

VISION 2020

When the India Today Conclave posed the question 'India Tomorrow: Global Giant or Pygmy?' I recalled an event that occurred while meeting students in Nagaland during my recent visit there. A Class V student asked me, 'I would like to live in a happy, prosperous, peaceful and safe India. Tell me, what will you do Mr President? Also, tell me what I should do for that?' During my interactions with school children of 17 states and three Union territories which I have visited, a series of similar questions was raised.

Sometimes, I feel, a nation of billion people think like a nation of million people. Why is it so? I consider no other nation has got a civilisational heritage like India to live a near-peaceful life. Indian minds were capable of absorbing the best of cultures from successive invasions. Now we should not allow any religion or any individual fanaticism to endanger our nation. Because, the nation is more important compared to any individual or party or religion.

Even the rich and developed nations, in spite of their wealth and military strength, are afraid of virtual enemies and they live with the fear complex. Economic prosperity and military strength alone do not bring peace to any nation, as we see from the dynamics of the world. In such a situation it is also very important to transform our religious forces into spiritual forces. Evolution of spiritual forces in addition to economic prosperity and military strength will bring happiness, peace and prosperity.

We got freedom in 1947 as a result of what I call the first vision for the nation. This vision created the best of leaders in many fields like politics, philosophy, judiciary, science and technology and industry. Improvements took place in many aspects of life, in literacy, agricultural products, strategic areas, certain small and large-scale industries. Now more than 50 years have gone by and we are called as one among the hundreds of developing countries and in a distinct way a separation from G-8 countries. We have many challenges. Nearly 260 million people who are below the poverty line have to join the mainstream of a good life. Hundred per cent literacy, health for all, multiple industrial and agricultural productivity and a lifestyle with a value system have to emerge. Hence, we need the second vision for the nation to become developed.

After Independence, India looked forward to development through Five Year Plans. The Green Revolution and technological growth enabled India to prosper with self-sufficiency in food, and achievements in many technological frontiers, particularly in the past two decades. A major transformation came during the information age when India established its position with its strong core competence in

information technology. Today, India is in the knowledge age which provides an opportunity to become a developed nation with a strong economy.

In the twenty-first century, a new society is emerging where knowledge is the primary production resource instead of capital and labour. People's lives will be enriched by IT-driven knowledge products and systems, biotechnology and space technology. As a future revolution, it is predicted that humanity will see human habitat in one of the planets and space solar power radiating to earth for electric power. Human life will be further extended for research outcomes. Nano technology will enter into human usage like the control systems of various transportation systems, medical-technology equipment and aerospace systems.

In most of the developed nations, the information and communications technology (ICT) sector directly contributes 7-8 per cent to their GDP. It is expected that by 2010 in these countries, ICT will account for 25 per cent of the GDP either directly (by way of sale of hardware and software) or indirectly (by being an integral part of e-governance, connectivity for improved productivity, industries and even in daily life for improved efficiency and transparency). In India, ICT today accounts for nearly 2 per cent of GDP. To be a developed nation, we should enhance this significantly.

Our core competencies that can be exploited in addition to what has been planned in 1998 include information security, scientific software development and e-governance that can spearhead a strong domestic market, entertainment, education, hardware and chip design and wireless. If we exploit these areas of our core competency, we can create Indian MNCs and aim at a target of \$150 billion by 2010.

Another core competence we should develop is in biotechnology. India is rich in herbs, germplasm and micro organisms. Industrially developed countries are importing these bio-resources in raw forms, adding value to them and exporting them as special seeds and biomaterials to developing countries including India. They also own fully protected patents of these products. Instead of allowing export of such resources and importing value-added products at high cost, India must add its own technology for conversion of such resources to value-added products for use in domestic requirement as well as for export of the global herbal product market of \$61 billion. China has a share of around \$3 billion whereas India's share is not even \$100 million. Hence, there is tremendous opportunity for a higher market share. India has similar potential for promoting floriculture and aquaculture in a big way.

Our Prime Minister, in his Independence Day address from the Red Fort on August 15, 2002, declared that India would become a developed nation by 2020. India has entered the 10th Five Year Plan with a focus on all round development. The 10th Plan is a very vital period as it has to lay the foundation for this journey of transformation by initiating mission projects that will bring economic strength to the nation. In order to realise a developed India by 2020, five key areas have been identified for an integrated action:

- Agriculture and food processing, with a target of 360 million tonnes of food and agricultural products in a year. Other areas of agriculture and agro-food processing will bring food security and prosperity to rural people and speed up economic growth;
- Education and healthcare aimed at increasing the employment potential leading to social security and population control;
- Infrastructure development, including reliable and quality electric power for all parts of the country, which is vital for all core sectors;
- Information and communications technology - this is one of our core competencies, promoting education in remote areas and creating massive employment and national wealth through export earning; and
- Critical technologies and strategic industries - the progress in nuclear, space and defence technologies will provide sustained growth and self-reliance for the nation.

These five areas are closely inter-related and will lead to national, food and economic security. A strong partnership among the R&D, academia, industry, business and the community as a whole with government departments and agencies will be essential to accomplish the vision. Apart from the plan to network the major rivers, a scheme called Providing Urban Amenities in Rural Areas (PURA) can help create rural wealth and prosperity. The model envisages a habitat designed to improve the quality of life in rural places and makes special suggestions to remove urban congestion too. As against a conventional city, say, rectangular in shape and measuring approximately 10 km by 6 km, the model considers a ring-shaped town integrating a minimum of 8 to 10 villages in the same area. This model provides easy access to villages, saves transportation time, cuts costs substantially and is more convenient for general public. Such a model of establishing a circular connectivity of rural village complexes will accelerate rural development process by empowerment.

The nation's strengths predominantly reside in its natural and human resources which we should leverage. Human resources, particularly with a large young population, is the unique core strength of the nation. There are 700 million people below 35 years of age in the population of a billion people. The nation needs young leaders who can command the change for transformation of India into a developed nation embedded with a knowledge society from now to 20 years. Quality leaders are like magnets that will attract the best persons to build a team for the organisation and give inspiring leadership even during failure of missions as they are not afraid of risks. The creators of vision ignite the young mind in particular.

What are the qualities of such a creative leader? He or she exercises changes in the traditional role from commander to coach, from manager to mentor, from director to delegator and from one who demands respect to one who facilitates self-respect. The higher the proportion of creative leaders in a nation, the higher the potential of success of visions like 'developed India'.

With the vision and characteristics of a creative leader defined, what can be the tasks of various people? The student community can remove the illiteracy of a certain number of people in their area where their schools or houses are situated. Only a burning candle can light another. Teachers and parents can assist them in this task. The Government and R&D labs can provide technological upgradation to small-scale industries so that production can be increased and they become competitive. The large-scale industries have to increase their productivity and quality so that the market share can be increased for economic growth and GDP. They can aim to become multinational companies and global leaders. The farming community has to increase its productivity with the help of new and available scientific methods particularly for dry land cultivation.

The information technology and knowledge workers have a tremendous responsibility to contribute in the areas of tele-medicine, tele-education and e-governance for rural areas apart from their business role. PURA has to be a business proposition, economically viable and managed by entrepreneurs and small-scale industrialists with government participation, as it involves education, healthcare, power-generation, transport and management. In this vision period, the government has to build a name for itself, by quick decision-making and transparent administration. The media has to become a partner and a positive critic in national development. Our musicians, poets, artisans and artists should nurture the glory of our great civilization and sing the song of developed India. This type of motivated environment will indeed lay a great foundation for our vision of transforming India into a 'developed nation'.

- **A.P.J. Abdul**

Kalam

About the Lesson

'Vision for 2020' was initially a document prepared by the Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC) of India's Department of Science and Technology under the chairmanship of Dr. A. P. J. Kalam and a team of 500 experts. The plan is further detailed in the book *India 2020: A Vision for the New Millennium*, which Dr. Kalam co-authored with Dr. Y.S. Rajan. The essay focuses on transforming India into a developed country by 2020. Five areas have been identified, based on India's core competence, natural resources and talented manpower for integrated action, to speed up the growth rate of GDP and realize the vision of developed India.

A. P. J. Abdul Kalam (1931 – 2015) was the 11th President of India from 2002 to 2007. He succeeded in developing and launching Prithvi and Agni missiles. He, thus, came to be known as the *Missile Man of India*.

GLOSSARY

predict	:	forecast
distinct	:	clear

emerge	:	come out
fanaticism	:	strong beliefs concerning politics or religion
virtual	:	real
core	:	essential; the most significant
evolution	:	development that occurs serially
tremendous	:	very much
accomplish	:	to complete, to perform
congestion	:	over-crowded
access	:	reach, approach
substantially	:	of considerable importance
accelerate	:	speed up
predominantly	:	mainly
characteristics	:	features, main traits
various	:	different
viable	:	practicable
nurture	:	help grow

Activity 1: COMPREHENSION

A. Tick the correct alternative:

- According to Dr. Kalam, more important for any individual is -
 (a) family (b) religion
 (c) nation (d) party
- The second vision for India is needed to--
 (a) make it a developed nation (b) provide weapons
 (c) improve our life style (d) lead a luxurious life
- The developed countries are scared of-
 (a) U.S.A. (b) their enemies
 (c) atom bomb (d) none

B. Answer to the following questions should not exceed 10-15 words each:

- What was Dr. Kalam's second vision for India?
- What will bring happiness, peace and prosperity?
- What was the first vision for the nation?
- What has enabled India to prosper with self-sufficiency in food?
- How can the student community make its contribution to remove illiteracy?

C. Answer to the following questions should not exceed 30-40 words each:

- What are the five key areas of integrated action required for developed India?
- What are the qualities of a creative leader?
- Besides leaders, who are the others responsible for transforming India into a developed nation?
- What is the role of media in national development?
- What should large scale industries aim at?

D. Answer to the following questions should not exceed 60-80 words each:

1. How does Dr. Kalam envisage the 21st century?
2. Narrate 'Vision 2020' in your own words.

E. Say whether the following statements are True or False. Write T for true and F for false in the bracket:

1. After Independence, India looked forward to development through Five Year Plans. []
2. We got freedom in 1949. []
3. In order to realise a developed India by 2020, five key areas have been identified for an integrated action. []
4. The essay *Vision 2020* focuses on transforming India into a developed country by 2020. []

Activity 2: VOCABULARY

- (a) A number of words can be invented by combining with the word 'virtual' as an adjective. The word 'virtual' means "almost or very nearly the thing described."

Make one sentence each using the phrases given below in such a way that its meaning is clear –

Virtual world, Virtual memory, Virtual reality, Virtual library

- (b) The word 'biotechnology' is formed by using the prefix 'Bio-'. Some such words which are formed in the similar way include the following –

Biophysics, Biomedical, Biosphere, etc.

Look up these words and their meanings in *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary*

Activity 3: GRAMMAR

In the previous class/es you have learnt about the Parts of Speech. You will know more about them in this lesson.

A. Read the following sentences and mark the underlined words :

- (a) I have seen his beautiful photograph microscopically.

Verb Adjective Noun Adverb

- (b) Alas ! The two girls Maya and Lata, the ones in white kurta have lost their necklaces.

Intj det enum conj det pn prep aux

The underlined words in the sentence (a) are called Verb, Adjective, Noun and Adverb respectively, whereas those in (b) are Interjection (Intj), Determiner (det), Enumerator

(enum), Conjunction (conj), Pronoun (Pn), Preposition, and Auxiliary (aux). The underlined items in the sentence (a) are called Open Word Classes and those in (b) are called Closed Word Classes.

Nouns are divided into Count/Mass, Proper/Common, Concrete/Abstract and Collective Nouns. Now Study the following Sentences:

- I have a pen. (Count or Countable)
- Gold is a precious metal. (Uncountable or Mass Noun)
- Udaipur is called the City of Lakes. (Proper Noun)
- Ramesh is the student of class XI. (Proper Noun)
- Dog is an animal. (Common Noun)
- His joy knew no limits. (Abstract Noun)
- I saw a beautiful rabbit here. (Concrete Noun)
- The Committee has taken a decision. (Collective Noun)

On the basis of the examples given above try to conceptualise them from the point of meaning and structure.

The following sentences consist of adjectives-

- (c) She is an Australian.
- (d) She is intelligent.

The underlined words in (c) and (d) are Non-gradable and Gradable adjectives respectively. Non-gradable adjectives refer either to nationality or sex whereas Gradable adjectives are the attributes of size, shape, colour, merit etc. Know more about the adjectives from your teachers.

The sentences given below explain the grammatical category called a verb-

- (e) I understand that she is sentimental.
- (f) She jumped over the fence and went away.

The Underlined items in sentence (e) are called Stative Verbs whereas the one in (f) are Dynamic Verbs. Stative verbs refer to the states, whereas Dynamic verbs, are the words indicating movement.

You have learnt that the word ‘microscopically’ is an adverb. Adverbs add something either to an adjective or a verb. The underlined items in the sentences given below are Adverbs-

- (g) She walked slowly.
- (h) She was in the room.
- (i) She reached the office in the afternoon.
- (j) She examined the letter thoroughly.

- (k) I travelled by bus.
(l) Although she is innocent, she is not skilled.

The underlined items in sentences (g) to (l) refer to manner, place, time, process, means and contrast. Besides, there are adverbs of frequency, concession, reason etc. Learn all about them from your grammar book. Now, learn about the Closed Word Classes:

The Closed Word classes are

1. Pronoun
2. Determiner
3. Preposition
4. Conjunction
5. Auxiliary
6. Interjection
7. Enumerator

Read the following sentences and decide on the basis of your previous knowledge as to which grammatical category the underlined word belongs to-

- He is a student.(Pronoun)
This pen is mine.(Determiner)
She is in the kitchen.(Preposition)
Mahesh and Mohan are here.(Conjunction)
Ugh! It's too hot here.(Interjection)
She is doing her work.(Auxiliary)
The second presentation is better.(Enumerator)

Remember

Pronouns are substitutes for Nouns.
Determiners signal the arrival of a Noun/ Noun phrase.
Prepositions are the words used before Nouns/ Pronouns to show place, position, time and method.
Conjunctions are the words that join words, phrases or sentences.
Interjections are the words spoken suddenly to express emotions.
Auxiliaries are the verbs used to show tenses,etc and to form questions and negatives.
Enumerators are the numbers,both cardinals(such as one....)and Ordinals(such as first, both,etc)

Activity 4: SPEECH ACTIVITY

Kalam contributed towards the development of the Nation in varied ways. His contribution in building up the Nation by creating Model Teachers hardly constitutes the subject of any discourse today. Organize a symposium on the following –

‘Kalam’s Views on a Model Teacher’

Activity 5: COMPOSITION

Read Kalam’s Vision 2020 and write a letter to your friend briefing him about the ideas described in the book.