



Indian Football's Vision 2047

Prelims: All India Football Federation, FIFA.

Mains: Indian football's Vision 2047.

Why in News?

The [All India Football Federation](#) unveiled its strategic roadmap with '**Vision 2047**', hoping that in the country's centenary year of independence, India will emerge as a new powerhouse of Asian football.

- Developed in conjunction with all stakeholders within Indian Football, the roadmap has also sought and incorporated inputs from the **Asian Football Confederation** and [FIFA \(Fédération internationale de Football Association\)](#).
- AIFF has broken down '**Vision 2047**' into **six four-year strategic plans**. The first of these will look to cover the period till 2026.

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VISION 2047

A phased approach towards being leaders in Asia and one of the top football talent hubs for the world.

There will be six strategic plans designed during this phase with a purpose to achieve our Vision, 2047.

Strategic Plan 2023 - 26

Strategic Plan 2027 - 30

Strategic Plan 2031 - 34

Strategic Plan 2035 - 38

Strategic Plan 2039 - 42

Strategic Plan 2043 - 47

FOCUS ON CORE AREAS

THE YEAR 2047

- Among top 4 in Asia
- Having a vibrant football ecosystem in India
- One of top 3 Football Leagues in Asia across genders
- At least one iconic player with International stardom in both Men's and Women's Football



What is Indian Football's Vision 2047?

▪ National Football Philosophy:

- The national football philosophy of India would be based on **collecting data from scouting, creating a technical curriculum**, focusing on coach and player development and hoping it would translate into a talent pool for the national team.
 - To create a national playing philosophy, the AIFF will develop the **Coach Education Program to improve the quality of football** at all levels of the ecosystem.
 - The AIFF has also targeted creating 50,000 active coaches — almost 4,500 with a minimum AIFF C License — across the country.
- The focus on collecting data and creating a scouting system will be in charge of and will do so by 2026. The overall approach to finding a footballing philosophy though remains the same.

▪ Vibrant Footballing Ecosystem.

- The roadmap **envisioned India to be among the top four footballing nations in Asia**, host one of the top leagues in Asia, and create a vibrant footballing ecosystem.

▪ Village Grassroots Programmes:

- AIFF aims to implement village grassroots programmes to reach **35 million children across 100 villages throughout India** and also aim to register 1 million registered players and provide football education to 25 million children through Football for Schools.
- They noted that there is a huge gender disparity in participation at grassroots level.

▪ Enhancement of Women Participation:

- A four-level league table pyramid will be created for **women's football by 2026** with the top of the pyramid to be occupied by the Indian Women's League (featuring 10 teams), followed by the 2nd Division (8 teams). AIFF has also targeted a minimum **of 20 states to implement the new women's youth structures by 2027**.
 - The **women's football ecosystem has been weak in the country** and needed

specific solutions to help increase participation and competency, also mentioning the need to improve the minimum salary.

▪ **Infrastructure:**

- The AIFF will improve **infrastructure by putting in place policy interventions that will incentivise government authorities**, football clubs, corporates, and private investors to invest in infrastructure.

What is the Scenario of Football in India?

▪ **About:**

- Football in India is currently at a developing stage. Despite being the second most populous country in the world, **football is not as popular in India as cricket.**

▪ **Challenges:**

- One of the main challenges facing football in India is the **lack of investment and infrastructure**. Many stadiums and training facilities are in poor condition, and there is a **shortage of properly trained coaches and trainers**. This makes it difficult for players to develop their skills and for teams to compete at a high level.

▪ **Potential:**

- The **Indian national team has made some strides and has improved its FIFA ranking**. The ISL and I-League have also seen an increase in popularity and attendances, and there **have been some successful Indian players in overseas leagues**.
- Overall, football in India still has a long way to go, **but there are some positive developments and there is potential for growth in the future**.
- The recent efforts of AIFF to improve grassroots level football, training and development of coaches, referees, infrastructure and promoting the game to **newer areas and schools, will help in bringing more people to the game and increase its popularity and success**.

What is AIFF?

- The AIFF is the **organization that manages the game of association football in India**.
- It administers the running of the India national football team and also controls the I-League, India's premier domestic club competition, in addition to various other competitions and teams.
- The **AIFF was founded in 1937, and gained FIFA affiliation in the year 1948**, after India's independence in 1947.
- Currently, it has an office in Dwarka, New Delhi. India was one of the founding members of the Asian Football Confederation in 1954.

[Source: HT](#)

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