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## *Citius, Altius, Fortius: Advancing Education, Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Viksit Bharat@2047— Part-I\**

Ganapati D Yadav\*

### The Grand Dream of *Viksit Bharat@2047* and Role of HEIs

India envisions itself as one of the most advanced and enlightened nations by 2047, with a USD 30 trillion economy supporting a population of about 1.67 billion. I want to witness India emerge as the world's second-or third-largest economic and technological powerhouse. To achieve this magnificent goal, India must transform several metrics across education, research, innovation, industrial policy, healthcare, food and water security, and energy self-sufficiency. Many are embedded in the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). India will become a developed country if we grow cumulatively by 24% in the manufacturing sector and 70% in the service sector. For this, government policies to transform our manufacturing industries and promote research, innovation, and a start-up culture across all sectors will be crucial. Thus, higher education and its leaders will play a crucial role. Higher Educational Institutes (HEIs) will spearhead this innovation culture and nurture creativity and economic growth. My article will explain how we can achieve it.

Aspirations of luxury and comfort will become universal, and India will not be left behind. The recent skirmish with Pakistan has demonstrated India's technological and innovative power. By the middle of the current century, life expectancy in India is expected to exceed 85 years for men and 90 years for women, which was approximately 45 and 38 years, respectively, a century ago. Much of modern life will be driven by data, with thinking and walking machines as everyday companions. So, I dare say, things will happen at a pace which even in the wildest dream were unimagined.

Some of us, count me in that group, hope to stay alive to experience the excitement and marvels of this transformation when India becomes '*Viksit*' by 2047. It is said that there is no tax on imagination, so let me dream a little and share a vision of what will happen *vis-à-vis* the year 2025. I would rather extrapolate backwards from 2047 to 2025 and plan accordingly, juxtaposing India as an advanced economic power. As I stated earlier, government policy will be most critical apart from the talent and technology.

\* Bhatnagar Fellow (CSIR), National Science Chair (DST/GOI) & Emeritus Professor of Eminence, Former J.C. Bose Fellow (DST/GOI), Former Vice Chancellor & R.T. Mody Distinguished Professor & Tata Chemicals Darbari Seth Distinguished Professor of Leadership and Innovation Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai & Chairman, BOG, Laxminarayan Innovation Technological University, Nagpur. E-mail: gd.yadav@ictmumbai.edu.in; gdyadav@gmail.com