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To discuss pursuit of role of higher education in achieving the goal of Viksit Bharat @2047 by envisioning Vasudev Kutumbakam in the light of international peace, harmony and wisdom

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Abstract

Higher education plays a key role in India's vision of Vikas Bharat 2047, serving as a foundation for economic growth, technological innovation, and social development. It fosters skilled professionals, research-based innovation, and responsible citizenship essential for a developed nation. Inclusive access and quality education are central to addressing socioeconomic disparities and promoting equity. Integration of technology, industry collaboration and lifelong learning enhances employability and global competitiveness. Strategic reforms and investment in higher education are critical to achieving sustainable development and transforming India into a knowledge-based economy by 2047.

Keywords—Higher education, Vikas Bharat 2047, inclusive education, skill development, innovation, employability, research, technology integration

INTRODUCTION

India's vision of becoming a developed nation by 2047, commonly known as Vikas Bharat 2047, is a crucial milestone in the country's journey of social, economic, and technological transformation. Achieving this lofty goal requires continued progress in human capital development, innovation, inclusive growth, and global competitiveness. In this regard, higher education plays a crucial role as it serves as the foundation for knowledge creation, skilled workforce development, and leadership development essential for national development Higher education institutions are key drivers of economic growth and social progress. They contribute to the development of critical thinking, scientific temper, creativity, and problem-solving abilities in learners. In this era of globalization and rapid technological advancement, higher education must align itself with national priorities by promoting research, innovation, entrepreneurship, and skill-based learning. The quality and relevance of higher education directly impact a country's ability to adapt to changing global demands and address

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challenging social challenges. Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) are crucial for Viksit Bharat 2047 by building human capital, driving innovation, ensuring inclusivity, fostering skills, and promoting responsible citizenship through updated curricula focused on critical thinking, technology (like AI), research, entrepreneurship, and ethical leadership, bridging education with employability for a prosperous, self-reliant India. They serve as knowledge hubs and engines for economic growth, demanding reforms in funding, governance, and teaching methods to meet national goals.

VISION 2047: THE ROLE AND IMPACT OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN INDIA'S DEVELOPMENTAL GOALS Vision

2047 represents a comprehensive and strategic framework formulated by the Government of India, which aims to transform the country into a developed nation by 2047, in line with the centenary of Indian independence. The vision goes beyond economic development, encompassing a holistic approach in areas such as education, healthcare, infrastructure, technology and governance. In this broad developmental agenda, higher education plays a central role, acting as a key driver in shaping India's path towards global leadership The significance of Vision 2047 in the context of higher education is profound, emphasizing the need for a fundamental transformation in India's educational landscape. At its core, the vision aspires to establish a globally competitive education system that not only produces skilled professionals but also nurtures innovative thinkers and responsible citizens. Achieving this objective requires significant investments in educational infrastructure research and development, faculty development and overall academic quality

The main goal of Vision 2047 is to bring Indian universities and institutions up to international standards. This includes promoting a culture of academic excellence and research innovation that can compete globally. The vision advocates the establishment of world-class institutions designed to attract talent from around the world, thereby making India a global hub of education. Such initiatives are essential not only for the internationalization of higher education but also for the development of a knowledge-driven economy based on research, innovation and entrepreneurship Inclusivity is another important dimension of Vision 2047. The framework recognizes that providing equal access to higher education to all sections of society, especially marginalized and economically disadvantaged communities, is essential for achieving India's developmental objectives

By addressing educational disparities, Vision 2047 seeks to harness the potential of India's diverse population as a transformative national asset. Furthermore, Vision 2047 emphasizes the importance of lifelong learning and skill development. Recognizing the rapid evolution of

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the global economy, the vision emphasizes continuous learning, skill upskilling, and integration of practical skills into higher education. This approach ensures that graduates are not only academically proficient but also equipped with competencies relevant to the needs of the modern workforce, thereby promoting adaptability, innovation, and economic productivity. Digital transformation has emerged as a higher priority in Vision 2047.

The vision highlights the potential of technology to enhance education outcomes, advocating the use of online learning platforms, virtual laboratories, and digital libraries to provide equal access to quality education regardless of geographical location. Furthermore, it emphasizes the incorporation of advanced technologies including artificial intelligence, machine learning and big data analytics to prepare students for the demands of the 21st century job market .

Key Roles of HEIs

Human Capital Development: Cultivating critical thinking, problem-solving, leadership, and socio-emotional skills beyond rote learning, preparing globally competitive citizens.

Innovation & Research: Acting as hubs for R&D in sustainable tech, AI, and renewable energy, fostering industry-academia ties to solve national challenges.

Skill & Employability: Implementing vocational training and entrepreneurship programs to bridge the skills gap, making graduates job-ready.

Inclusivity & Equity: Expanding access for underrepresented groups to reduce social inequalities and ensure broad-based development.

Technology Integration: Leveraging AI and digital tools for personalized learning (Education 4.0) and administrative efficiency.

Ethical & Responsible Citizenship: Instilling civic duty, social responsibility, and ethical values through curriculum and community engagement.

Strategies for HEIs

Curriculum Modernization: Integrating arts, sports, social service, and non-cognitive skills (teamwork, communication) alongside core subjects.

Industry-Academia Collaboration: Creating stronger partnerships for research, internships, and industry-relevant skill development.

Entrepreneurship Ecosystems: Providing incubators, mentorship, and funding to encourage student innovation.

Governance Reforms: Granting institutional autonomy and streamlining processes for faster innovation.

Teacher Empowerment: Training faculty in digital literacy and modern pedagogy.

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Challenges & Needs in higher education system

Funding:- Significant underinvestment in higher education and R&D compared to global leaders.

Curriculum Lag: -Outdated syllabi that don't meet industry demands.

Faculty Shortages:- Need for more qualified faculty, especially in STEM.

By addressing these, HEIs can become the bedrock for achieving Viksit Bharat @2047, ensuring a prosperous, innovative, and equitable India.

Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) are pivotal for India's Viksit Bharat 2047 vision by fostering innovation, skills, and ethical leadership, aligning with Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam (one world, one family) through research, inclusive growth, and global harmony, developing compassionate, globally-aware citizens skilled in critical thinking, digital literacy, and sustainability, ensuring India's self-reliance and shared prosperity by 2047.

Key Roles of HEIs for Viksit Bharat 2047 & Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam:

Holistic & Skill-Based Education (NEP 2020):

Shift from rote learning to critical thinking, creativity, collaboration (4Cs).

Integrate vocational training, entrepreneurship, and digital literacy to create a skilled workforce.

Research, Innovation & Sustainability:

Drive research in renewable energy, climate change, and sustainable practices.

Foster innovation ecosystems through industry-academia partnerships.

Inclusivity & Social Cohesion:

Ensure quality education for all, reducing inequalities.

Promote empathy, respect, and understanding across diverse backgrounds, embodying Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam.

Ethical Leadership & Global Citizenship:

Cultivate civic duty, ethical leadership, and social entrepreneurship.

Instill values of peace, harmony, and global responsibility to project India's wisdom globally.

Technology Integration (Education 4.0):

Leverage technology for personalized, accessible, and interactive learning.

How HEIs Connect to Peace, Harmony & Wisdom:

Wisdom (Jnana): -Research & innovation foster knowledge, while holistic education cultivates wisdom for complex global challenges.

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Harmony (Samarasya):- Inclusive campuses and curricula promoting empathy build social harmony within India and globally.

Peace (Shanti):- Educating compassionate leaders and fostering intercultural understanding promotes international peace, aligning with India's ancient wisdom.

Conclusion

By transforming into dynamic hubs of learning, innovation, and ethical development, HEIs become the bedrock for realizing India's developed nation status while championing universal values for a peaceful world.

As India approaches its centenary of independence in 2047, the vision of Vikas Bharat (Developed India) presents both a challenge and an opportunity, with higher education positioned as a key driver of national development. Higher education not only imparts advanced knowledge and skills but also fosters innovation, critical thinking and personal development, which prepares a workforce capable of supporting a developed economy In the context of Developed India 2047, higher education contributes to technological advancement, economic growth, social equity and inclusive growth. Universities and research centres play a key role in translating academic research into practical solutions through industry collaboration. Along with skill development aligned with industry needs, ensuring accessibility and inclusion for marginalised communities increases employability and promotes social mobility. Despite these prospects, challenges remain such as unequal access, quality gaps and adaptation to technological advances. Policies like the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 provide a roadmap to address these issues with emphasis on quality, vocational training, research and multidisciplinary education. In conclusion, higher education is at the centre of India's journey towards 2047. By addressing the challenges and seizing the opportunities, it can build a skilled, innovative and equitable society, ensuring that India achieves sustainable development and emerges as a global knowledge leader.

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