# A Roadmap for Monument Conservation Policy for Viksit Bharat@2047

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## ABSTRACT:

India has a long history and a rich heritage. Our monuments show the culture, art and knowledge of many centuries. They are symbols of our national pride. But many monuments are in danger because of pollution, climate change, lack of care and pressure of development. The present laws and policies are not always enough to protect them.This paper studies the policy gaps in monument conservation. It looks at national and state level schemes and their results. It also compares global practices with Indian methods. The aim is to create a clear roadmap for monument conservation till 2047, when India completes 100 years of independence.The paper suggests a three-level strategy. First, strong laws and regular monitoring. Second, use of technology like digital mapping, 3D scanning and remote sensing. Third, active community participation with focus on youth and local custodians. It also stresses on sustainable finance, training of skilled workers and climate resilience.By 2047, India must ensure that all major monuments are preserved, documented and accessible in a responsible way. A national policy roadmap can balance development with heritage protection. It will make heritage a living part of Viksit Bharat.

## KEYWORDS:

monuments, culture, Viksitbharat, Policy, heritage

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## INTRODUCTION

India is known in the world for its great history and culture. From the Taj Mahal to Hampi, from Konark to Ajanta caves, our land is full of monuments which tell the story of our civilisation. These monuments are not only beautiful structures, but also lessons of our past, our skills and our traditions. They are a source of pride and identity for every Indian.

But today, many monuments are facing serious problems. Pollution, climate change, natural disasters, urban growth and lack of regular care are damaging them. In some places, pressure of tourism and en-

croachment also creates risk. Existing laws like the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, and the work of ASI and state bodies, are important, but still not fully effective to meet future challenges.

As India moves towards Viksit Bharat 2047, it is time to prepare a strong roadmap for monument conservation. This roadmap should combine good policies, modern technology, trained manpower, sustainable finance and active community role. It should also ensure that development and heritage protection go together, not against each other.

This paper makes an effort to study the present system, find the gaps, and suggest policy measures for better conservation till 2047.

## FINDINGS

The study shows that India has a very large number of monuments, but only a small part of them are protected by national or state authorities. Many monuments in small towns and villages are not recorded properly. This leads to neglect and slow damage over time. There is also a lack of regular surveys and updated documentation. Without proper records, planning for conservation becomes weak.

Another finding is that present laws are useful but not strong enough. The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act provides protection, but there are many delays in implementation. In many cases, encroachment near monuments continues because of weak enforcement. Coordination between central and state agencies is also not very smooth. This reduces the speed and quality of conservation work.

The study also highlights the role of technology. In some projects, 3D scanning, drone surveys and digital archives have been used. These methods are very effective for preservation, planning and awareness. But such technologies are not used in most places. There is a clear gap between the availability of modern tools and their use on the ground. More training and investment are needed to make technology a regular part of conservation.

Community participation is another area where improvement is needed. In many places, local people are not directly involved in caring for monuments. As a result, they do not always feel a sense of responsibility. Where communities, schools, and youth groups are included, the results are much better. Heritage tourism also shows that when local peo-

ple benefit economically, they become active custodians of monuments.

Finally, financing remains a major challenge. Most conservation projects depend on government funds, which are often limited. There is very little private participation or long–term funding models. Without sustainable finance, it is not possible to maintain monuments for the next 20–30 years. Climate change is also creating new threats such as rising temperature, heavy rains and floods, which require extra resources and new strategies.

Overall, the findings show that while India has strong heritage and some good policies, there are major gaps in documentation, enforcement, technology use, community participation and sustainable finance. Unless these areas are improved, the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047 will not be fully achieved in the field of monument conservation.

## DISCUSSION

The findings clearly show that India needs a new direction for monument conservation. At present, protection efforts are often limited to a few famous monuments. But India's heritage is very wide, spread across cities, villages and rural landscapes. A roadmap till 2047 must give equal attention to both well–known and lesser–known monuments. This will make conservation more inclusive and balanced.

One important point is that laws alone are not enough. Stronger enforcement and regular monitoring are necessary. At the same time, laws should not only punish, but also guide development in a positive way. For example, urban planning can include protected zones around monuments, instead of waiting for encroachments to happen. This will reduce conflicts between development and heritage.Technology can play a big role. Digital mapping, 3D scanning, drones and sensors can help identify risks early and plan restorations better. If a national digital heritage database is cre–ated, every monument can be recorded and tracked. This will also make data open for researchers, policymakers and the public. But technology must go hand in hand with training. Without trained manpower, modern tools will not be fully effective.

Community participation is another key solution. People living near monuments must be treated as partners, not outsiders. If they are involved in decision making and get some benefits from tourism or cul–tural activities, they will take more care of monuments. Schools, colleges

and NGOs can also help by creating awareness among young people. This social participation will make conservation a shared responsibility.

Financing is the backbone of the roadmap. Depending only on government budgets is not sustainable. Public–private partnerships, heritage trusts, CSR funds, and small local contributions can add strength. If revenue from heritage tourism is shared fairly, it can support both conservation and local development. Innovative financing models will help India maintain its monuments for the next 20 years and beyond.

Lastly, climate change cannot be ignored. Rising temperatures, floods, and pollution are already damaging many monuments. A conservation roadmap must include climate resilience strategies such as better drainage, protective shelters, and eco–friendly materials. If climate risks are planned from today, future damage can be reduced.In summary, the discussion shows that monument conservation for Viksit Bharat 2047 must be multi–dimensional. It requires strong laws, modern technology, active communities, sustainable finance, and climate adaptation. Only by combining all these elements can India secure its cultural heritage for future generations.

## CONCLUSION

India's monuments are not only stones and walls, but living symbols of our history, culture and identity. They connect our people to their roots and inspire pride in the nation. As we look towards Viksit Bharat 2047, it is our duty to protect and preserve this heritage with care and vision.

The study shows that present efforts are useful, but not enough for the challenges of the future. Problems like weak enforcement, limited funds, low use of technology, and less community involvement must be solved with new policies. The roadmap for 2047 should give importance to strong laws, modern digital tools, local participation, sustainable finance, and climate resilience.

If India adopts such a balanced and forward–looking policy, every citizen will become a partner in conservation. Monuments will not only be protected but will also become centres of learning, tourism and cultural pride. By 2047, a developed India must also be a nation that has saved its heritage for future generations.

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