forex reserves and self-sufficiency in foodgrains.
- **Improving Indicators** on Literacy, Health and poverty levels.
- **Member of major multilateral forums** with growing global partnerships and South-South Cooperation.
- **Growing scientific publications, innovations and self-reliance** through successful indigenous programmes and technologies.

Factors Limiting India's Achievements

- **Misuse of power and lack of transparency** in Political Parties.
- **Issues in Governance** due to declining ethics, poor implementation of laws etc. with **overburdened and opaque judiciary.**
- **Structural Issues in economy** leading to economic constraints and regional disparities.
- Visible **Caste, Class, and Gender Divides.**
- Multiple Internal and External **Security Threats.**
- **Emerging threats to Sustainable Development** in terms of pollution, deforestation etc.
- **Lack of Research and Innovation Culture** due to poor R&D spending and higher focus on theory-based learning.
- **Inability to utilize India's soft power** with growing distrust in Media and Civil Society

Roadmap for a Developed, Proud, United and Duty-bound India

- **Greater political and electoral reforms** for better, healthy and improved democracy.
- **Promote Good Governance** for citizen-centric administration.
- **Universalist outlook with local initiatives** to protect environment, manage contradictions and build a self-reliant economy for shared and sustainable prosperity.
- **Build an Equal and Equitable society** to overcome social injustices and deprivations through affirmative actions.
- **Utilize latest technologies** with human-centered approach for an efficient and inclusive India.
- **Become a regional leader and expand India's strategic outreach** to emerge as a Global Leader.

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