

“We the People...”



A 'vision', as a guide to action, must be anchored in a set of values. The values need to be derived from a view of life and of the world at large. In such a view, it is legitimate to choose the national good as the supreme goal and to place it at the centre of our vision for India. In pursuing the goal, we shall then act in ways consistent with the interests of the larger humanity and not to their detriment.



TRANSFORMING INDIA

We, the people of India are living in challenging times, the problems of mass corruption and collapsed economy are signs of failure of Government and Governance.

The BJP has a vision of India as a leading nation by the end of the first quarter of the 21st century.

An India which is prosperous, compassionate and caring, secure and powerful.

Where all Indians are free from fear, hunger and corruption.

An India with new standards for Government, people's participation and global engagement.

An India where Indians will not only dare to dream but shall fulfil those dreams.

An India whose economy will grow rapidly over the next two decades.

An India that all Indians will be proud of.

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I. FOREWORD

We, the People of India, are living during challenging times.

More than sixty years on as an independent nation, we are still struggling with challenges of poverty and destitution that afflict a large part of our fellow Indians. The problems of massive corruption, crony capitalism and concentration of wealth are all signs of failure of Government and Governance. The Supreme Court has referred to prevailing corruption cases as violation of Human Rights of people of India. The sharp and unprecedented collapse of our economy has led to an increase in uncertainty amongst the people about their futures.

They are failures of a broken and corrupt politics - A politics that rewards self-interest over the common interest and short-term political gains over the long-term interest of our people. A politics that puts our Government at the service of the powerful, instead of the service of the people who elect them. A politics that creates a state-of-the-art system for doling out favors to a select few and shuts out the Indian people. All this represents a serious threat to the idea of our Republic with opportunities for all.

India should have been a rich, developed nation, with many years of sustained economic growth and an increasing confidence in people about their and their families' futures. That India is not, is a failure of the people who have led our country for most of the past sixty years. It is also a failure of we the people who keep re-electing the non-performers and the corrupt back to power.

We have the power to change the course of our future.

We have to lay the foundation for many years of sustained, high economic growth. For making India a rich, developed nation within a single generation by uprooting the system which exploits and extracts India's wealth through corrupt means and divide-and-rule politics. That wealth belongs to the people and must be invested in their welfare.

For this, we need to come together to elect leaders with a new vision for India's future. We need to come together to invest in big, bold ideas. The time is now – for a shift in expectations, so that our children don't go through the stifling that our parents and grandparents went through. The time is now – to lay the foundation for a new India that empowers all its citizens and is assertive globally.

The time is now – to change the status quo. The right and the responsibility is ours.

The BJP's Vision 2025 offers a path to build a developed nation with opportunities and prosperity for all.

India prospered during the years when the BJP was in Government. Indians benefitted from that prosperity. The high growth from 2003 to 2007 was only due to the reforms introduced by the BJP Government. Think of the revolution in roads, telecom and ports. Think of the tax reforms, fiscal responsibility. Think of the non-existent inflation. Think of the easy availability of loans at low interest rates. Compare it with the current state of a shattered economy. Compare it with increasing uncertainty about people's futures. Compare it with the present inflation. Compare it with what is happening with the prices of petroleum products and prices of food items. Compare it with this world of scams.

But the momentum of the BJP years has been squandered during the subsequent Congress years, where one doesn't even know who heads the Government. Just as con is the opposite of pro, Congress is the opposite of progress. During the Congress years from 2004 private initiative has been over-taken by a culture of entitlements, largesse and handouts.

The BJP initiated an ambitious reforms programme bearing in mind that India and its people need economic freedom. After several years of inaction under the Congress, this process of reforms now needs to be restarted with renewed vigour and commitment.

What India needs is complete transformation. The BJP believes that we must reach out to the last person in the last row (Antyodaya) and offer all Indians the opportunity to realize their dreams. We will achieve this by trusting people, empowering people and communities, and re-inventing democratic Government.

The BJP's Vision 2025 offers a break from the prevailing politics of identity, groups and special interests that has permeated India's landscape for over 60 years. It is a vision that focuses on individual aspirations, supported by institutions and choice. This builds on the outstanding work that the BJP did from 1998 to 2004 and now being done in States where the BJP is in Government.

This document is a roadmap for India to become a developed nation where every Indian shall enjoy the fruits of development and prosperity. It sets out goals we can achieve by 2025.

What you will see from the BJP are big, bold ideas – the ones that India needs but is not getting, the ones that Indians dream of, the ones that will transform the country and all citizens rather than maintain the status quo. These are ideas that will irreversibly set a trajectory for our future.

Our country and citizens need new development and governance models.

This document sets out fresh and new development and governance ideas that meet the rising aspirations of our people. It is a document unfettered by current thinking or assumptions. It looks into the present gaps in our development model. It offers innovative, meaningful and outcome oriented solutions to the challenges our country faces.

The BJP stands for change while others prefer status quo. For the BJP, change is about changing policies and not just changing one set of politicians for another.

The BJP believes in many years of sustained economic growth and increasing the confidence that people have about their and their families' futures.

The BJP believes in sustainable, integrated human development and not just GDP growth. The BJP's policies will ensure that our future generations will not be made to bear the environmental costs of our actions today.

We believe in enterprise and aspiration. We assure a radical change in the relationship between our people and Government. Individual aspiration should be set as high as humanly possible, with no barriers put in its way by the Government. People are creative and enterprising. They are capable of changing their lives, given an enabling environment. We believe the Government's job is to provide that enabling environment, without thwarting individual enterprise or subverting it with handouts. We believe that Government is a trustee of national assets, resources and money, and will always use transparent, equitable and prudent means, like auctions, when dealing with scarce, natural resources being given to private companies.

Therefore, we stand for maximum governance, minimum Government. Others persist with maximum Government, minimum governance.

Currently power is concentrated in New Delhi and State capitals; and we believe that power should be genuinely decentralized. We believe that power should devolve from Delhi to State capitals and from State capitals to local communities.

We believe in responsibility. Government must be responsible with public money and national assets, and be fiscally prudent. Corporates must be responsible for ethical business and will not be allowed to make gains at the expense of the people they serve. Local communities must be responsible towards each other. Individuals must be responsible for their actions. Most important, we must be collectively responsible for enhancing and improving the lives of all those who are disadvantaged.

Read, Debate and Share.

Swami Vivekananda was fond of a *shloka* from the Katha Upanishad – *“Arise! Awake! Do not stop until the goal has been attained.”* The first part of the *shloka* is quoted quite often. However, there is a second part too. That says, the wise have told us that the road is a difficult one to travel along. It is as sharp as a razor’s edge.

At a time when society is rising against corruption, let us together forge a new future for India. A future where the Mahatma’s words would resonate:

“Government control gives rise to fraud, suppression of Truth, intensification of the black market and artificial scarcity. Above all, it unmans the people and deprives them of initiative, it undoes the teaching of self-help...I look upon an increase in the power of the State with the greatest fear because, although while apparently doing good by minimizing exploitation, it does the greatest harm to mankind by destroying individuality which lies at the heart of all progress.”

We also hope you will do more – by sharing and discussing it with your family and friends. This is your document.

II. A NEW GOVERNANCE MODEL FOR INDIA: DEMOCRACY v/s KAKISTOCRACY

Kakistocracy (*n.*): A Government by the least qualified or most unprincipled citizens.

We shall dismantle the culture of kakistocracy established by the Congress and restore the credibility of Government and its institutions.

Our governance model will be guided by the principle that we should place the nation and people first in all our thinking and actions. We will not be guided by only short term considerations.

Although India is the largest democracy in the world, Indians continue to struggle on a daily basis to fight corruption at both the national and local levels. Public servants need to be held accountable for their actions and duties and public service delivery. Only a small percentage of funds reach intended beneficiaries. Successful implementation of socio-economic initiatives and policies is dependent on the quality of governance.

Many decades of kakistocracy – Government by the most corrupt and least principled – have caused governance, and indeed, governance institutions to atrophy. The corrosive influence of politics of sycophancy has replaced merit and public service. We shall change the way India is governed.

Here are six goals of our new governance model:

1. Change the Objective of Government
2. Enable all Indians
3. Citizen-Government Partnership
4. Truly Federal India
5. Poverty Free India
6. Assertive India

1. CHANGE THE OBJECTIVE OF GOVERNMENT

People want a change in the way India is being governed. Millions of people in this country are angry, disillusioned and detached from democracy. The shattered economy, along with rampant corruption, has placed them in a situation where they fear for the future of their families and themselves. This endangers our ability to work together to solve our common problems. It is not just the cases of rampant Political corruption. The current frustration with Government, Politics and Politicians is driven by a deeper sense of frustration – that people have too little control over the decisions that affect their daily lives.

Our Constitution, our institutions, our courts and our Government must work for the good of each and every citizen and not just for a few vested interests in order to overcome this Governance deficit and frustration.

The sole objective of our Government will be to provide governance and serve the people, and not to rule. The colonial legacy of the bureaucracy will be transformed to be aligned to our goal of serving the public.

The Government's primary role is to enable the creation of human capital, to be a guarantor of constitutional rights, to secure the lives and properties of its citizens, to ensure law and order, to provide regulation by building and nurturing institutions, to create an environment where individuals and entities have the freedom to improve their lives and aspire for more, and ensure efficient delivery of public services.

The role of the Government is to set the rules of the game, not participate in the game itself. By wasting its energies on activities that it has no comparative advantage in, the government has neglected what it is required to do. That failure is as costly – if not more – than the failed attempts by the government to deliver services efficiently and in sufficient quantities.

The Government will reduce red tape and high procedural costs, which affect citizens, and also enterprises. They also lead to corruption. The BJP will reduce these procedural costs.

While India has developed tremendously over the last decade and a half on the back of the innovation, creativity and energy of private entrepreneurs, it is obvious that State capacity has lagged behind significantly. At the same time, as two critical elements of long term growth both private entrepreneurship as well as efficient governance is required. The focus has been on economic reforms for the last two decades. While, the economy has moved ahead, the Government and Government institutions have deteriorated significantly.

The current objective of the Government – extract and exploit – was inherited from India's foreign rulers. Until this objective changes, India will not see prosperity for all.

The BJP will transform Government into one that empowers and trusts people and communities and allows them to have more control and say in their lives.

The BJP will introduce an Ethical, Accountable, Transparent and Responsive Government.

The BJP will revive the economy and deliver many years of sustained, high economic growth for all.

The BJP will rebuild Governance Institutions to make them credible, professional and independent.

The BJP will transform the Government, making it smaller and more efficient.

The BJP will introduce a new approach to Government spending.

2. ENABLE ALL INDIANS BY ENDING ECONOMIC DISCRIMINATION AND ENABLING EMPOWERMENT OF ALL

The current model of economic growth is weighted in favour of friends and families of politicians, those in Government and crony businessmen, placing the burden of fiscal negligence on the millions of hardworking citizens and their families. This is exploitative economic discrimination of the worst kind. The BJP will replace this with an economic model that delivers prosperity for all Indians.

Economic freedom implies that Government will not get in the way of the freedom of individuals to start and operate legitimate businesses. Increased economic freedom will break open the economic space to new entrants, especially in the form of small and medium-enterprises, creating jobs and prosperity.

In simple terms, promoting economic freedom means reduction of red-tape, and streamlining of the many regulatory processes that a business has to go through in the course of its operations. This procedural discretion leads to abuse and rent seeking behaviour.

Increasing economic freedom means changing the role of Government from that of a participant who competes with private enterprise, to that of an umpire who ensures fair competition and choice, and ethical conduct of all participants. There is a difference between a regulatory regime and a licence-permit-quota raj. For the BJP, LPG stands for Liberalisation, Privatisation and Globalisation. For the Congress, LPG stands for Life Plundered by the Government.

Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee, in his presidential address to the first All-India Session of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh on December 29, 1952, said:

“Our party believes that the future progress of India must be based on a natural synthesis between its full economic advance and the development of mind and character of the people in accordance with the highest traditions of Indian culture and civilization. **The political freedom that we have achieved will be meaningless without economic freedom.** It is a tragedy that a vast country such as India, with its almost limitless resources and raw materials, should be steeped in poverty, disease, ignorance and degradation. Our party believes that without plunging the country into the vortex of violent chaos and conflict, it should be possible for us to readjust the conditions of our economic life so as to bring to an end a shameful era of exploitation and silent human suffering. Our party, therefore, has adopted as part of its economic programme a realistic and progressive approach in various spheres of activity, such as land and agriculture, integrated development of large scale, medium and small industries, increased production and fairer distribution. No equality of opportunity will ever be real and effective until the poorer and the backward sections of the people are given adequate educational and economic facilities and advantages, so as to undo the serious handicaps from which they suffer today.”

Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya, wrote in 1963:

“In the first place due to socialism the State definitely takes over a large sphere of enterprise and thus keeps away the entrepreneur even from activities which he can legitimately discharge to the advantage of the State. The State activities become monopolistic. Here again, to satisfy the socialist craving of the fanatic few, the Government diverts its energies in taking up other industrial activities and/or nationalising what has already been developed by private enterprise. Instead of supplementing economic activity which, in a developing country, is a legitimate responsibility of the State it starts supplanting the already developed industries.”

The BJP, inspired by the perceptive views of Dr. Mookerjee and Pandit Upadhyaya, believes in pursuing the path of equitable economic development, aimed at achieving economic freedom for all. We believe that every citizen has the right to a life of dignity which is not dependent on Government handouts. Enabling and empowering all citizens and giving them multiple choices will ensure that everybody makes a positive contribution towards building a nation which we can all be proud of.

3. CITIZEN-GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP EMPOWERING INDIANS

People want a change in the way India is being governed. Millions of people in this country are at best detached from democracy, at worst angry and disillusioned. This endangers our ability to work together to solve our common problems. It is not just the cases of rampant corruption. The current frustration with Government, politics and politicians is driven by a deeper sense of frustration – that people have too little control over the decisions that affect their daily lives.

The institutions of the government for the most part have been corroded by political interference and influence peddling. Professionalism has given way to political pandering and hence the institutions invariably fail (at high cost to the country and people) to fulfil their duty and role. These Government and state institutions must be made accountable, responsive, transparent and outcome-oriented.

India, like every successful country, must have a set of principles at its core which act as a medium in realising the aspirations of the people of the land. But today, it is seen that the principles practiced by the Government are not in tune with the same. Also, there are diminishing rights and privileges for individual. People are treated unequally based on various identities as per the will of the Government.

Hence, there is a need to come up with a new charter for governance which is in tune with the aspirations of people and delivers the goods. The answer is re-evaluation of the relationship between the citizen and the state with a reaffirmation of individual rights and a transformed model of maximum governance, minimum Government.

Our plan to change India hinges on a sweeping devolution of power: from the state to citizens; from the executive to the legislature, from capital cities to rural and urban communities; from self-centred bureaucracy to empowered people.

4. TRULY FEDERAL INDIA

STRENGTHEN THE FEDERAL STRUCTURE BY HONOURING THE RIGHT OF THE STATES TO PURSUE THEIR OWN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES; AND AT THE SAME TIME CONTINUE TO STRENGTHEN THE IDEA OF INDIA AS ONE NATION AND ONE PEOPLE

India needs a strong political Centre not to keep its States on a tight leash but to act as a unifying factor and deal with issues that are federal in character. Unfortunately, efforts are constantly made to make the political centre stronger at the expense of the States.

Until and unless there is a clear breakdown of the constitutional order or a Government loses its majority, nothing should be done to destabilise State Governments. Similarly, the Union Government must adopt a non-discriminatory approach while dealing with clearances and approvals for big-ticket projects in the States. The BJP will ensure that the Inter-State Council, the NDC and the Finance Commission adequately reflect the interests of the States. The office of the Governor shall be scrapped.

Finance Commission should be given its proper constitutional mandate. All transfers to states to take place through Finance Commission. No transfers through Planning Commission. No plan-non plan distinctions. No centrally sponsored schemes. Scrap Planning Commission. Intra-state transfers to local bodies through state finance commissions whose recommendations are mandatory. All forms of Government financial support to its citizens will be in form of credit/loans and subsidies only for old and disabled people.

Individual State Governments must have the liberty to chart their own course to development and equitable growth. No two states have the same objective conditions; therefore, there cannot be a single model for all the States. If a State Government is able to mobilise resources by way of investments, it should be actively encouraged to do so by the Union Government.

No effort should be made to penalise performers and reward laggards simply because it is politically expeditious to do so. At the same time, there have to be reasonable curbs on the extent to which a State Government or legislature can act independently of national interests and concerns.

The Union Government should intervene in situations where national unity and integrity are threatened by separatists who may find supporters or patrons among elected representatives. In such situations, it is imperative for the Centre to intervene.

Towards this end, the BJP will actively consider the abolition of the post of Governor in every state barring those which are located in the sensitive zones, where the Centre's authority will continue to be exercised by a special representative.

The geographical and psychological distances that separate Indians from Indians shall be erased so that India, an ancient civilization, remains a modern nation with one national identity for all its people.

5. POVERTY FREE INDIA

It is distressing to note that even after more than six decades of independence and execution of eleven Five Year Plans, the poverty situation in the country is still grim and nearly half of our population does not get one square meal a day. Even today, 421 million fellow brothers and sisters live in painful destitution worse than sub-Saharan Africa. This is a signal of total failure of government policy making & spending.

Poverty/Destitution is neither a homogenous phenomenon nor are people across the country suffering from the same homogenous form of poverty. Different communities and people across the country experience varied and different forms of destitution and poverty arising out of various unique local, economic and social situations.

The BJP believes the solutions required to address Poverty and destitution should differ from place to place and from community to community across the country. Therefore, the current traditional approach of having centrally administered schemes for poverty eradication assumes a “one shoe fits all” model and a homogenous solution which is, to a very large extent, the reason why we as a country have not made as much progress on this issue as we should have – even 60 years after Independence.

The approach suggested in BJP’s Vision 2025 is a practical and innovative one, keeping in mind two essential principles :

- a) The diversity of causes and nature of poverty.
- b) That poverty eradication is best left in the hands of the communities that seek to build their destitutionless future and not remote managed from a state or National capital, very far away (literally and metaphorically) from the community that’s afflicted.

Therefore, the Delhi-centric, Central Programme model with its corruption, leakages and lack of outcomes should be replaced with a paradigm that consists of the following :

- a) Central Government to provide budgetary allocations, outcomes and macro architecture.
- b) An institutionalized role by State Government and local communities to design the micro architecture of the local programmes and public responsibility for spending and the resulting time bound outcome against those programmes.

6. ASSERTIVE INDIA

An Assertive India is not a weak India. There is no such thing as a soft power, or a soft state. Policies make countries soft and weak. We need to put national security, energy security, food security and water security at the forefront, because without this our growth will always be under a cloud. Our economic stature needs to be matched with smart, geopolitical activism to achieve these goals.

Our nation aspires to emerge as a leading global power whose voice will be heard, clout will be felt and which will show the way to a peaceful multi-polar world of inter-dependence. We believe that inter-dependence does not mean erosion of sovereignty of nation states; India's sovereign interests must take precedence over all.

When states go soft, power wanes. A strong state is not necessarily a military state. It's a state which is confident of protecting its national interests through diplomatic and other means.

The 21st century will see nations contesting for control over Food, Energy and Water. Wars will be fought, in one form or the other, over what are termed as 'FEW' issues. Emerging global trends clearly indicate nations strategising on how to ensure their food security, energy security and water security. India cannot lag behind as that would amount to squandering the advantage accruing from economic growth.

But such strategising will not be possible till such time we re-invent ourselves as a tough state not scared of exercising hard options. The national interest is the sum total of the interests of Indians. Protecting and promoting the national interest will remain the primary objective.

Secure India, Safe India

India, and India alone, should matter most; everything else comes second. Defending India will rest on the core belief that policy initiatives on external affairs, strategic issues and external/internal security must stem from 'enlightened self-interest'. Hence, India needs a sharp departure from the outdated tradition of foreign/defence/strategic policy as a running commentary on vacuous morality. We believe it is the Government's responsibility to ensure its citizens' security from internal and external enemies of the nation.

Securing National Interest

- **POLITICAL:** We believe India needs pro-active, as opposed to reactive, diplomacy. Government must think beyond episodic responses and strategise with long-term interests in mind.

- **MILITARY:** We believe India needs a modern Defence Force with the best possible human resource and state of the art hardware. A military that can fight on more than one front at the same time. A military which is comparable to the best in the world.

The BJP will enshrine in law an Armed Forces Covenant – a commitment between the people of India and the Armed Forces Community (serving as well as retired) and their families (including bereaved families), pledging a duty of care and improving support towards them in return for their bravery and sacrifices made for protecting the nation; to ensure that they face no disadvantage compared to other citizens in the provision of public and commercial services. The BJP will include granting tax incentives to companies who agree to hire retired / released Armed Forces Veterans, in this legislation.

- **POLICE:** We believe India needs to address internal security concerns which will pose an increasing challenge to governance and its delivery systems. This will be dealt with at three levels:
 1. **Police modernization:** As the first respondents, the police have will be trained, modernized, empowered and better skilled. At a broader level, police reforms will be immediately introduced.
 2. **Legal reforms:** A tough anti-terror law by itself is not the solution. We need to revamp the criminal justice system and the justice delivery system. The BJP led Government introduced reforms on the civil side in 2001-02 and initiated reforms on the criminal side in 2002. The BJP will pursue criminal justice reforms including special prosecutors for white-collar and terrorist cases and the setting up of independent commission against corruption.
 3. **Restructuring existing system:** Make NIA the sole agency to investigate major crimes. Disband the CBI

Proactive Diplomacy

- Instead of being led by Big Power interests, we should engage proactively on our own with countries in the neighbourhood and in the extended neighbourhood.
- From the principle of 'backyard' diplomacy, we should move towards 'arc of influence' diplomacy.
- Reassert India's influence in the Indian Ocean Region.

Defence Production

Rather than be dependent on imports and acquisitions from foreign sources, which is a time-consuming affair and subject to vagaries of politics, the BJP believes in:

- Giving the private sector a larger role in design and production of military hardware and platforms for both domestic use and exports, in a competitive environment.
- Investing heavily in space programmes: India must think and look beyond satellites.
- Focusing on cyber technology that will enable us to adopt both offensive and defensive posture as cyber warfare evolves from its present form into a real form of terror.
- Forging strategic partnerships that are not limited to either trade or defence but are all-comprehensive.
- In view of changed regional and global realities, we believe India must review and revise its nuclear policy and posture. The 'No First Use' clause has been rendered meaningless.

III. OUTCOMES FOR 2025

Goals to be achieved by 2025

- Maximum governance, minimum Government
- Sustained, high economic growth for all Indians
- Accountable government, transparent performance, improved and effective public spending
- Compassionate and caring to all, discrimination against none
- Scourge of poverty to be replaced with adequate job opportunities
- A fully literate nation with healthcare and shelter guaranteed to all. No child will suffer from malnourishment.
- Assured social, economic and political freedom for people to live their own lives

An India which will

- Be the world's largest job creator with the Fastest growing economy in the world, ahead of China
- Have the largest pool of skilled force globally for jobs at homes and abroad
- Have a five-fold increase in per capita income with equitable distribution of prosperity
- Have 24x7 power supply for homes, farms, industry
- Have multiple global gateways and global hubs with world's largest network of high-speed train tracks for rapid mass transit

*Come join us in building a nation of which you
will be proud and the world will respect.*

OUTCOMES FOR 2025

Indicator	2012-13	2025
ECONOMY		
GDP per capita (PPP)	\$3812	\$10,991
GDP (PPP)	\$4.7 Trillion	\$20 Trillion
GDP (Official Exchange rates)	\$1.84 Trillion	\$6.5 Trillion
GDP Growth	5.0%	12%
Inflation (CPI)	10.4%	5-6%
Real Interest Rates	2.3%	2-3%
Fiscal Deficit/Surplus (% of GDP)	4.89%	2-3%
Unemployment Rate	4.7%	5-6%
Forex Reserves	\$259.73 Billion	\$1 Trillion
Savings Rate (% of GDP)	30.8%	40-45%
Investment Rate (% of GDP)	NA	45-50%
Infrastructure Spending (% of GDP)	8.37%	15%
Port Capacity (MT)	933	1250
Road Network (1000 kms)	79	96.8
Number of Airports	87	500
High-speed Train Tracks	0*	10,000 kms
Power Capacity (1000 MW)	228	900
Internet User penetration (% of population)	12%	60%
Cities with population greater than 3 million	10	50
Growth in Agriculture	1.9% (RE)	5%
Growth in Industry	2.1% (RE)	15%
Growth in Services	7.1% (RE)	15%
Job creation per year (millions)	0.5	20
Public + Private health expenditure (% of GDP)	4.1%	13.0
Public + Private Education Expenditure (% of GDP)	3.11% (only Public)	11.9
Literacy Levels (% of population)	74% (2011)	95%
Percentage of under-5 children who are underweight	47%	5
Percentage of Population below Poverty line	21%	8
Life Expectancy at birth (years)	66	75

* Approved Plan proposal of 4441 kms has not been implemented yet

IV. BIG, BOLD IDEAS
TO ENABLE DEVELOPMENT

BIG, BOLD IDEAS TO ENABLE DEVELOPMENT

Development is a multi-dimensional concept and not just limited to economic growth or GDP growth. It is a process which eradicates material poverty, oppression and conflict. The most general description of a developed society is one which guarantees freedom to all its members. The story of development follows a very predictable pattern. It is always about a powerful set of characters which are closely inter-related and which develop in step. The set is small: cities, an increasingly educated population, energy for manufacturing, and a robust efficient transportation system. Any economy which is missing any of these components will fail to develop.

The manufacturing sector requires human capital. This means that the population has to be educated with the required skills. It also requires energy. Manufacturing also requires specialization and benefits from economies of scale. To move intermediate goods required for achieving scale economies, an efficient transportation system is necessary.

The need for India therefore is implement a set of policies in those specific areas. We need to learn from the best in India and around the world. All problems we face have been faced by others. First, we need to adopt and adapt those solutions that best suit our circumstances. India needs big, bold, imaginative ideas – to fulfil the growing aspirations of its people and create opportunities where none exist.

Second, we need to understand that there are inter-dependencies and linkages in these ideas, which means they need to be implemented simultaneously (as opposed to creating point solutions). For example: make agriculture efficient; this frees up resources for manufacturing sector; they need good education to be productive; they also need urban areas where they need to live; this creates the need for new cities; these new cities need energy and mass transportation.

BJP'S 20 BIG IDEAS TO DEVELOP INDIA

1. Moral Society

BJP will work to restoring morality and concepts of values and public service in our society. Only society with strong values can create governments that work on ethics and build a strong, yet compassionate nation of our founding fathers' dreams.

2. Sustained, high economic growth

The BJP's strategy for economic growth will ensure many years of consistent high growth, and a growth that replaces the current statistical delusion with significant improvements in life for all Indians, by ensuring economic prosperity is equitably shared. Ensuring private capital, entrepreneurship and Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) are a fundamental part of this economic growth strategy and where PPPs are needed, they would be guided with transparency and mutual benefit to public and private investors.

3. Maximum Governance, Minimum Government

BJP will replace the current dysfunctional model of Government with a more responsive form of Government. A Government that's more obsessed with the people's concerns and addressing them, rather than the size of Government and the money it spends.

4. Make Regulators fully Independent; make Parliament accountable for oversight

BJP will build new independent institutions and rebuild those that have been destroyed or corroded with Political interference. BJP believes that the current discretionary power within the Executive needs significant checks and balances with independent institutions and regulators.

5. Political, Electoral and Legislative reforms

BJP believes that a number of reforms are required in Government and the political system – to align them with the aspirations of our people. BJP will initiate an open national debate on these issues and initiate a process of reforms in Governance and politics.

6. New and effective anti-corruption instruments, addressing causes behind creation of black money

Lokpal alone cannot bring an end to corruption. We need a set of instruments to fight corruption, make corrupt practices far less lucrative than they are now, and punish the guilty.

7. An India free from hunger and malnutrition, with high levels of human development, by 2025

Corruption breeds poverty. Poverty breeds hunger, malnutrition, illiteracy and homelessness. Development will become truly meaningful when the manifestations of corruption are dealt with unflinching determination. A corrupt country can't be a developed country, it can be a poor country with an impoverished society.

8. Food, Energy and Water Security – three pillars for internal response to external challenges

Wars of the 21st century will be fought not to gain territory but control over shrinking and/or depleting food, energy and water resources. We have to secure the nation's FEW interests, and thereby protect the FEW interests of the people.

9. Four-fold increase in per capita energy output

Ensure energy security, with significant investments in alternate energy including solar, wind etc.

10. Transformation of India's rural economy, dramatic increase in agricultural productivity

Use the model of BJP-ruled States like Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh, replicate it nationally, attain sustainable agricultural growth of not less than 8 per cent.

11. Create 10 Rural Infrastructure and Services Commons (RISCs) in every district

RISC is an economic model which can catalyze rural economic development by providing rural populations a comprehensive set of relevant services. It works within the constraints of limited resources by focusing attention to and concentrating investments at specific locations to obtain economies of scale, scope and agglomeration.

12. Renew existing cities and create 100 new, affordable, green, smart cities (effective utilization of public land for creating social infrastructure)

India's urbanisation cannot be accomplished with the stock of existing cities. They are already bursting at the seams and cannot conceivably accommodate the 200+ million estimated to be added to the urban areas by 2025. There is an urgent need to build new sustainable (green) and technologically enabled (smart) cities.

13. Individual household-based identification of poor, with direct cash transfer of subsidies

Subsidies in services invariably lead to leakages that increase the burden on the state and fuel corruption. It's a good idea to switch over to direct cash transfer to the intended beneficiaries. Not only would this prevent leakage but also give the beneficiaries greater choice.

14. Addressing issues of environment/climate change

Introduce sustainability firmly as a major component of the economic growth strategy.

15. Diamond Quadrilateral

India needs to build the world's largest network of high-speed train tracks for rapid mass transit and goods movement, connecting north-south, east-west.

16. Choice, competition, quality & efficiency in health, universal health insurance

Guaranteed healthcare for all through universal insurance and services via PPPs.

17. Complete liberalisation of education, with effective regulation

The greatest hurdle in India's path to the future is the near-monopoly government control of the education system. There is a need to increase capacity, promote competition, and improve quality by encouraging the private sector to provide education, and make India a knowledge powerhouse.

18. Targeted increases in female literacy and female work participation rates, cash incentives towards the girl child

19. Arming with Aiming: Transforming India's Military

Make India's Defence Forces capable of dealing with the security challenges of the 21st century which are constantly evolving.

20. Introduce an Armed Forces Covenant

Reaffirm the faith that the people of India have in their brave armed forces serving our nation, by passing an Armed Forces Covenant – an undertaking that families of those who sacrifice life or limbs for our nation will always be cared for.