

Indian Democracy, Federalism and Secularism@2047**Padmaraj Jain**Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, VCBES Arts and
Commerce College, Lingasugur, Raichur.DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.17941810>**ABSTRACT:**

As India approaches the centenary of its independence in 2047, the nation envisions a transformative journey towards becoming a developed, inclusive and participative democracy. Strengthening the constitutional pillars of democracy, federalism and secularism forms the core of this vision. India's democratic evolution demands a shift from mere electoral representation to a participatory, transparent and digitally empowered governance model that expands citizen engagement and accountability. India's secularism, rooted in the ethos of Sarva Dharma Sambhava, must evolve into a more inclusive and culturally rooted pluralism that guarantees equal citizenship, protects diversity, and promotes social harmony without discriminatory state intervention. Together, these three pillars provide the ethical and institutional foundation for Viksit Bharat @ 2047, reinforcing India's aspiration to emerge as a socially just, economically progressive and culturally cohesive nation. The main objectives of present paper are to study the democracy, federalism and secularism @ 2047. The study based on secondary sources of data. Secondary data have been collected from various sources like Various Reports, Research journal, Text books, Websites ect.

KEYWORDS:

Indian Democracy, Fiscal Federalism, Secularism in India.

INTRODUCTION:

As India enters the centenary year of its independence in 2047, it seeks not only economic progress but a transformation into a developed, participatory and socially just nation. This mission—popularly termed Viksit Bharat @ 2047 rests on three foundational constitutional pillars: democracy, federalism, and secularism. These principles define India's political identity, shape its governance model and ensure unity within extraordinary cultural and linguistic diversity.

India's democratic journey has progressed from elite-based politics to mass participation, women's empowerment and digital governance. Federalism has shifted from central dominance to cooperation and fiscal negotiation through platforms like the GST Council. Secularism has

evolved as a uniquely Indian model of principled pluralism, balancing religious freedom with social reform. In the context of rapid technological change, migration, climate stress and political realignments, these pillars need deeper strengthening for India's 2047 aspirations

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

Following are the important objectives of the present paper:

1. To know the democracy, federalism and secularism @ 2047.
2. To study the current Strengths and challenges of democracy, federalism and secularism @ 2047.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

The present paper primarily based on secondary data sources. Secondary data have been collected from various sources like Various Reports, Research journal, Text books, Websites ect.

DEMOCRACY @ 2047:

Indian Democracy @ 2047 envisions a "Viksit Bharat" (Developed India) by its 100th Independence anniversary, focusing on economic self-reliance, technological leadership (like space exploration), inclusive growth through youth, women, farmers (Yuva, Garib, Mahilayen, Annadata), and robust digital infrastructure, while navigating challenges like upholding constitutional values, tackling corruption, fostering unity, and addressing governance gaps for a just, prosperous, and globally influential nation

1) Constitutional Basis:

- Preamble, Parts III & IV
- Articles 325–329 (Electoral Democracy), Article 324 (Election Commission)
- 73rd & 74th Amendments (Local Self-Government)

2) Current Strengths:

- Largest election system globally
- Robust digital public infrastructure (e-governance, Aadhaar, UPI)
- Expansion of women and youth political participation

3) Challenges:

- Electoral funding opacity
- Rising misinformation and polarization

- Limited deliberative participation beyond voting

4) Vision 2047 Goals:

- Deepening Democracy: Citizen councils, participatory budgeting, digital feedback system.
- Transparent Politics: Strong political funding law, real time public expenditure tracking.
- Ethical Governance: AI enabled anti corruption tools, public audit dashboards.

FEDERALISM @ 2047:

Indian federalism @ 2047 will likely focus on strengthening Cooperative Federalism balancing centralized vision (Viksit Bharat) with state-led development, empowering states for localized growth, resolving fiscal/administrative issues, and ensuring inclusive development to meet the 2047 developed nation goal, with institutions like NITI Aayog and GST Council being key platforms for Centre-State dialogue, though challenges include power balance and resource distribution.

1) Constitutional Basis

- Articles 245–263, 280, 279A
- Seventh Schedule (Union–State Powers)
- 73rd & 74th Amendments (Decentralization)

2) Current Strengths

- GST Council as cooperative fiscal platform
- Diversity accommodated through linguistic, cultural autonomy
- Increasing role of states in welfare and development

3) Challenges

- Fiscal dependence of states
- Inter-state disputes (water, migration, environment)
- Policy overlap and regional disparities

4) Vision 2047 Goals:

- Fiscal Federalism: Higher tax devolution, state GST autonomy, municipal financing.
- Collaborative Policymaking: Join Centre state policy councils for health, education and climate.

SECULARISM @ 2027:

Indian secularism by 2047 is a topic of intense debate, envisioned by some within the government's 2047 (Developed India) initiative as a more unified, legally equal nation through policies like the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) while others fear it could drift from traditional pluralism towards majoritarianism, requiring constitutional debates to balance individual freedoms, community rights, and India's diverse democratic ideals as it aims for developed status

1) Constitutional Basis:

- Preamble (Secularism)
- Articles 25–30 (Religious & Cultural Rights)
- Articles 14–16 (Equality and Non-Discrimination)
- Article 27 (No religious tax by State)

2) Current Strengths:

- Religious freedom plus social reform approach
- Coexistence of diverse traditions, festivals, languages
- Minority protections with equal citizenship

3) Challenges:

- Religious polarization and populism
- Misuse of social media to spread hate
- Identity-based political mobilization

4) Vision 2047 Goals:

- Equal Citizenship: Uniform civil. Gender justice and welfare.
- Cultural Pluralism: Heritage, protection, education in values of pluralism.

CONCLUSION:

In conclusion, this study highlights the 2047, India's progress must be measured not merely in GDP growth but in the quality of its democracy, fairness of its federal structure and harmony within its diverse society. Strengthening these constitutional foundations will elevate India from a functioning democracy to a flourishing democratic civilization, ensuring that Viksit Bharat is not just developed, but inclusive, just and united.

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The Authors have no conflict of interest to declare that they are relevant to the content of this article.

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