Viksit Bharat @2047: Improving Access to Quality Health for All Citizens

Kadari Mallesh

Physical Director,
Government Degree College (A),
Khairatabad, Hyderabad

Abstract

Viksit Bharat @2047 envisions equitable, universal access to high-quality healthcare for all Indian citizens by 2047, leveraging policy reform, infrastructure investment, and technology-driven service delivery. This paper analyzes strategies advancing health equity, the evolution of digital and physical infrastructure, government initiatives such as Ayushman Bharat, and the integration of data-driven healthcare management. Methodologies include synthesis of demographic and investment statistics, benchmarking against WHO standards, and case studies of recent innovations. Results highlight strong growth in market value and digital coverage but reveal persistent gaps in rural access, workforce shortages, and uneven insurance penetration. Robust digital platforms and sustained investment are shown to improve efficiency and outcomes, while underscoring the enduring challenges of non-communicable disease burdens and geographic disparity. Recommendations propose scaling digital health systems, strengthening rural infrastructures, and fostering public-private collaborations. The study concludes that continuous reforms and technological adoption can fulfill the vision of Viksit Bharat @2047 if inclusivity and quality remain central priorities.

Keywords: *Universal health coverage; health equity; healthcare quality; digital health; Viksit Bharat; 2047;Ayushman Bharat; India; telemedicine; investment; rural healthcare*

1. Introduction

India's Viksit Bharat @2047 initiative positions improved healthcare access and quality as a cornerstone for national development. Despite substantial progress in health coverage, challenges remain in achieving consistent quality and inclusivity across regions, particularly in rural and underserved populations. Government policies prioritize investments in primary care, health infrastructure, and digital transformation, focusing on accessible and affordable services through programs like Ayushman Bharat and the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM). A healthy population is foundational to economic growth, social equity, and national competitiveness, making universal access to effective healthcare a vital policy imperative.

2. Experimental / Methodology

This research adopts a mixed-methods approach

- Statistical analysis of health sector growth, infrastructure capacity (bed and nurse density), insurance penetration, and disease burden sourced from government and industry reports.

- Review of flagship government schemes, including Ayushman Bharat, e-Sanjeevani, and digital infrastructure investments.

- Benchmarking against World Health Organization standards and global best practices.

- Case studies of digital and public-private innovations improving health access in tier-II, tier-III towns, and remote regions.

- Synthesis of recent academic and industry literature to identify key trends, challenges, and policy responses.

3. Results and Discussion

3.1 Sector Growth and Investment

- India's healthcare sector is predicted to grow from USD 638 billion in 2024 to over USD 1.5 trillion by 2030, driven by incomes, insurance, private investment, and digital innovation.

- Digital health market size: USD 8.8 billion in 2024, expected to surpass USD 47.8 billion by 2033, powered by telemedicine and integrated health records.

3.2 Quality and Access Indicators

- Hospital bed density remains 1.6 per 1,000 people, below WHO's recommended 2; nurse density at 1.9 per 1,000 (WHO benchmark: 3). To meet demand by 2030, India needs an additional 650,000 nurses and 160,000 doctors.

- Rural areas, home to nearly two-thirds of India's population, have access to just 30% of hospital beds. Recent investments are targeting tier-II and tier-III cities for expanded service delivery.

- Maternal mortality ratio declined to 97/100,000 live births; under-five mortality rate dropped from 36 to 32 per 1,000 live births since 2016–18.

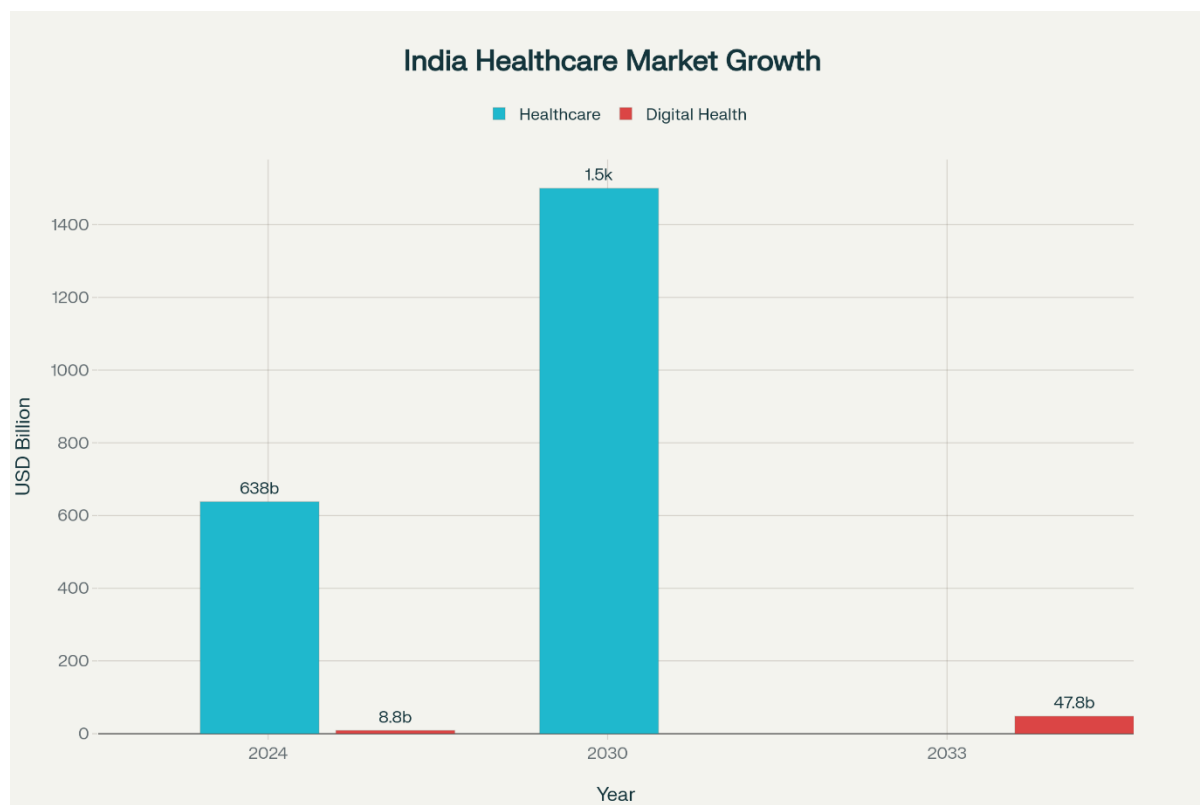| Indicator	2024	2030 (Projected)	WHO Benchmark
Hospital bed density	1.6	—	2 per 1,000
Nurse density	1.9	—	3 per 1,000

4. Digital and Innovative Healthcare Delivery

- Adoption of digital platforms—Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, e-Sanjeevani—has broadened teleconsultation, remote diagnostics, and universal health records.

- AI-based hospital units have significantly reduced infant mortality and improved diagnostic efficiency.

- Health insurance premium volume hit INR 1.18 trillion in FY2025; planned domestic and FDI-backed expansion focuses on decentralized coverage and affordability.

5. Persistent Challenges

- Non-communicable diseases are rising: diabetes (90 million affected; projected to 156.7 million by 2050), hypertension impacts nearly one-third of adults.

- Urban-rural access gaps and workforce shortages persist; insurance penetration and infrastructural investment need further enhancement.

- Public-private partnerships and harmonized regulations are required to ensure uniform care standards and innovation at scale.

Growth of India's Healthcare Sector and Digital Health Market (2024-2033)

6. **Conclusion**

India's path to "Viksit Bharat @2047: Improving Access to Quality Health for All Citizens" demands ongoing sector investment, scaling of digital platforms, targeted rural reforms, and strengthened public-private partnerships. While advances in quality, coverage, and digital innovation are evident, bridging the gap in workforce and rural infrastructure remains crucial. Effective integration of policy, data, and technology will be essential for ensuring inclusive, high-quality healthcare by 2047.

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