



# Building a Healthy Nation: The Healthcare Sector's Role in Viksit Bharat 2047"

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## Abstract

The Prime Minister (PM) unveiled "Viksit Bharat (VB)," an ambitious plan to turn the country into a developed nation by 2047, in a speech on Independence Day in 2022. It seeks to transform India into a highly developed, economically robust, and socially inclusive country. This study explores Viksit Bharat's many facets and the crucial tactics and laws needed to bring about this change. The document underscores noteworthy advancements in all sectors like sustainable energy, infrastructure development, and socio-economic initiatives, particularly emphasizing the healthcare sector to deliberate on the essential adjustments required to realize Viksit Bharat and a \$30 trillion economy. The Viksit Bharat vision, which encompasses a comprehensive vision for holistic development and aims to transform India into a prosperous, inclusive, and sustainable nation, is centered around reaching a \$30 trillion economy by 2047. The research examines India's distinct prospects within the framework of its technical breakthroughs, healthcare initiatives, innovations, and socioeconomic endeavors, along with the challenges and obstacles in the path of Viksit Bharat from the lens of the healthcare sector. The paper provides a strategic path for India by leveraging historical shifts. It highlights the hospital and healthcare sector's significant role in achieving Viksit Bharat's goal in 2047. This paper also highlights the major initiatives taken in the healthcare domain to contribute to this mission.

**Keywords:** Viksit Bharat, Healthcare sector, Hospital, healthcare innovations, Healthy Nation

## 1. Introduction

A focal point of India's developmental strategy in recent times, "Viksit Bharat 2047" aims to make the country a socially inclusive, economically thriving, and internationally acknowledged superpower by the country's centennial of independence. The healthcare industry is essential to this revolutionary vision because it helps create a productive and healthy population. The healthcare industry's contribution to "Viksit Bharat 2047" is complex; it includes developments in medical technology, regulatory changes, infrastructural improvements in the healthcare sector, and a prevention-focused strategy. This article explores the vital components of how India's healthcare system might propel the country's development towards developed status by 2047, identifying significant obstacles and suggesting tactical solutions.

Any country's healthcare system is based on its infrastructure for providing healthcare. Despite significant progress, there still needs to be a sizable disparity in the quantity and caliber of healthcare services in India, especially in remote and underdeveloped areas (Patel et al., 2021). This gap must be closed to achieve equitable health outcomes across the nation. Improving the infrastructure for healthcare entails not just building more facilities but also making sure they are easily accessible and run efficiently. Investments in mobile health units and telemedicine have the potential to revolutionize healthcare delivery by reaching even the most rural areas of India with high-quality treatment (Kumar & Nambiar, 2022).

Reforming policies is as important as guiding the healthcare industry toward Viksit Bharat 2047's objectives. By striving for financial security for the poor and universal health care, the Ayushman Bharat Project and the National Health Policy 2017 have created a strong basis (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, 2017). However, ongoing policy evolution is required to maintain and intensify these efforts. Emerging health issues, such as the increase of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and the effects of climate change on health, require

dynamic policy responses (Bhargava & Paul, 2019). A holistic approach to health and wellness can also be achieved by combining conventional healthcare with traditional and alternative medical systems like yoga and Ayurveda (Singh & Rana, 2020).

Technological developments have the potential to transform the Indian healthcare industry completely. More precise diagnoses, individualized treatments, and effective use of healthcare resources can result from the integration of artificial intelligence (AI), big data analytics, and the Internet of Things (IoT) (Sharma et al., 2023). Encouraging innovation in the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries is also essential for tackling issues related to public health and lowering reliance on foreign medical technologies.

The goal of a healthy country is further supported by preventive healthcare. Stressing preventative actions can significantly lower the incidence of disease and healthcare expenses. These include nutrition, immunization, and lifestyle changes (Joshi & Desai, 2021). Raising awareness about healthy living and early disease diagnosis requires the implementation of public health campaigns and education programs.

In summary, the healthcare industry is critical in realizing Viksit Bharat 2047. India can develop into a strong and resilient country by prioritizing its infrastructure development, implementing strict rules, utilizing technology innovations, and encouraging preventative healthcare. Realizing the ambition of a Viksit Bharat—where health and well-being are prioritized—will depend heavily on the combined efforts of the government, corporate sector, and civil society as India approaches its centennial.

## 2. Literature Review

Sharma et al. (2023) examined the potential of artificial intelligence (AI) and the Internet of Things (IoT) to enhance diagnostic precision, customize care, and efficiently manage resources in India's healthcare system. Kumar and Nambiar (2022) talked about how digital health tools like smartphone apps and teleconsultation platforms are enabling remote consultations and closing the gap between urban and rural healthcare in India. Joshi and Desai (2021) underlined the need of preventative healthcare in India, emphasizing lifestyle modifications, nutrition, and immunizations as crucial strategies to lower the burden of disease and medical expenses through early detection and public health initiatives. Patel et al. (2021) revealed enduring disparities in healthcare infrastructure, emphasizing the pressing need for telemedicine growth and investments in rural health facilities to guarantee fair access to care. Singh and Rana (2020) promoted the inclusion of ancient healthcare systems like Ayurveda and Yoga, highlighting its capacity to improve overall health and support contemporary medical procedures. Bhargava and Paul (2019) emphasized the growing health concerns that climate change poses in India and argued for flexible policies and strong medical responses to handle new issues like non-communicable diseases.

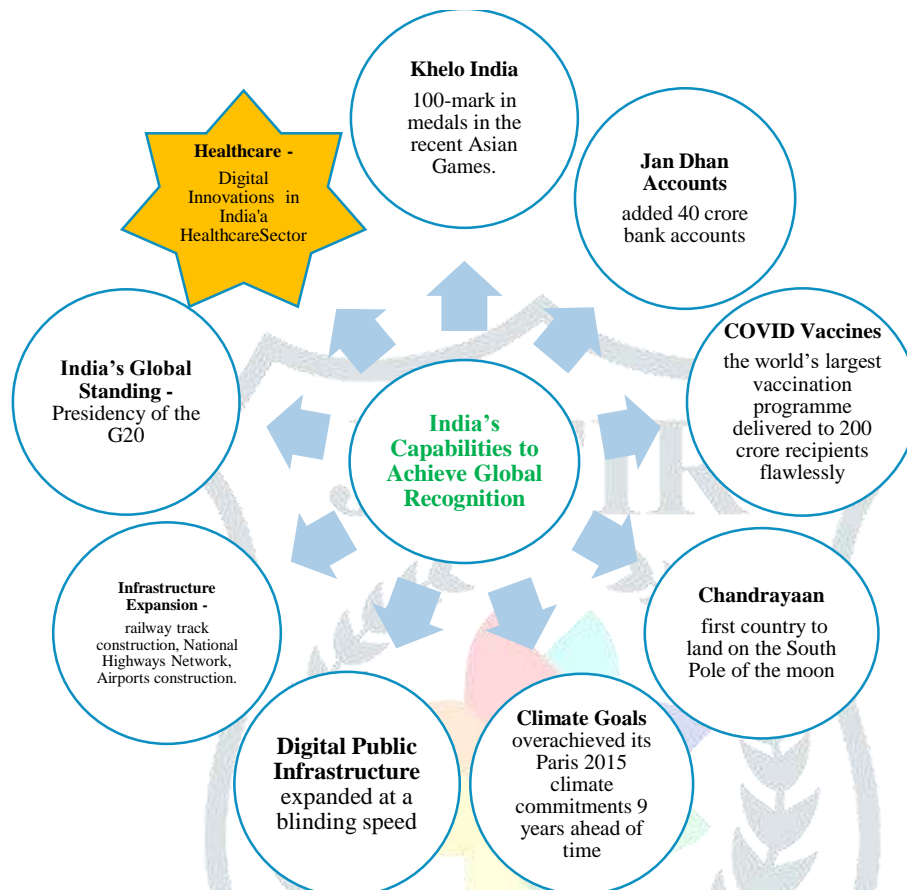
## 3. Methodology

This paper's methodology used a qualitative approach to investigate how the healthcare industry contributes to the attainment of "Viksit Bharat 2047." To give a thorough analysis of India's healthcare system, the writers reviewed a large number of secondary data sources, such as academic journals, government policy documents, and reports from reliable organizations. To determine their effects on healthcare access, infrastructure, and innovation, important programs including the National Digital Health Mission, the Ayushman Bharat program, and the National Health Policy 2017 were critically analyzed. To demonstrate the revolutionary potential of modern technological developments like artificial intelligence (AI) and the Internet of Things (IoT) in healthcare delivery, the study incorporated ideas from these fields. By combining data from many sources, including the National Health Authority and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the methodology aimed to detect gaps in healthcare infrastructure, workforce distribution, and healthcare inequities between rural and urban areas. The impact of preventative healthcare initiatives, such as immunization drives and public health campaigns, in enhancing health outcomes was evaluated. The report highlighted issues like workforce shortages, financial constraints, and the digital divide using thematic analysis and provided strategic recommendations. A comprehensive grasp of the healthcare industry's contribution to the realization of a resilient and equitable Viksit Bharat 2047 is ensured by the holistic approach.

#### 4. India's Potential for International Acclaim

The past ten years have seen a fantastic display of our ability to change India. 13.5 crore people have been lifted out of multidimensional poverty thanks to targeted programs and a comprehensive governance approach that puts no one behind, far exceeding the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

Several efforts with transformative impact that demonstrate this are:



***Figure 1.1 India's Potential for International Acclaim***

#### 5. The Healthcare Sector's Contribution to Viksit Bharat 2047

By the time India celebrates its centennial of independence, the goal of Viksit Bharat 2047 is to turn the country into a developed country, and the healthcare industry will be essential to this goal. A robust healthcare system guarantees a healthy and productive population, necessary for long-term social and economic progress.

Improving the infrastructure for healthcare is one of the industry's significant contributions. Disparities in healthcare quality and access continue even with advancements, especially in rural areas. It is imperative to strengthen infrastructure by investing more in clinics, hospitals, and mobile health units (Patel, Chatterji, & Vitoria, 2021). By enabling remote access to high-quality care, telemedicine and digital health efforts are critical in closing the gap between urban and rural areas (Kumar & Nambiar, 2022).

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (2017) states that policy reforms like Ayushman Bharat and the National Health Policy 2017 aim to provide vulnerable communities with financial security and universal health coverage. According to Bhargava and Paul (2019), policies must continuously evolve to tackle new health issues, such as non-communicable illnesses and the consequences of climate change on health.

Healthcare delivery is changing because of technological breakthroughs like big data, IoT, and artificial intelligence. According to Sharma, Gupta, and Singh (2023), these technologies improve resource management, tailor therapies, and increase diagnostic accuracy. Additionally, tackling public health issues and lowering reliance on imports depend heavily on biotechnology and pharmaceutical innovation.

Another pillar is preventive healthcare, which focuses on nutrition, lifestyle modifications, and vaccinations to lower the incidence of disease and healthcare expenses (Joshi & Desai, 2021). Public health campaigns and education programs are essential to encourage healthy living and early disease identification.

In conclusion, the realization of Viksit Bharat 2047 is entirely dependent on the contributions made by the healthcare industry. India may attain a healthier and more resilient future through improving infrastructure, implementing strict policies, utilizing technology, and encouraging preventive care.

## 5.1 Healthcare Sector Initiatives to Achieve Viksit Bharat 2047

By the time India celebrates its centennial of independence, the goal of Viksit Bharat 2047 is to make the country a developed one. A robust healthcare system that guarantees fair access, high-quality treatment, and complete health coverage for all residents is essential to realizing this ambition. Many programs are being launched to accomplish these lofty objectives, with a particular emphasis on preventative healthcare, legislative reforms, technology integration, and infrastructure development.

### i. Fortifying the Healthcare System

The significant improvement of the nation's healthcare infrastructure is one of the main goals. By 2022, 150,000 Health and Wellness Centers (HWCs) will have been established under the 2018-launched Ayushman Bharat initiative. HWCs will offer comprehensive primary healthcare services, including care for non-communicable diseases, maternity and child health, and free essential medications and diagnostics (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, 2017). This project aims to provide high-quality healthcare services locally, especially in underserved and rural areas.

### ii. Increasing Access to Health Care

Ayushman Bharat also encompasses the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY), which offers health insurance coverage for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization up to INR 5 lakh per family annually. By significantly lowering out-of-pocket healthcare costs and financial strain, this program seeks to assist over 100 million low-income and disadvantaged households (National Health Authority, 2018). To achieve universal health coverage and provide financial security for all residents, increasing the scope of health insurance coverage is imperative.

### iii. Regulatory Frameworks and Policy Reforms

Policy reforms are needed to establish a favorable atmosphere for the advancement of healthcare. A thorough framework for attaining universal health coverage and enhancing health outcomes is provided by the National Health Policy 2017 (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, 2017). The program strongly emphasizes expanding public health funding, bolstering the medical staff, and enhancing the medical infrastructure. Furthermore, the National Medical Commission Act of 2019 states that the NMC's establishment is to guarantee the supply of skilled healthcare professionals and reform medical education.

### iv. Making Use of Innovation and Technology

Technological integration is one of the main pillars of India's healthcare system modernization. The Digital India program aims to use digital technologies to enhance healthcare delivery. Telemedicine platforms and mobile health apps are being encouraged to enable remote consultations, particularly in rural and distant areas (Kumar & Nambiar, 2022). By giving each person a unique health ID that allows for easy access to medical records and services, the National Digital Health Mission (NDHM) seeks to establish a digital health ecosystem (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, 2020).

## v.Emphasis on Healthcare Prevention

Improving population health and lowering the illness burden require preventive healthcare. Citizens are encouraged to live healthy lives and be conscious of their nutrition through the Fit India Movement and the Eat Right India campaign (FSSAI, 2018). Public health initiatives and vaccination efforts also seek to stop epidemics and prevent the spread of infectious illnesses. Health outcomes can be improved, and healthcare expenses can be significantly decreased by emphasizing preventive measures such as routine health screenings and early disease diagnosis (Joshi & Desai, 2021).

## vi.Improving Health Human Resources

To achieve Viksit Bharat 2047, the scarcity of healthcare personnel must be addressed. There are initiatives underway to create additional medical colleges, increase the scope of medical education, and offer healthcare professionals ongoing professional development (Rao, Shahrawat, & Bhatnagar, 2016). The government encourages healthcare professionals to work in rural areas by providing financial incentives and possibilities for career progression.

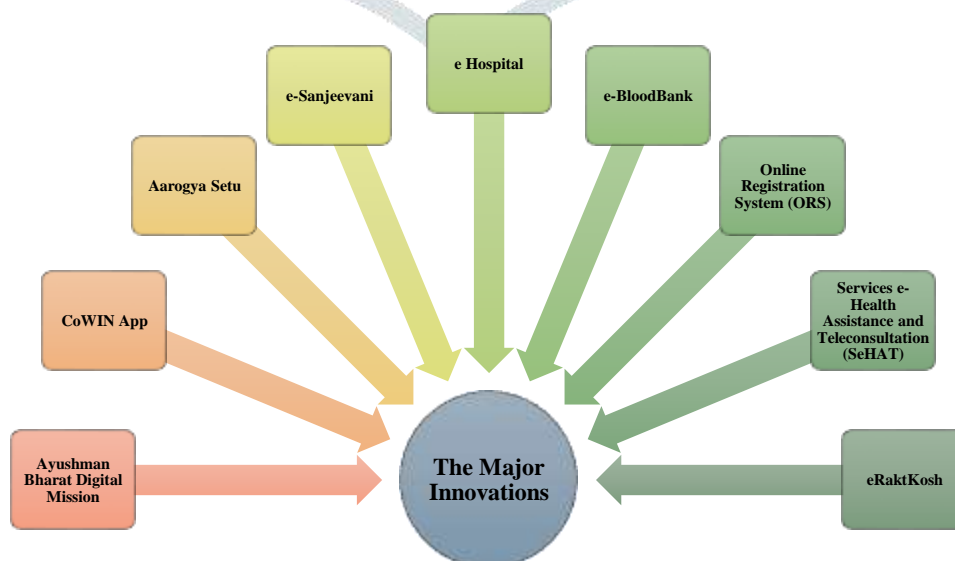
## vii.Collaborative-Private Alliances

Public-private partnerships, or PPPs, are essential for improving the infrastructure and delivery of healthcare. Government-private sector partnerships can result in the construction of cutting-edge medical facilities, technological advancements, and enhanced service provision (Bhushan & Dey, 2018). PPPs can also aid in the exchange of knowledge, the mobilization of resources, and the scaling up of creative healthcare solutions.

## 5.2 Significant Advancements in the Indian Healthcare Sector

Digital India is the Government of India's flagship initiative to transform the country into a knowledge economy and digitally empowered society. Its overarching objectives are to guarantee that digital technologies enhance the quality of life for all citizens, grow the country's digital economy, generate investment and job opportunities, and establish digital technological capabilities in India. Among other things, Digital India has significantly lowered the gap between the public and the Government. It has provided essential services to the recipients openly and transparently.

India has become a world leader in utilizing technology to improve the quality of life for its people because of this approach. The Digital India initiative has significantly transformed India's healthcare system. With the help of programs like the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, CoWIN App, Aarogya Setu, e-Sanjeevani, and e-Hospital, healthcare services and amenities are now available throughout India. These projects overcome the current distance between various healthcare ecosystem stakeholders through digital highways.



***Figure 1.2 Significant Advancements in the Indian Healthcare Sector***

### 5.3 Obstacles to Realize Viksit Bharat @ 2047 from the lens of healthcare

By the time India celebrates its 100th anniversary of independence, Viksit Bharat 2047 aims to have made significant progress in every area, with healthcare playing a pivotal role. Despite much progress, several obstacles still need to be overcome to achieve this lofty objective.

#### **i. Inequalities in the Infrastructure of Healthcare**

The glaring difference in healthcare facilities between urban and rural communities is one of the main obstacles. Although rural areas may struggle to provide essential healthcare services, urban centers are home to cutting-edge medical facilities and specialized care. Due to limited access to healthcare, rural populations experience more excellent morbidity and mortality rates because of this imbalance, which has a substantial negative impact on health (Patel, Chatterji, & Vitoria, 2021). Significant infrastructure spending in the healthcare sector will be needed to close this gap, including building new clinics, hospitals, and health centers in underprivileged communities. Furthermore, cutting-edge approaches like telemedicine and mobile health units can reduce the gap between urban and rural areas by providing high-quality healthcare to isolated areas (Kumar & Nambiar, 2022).

#### **ii. Lack of Qualified Medical Personnel**

India needs more qualified medical professionals, such as physicians, nurses, and allied health personnel. This scarcity stresses the current healthcare system, especially in rural and neglected areas (Rao, Shahrawat, & Bhatnagar, 2016). Improving medical education and training, building medical schools' capability, and offering chances for ongoing professional growth are all necessary to meet this problem. Furthermore, it is critical to provide financial incentives, improved working conditions, and chances for career promotion to entice healthcare professionals to work in rural areas.

#### **iii. Access to Healthcare Is Limited by Money**

For many Indians, the cost of out-of-pocket healthcare remains a significant obstacle, even with programs like Ayushman Bharat designed to protect economically disadvantaged groups (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, 2017). High medical expenses can cause financial hardship and destitution, especially regarding secondary and tertiary care. To make healthcare more accessible and inexpensive, it is imperative to fortify health insurance coverage, guarantee the financial viability of healthcare programs, and minimize out-of-pocket costs.

#### **iv. Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) Are Becoming More Common**

The growing number of non-communicable diseases (NCDs), including cancer, diabetes, and cardiovascular disorders, presents a severe problem for the healthcare system. Due to aging, urbanization, and changes in lifestyle, NCDs necessitate a comprehensive healthcare response that includes early identification, preventive measures, and efficient management techniques (Bhargava & Paul, 2019). Public health initiatives that encourage healthy lifestyles, routine screenings, and access to reasonably priced treatment choices are essential to combat the NCD epidemic.

#### **v. The Digital Divide and Technological Integration**

Even if technology can completely transform the way healthcare is delivered, issues with data security, privacy, and the digital divide still need to be addressed. Healthcare can benefit from using big data, artificial intelligence, and the Internet of Things (IoT) to improve resource management, tailor therapies, and increase diagnostic accuracy (Sharma, Gupta, & Singh, 2023). But it's imperative to ensure these technologies are helpful and available to all facets of society, especially in disadvantaged and rural areas. To fully utilize healthcare technologies, infrastructure, and digital literacy, challenges must be addressed along with establishing solid data protection regimes.

#### **vi. Infrastructure for Public Health and Preventive Care**

Effective preventative treatment and a robust public health infrastructure are essential, as the COVID-19 pandemic has shown. A robust healthcare system must prioritize strengthening laboratory capacity, enhancing public health surveillance, and guaranteeing a prompt response to medical emergencies. Prioritizing preventative treatment can significantly lower the incidence of disease and healthcare

expenses. Examples of preventive care include nutrition, lifestyle changes, and vaccination (Joshi & Desai, 2021). Campaigns for public health and educational programs are essential for encouraging healthy living and early illness identification.

## Conclusion

To attain the aim of Viksit Bharat 2047, the healthcare industry must confront various complex difficulties. India can create a robust and inclusive healthcare system by emphasizing equitable infrastructure development, personnel enhancement, financial protection, NCD management, technological integration, and preventative care. To fulfill this vision and guarantee a healthier, more affluent future for all Indians, cooperation between the public and corporate sectors and civil society is imperative. Viksit Bharat 2047's goal calls for a multifaceted strategy that addresses different facets of the healthcare system. India can develop a robust and inclusive healthcare system by bolstering its infrastructure, broadening its health coverage, enacting policy changes, utilizing technology, emphasizing preventive care, improving its human resource base, and encouraging public-private partnerships. These programs are necessary to guarantee that every citizen has access to high-quality healthcare, which will advance the general growth and prosperity of the country.

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