



CSR-DRIVEN INDUSTRY-ACADEMIA COLLABORATION: ACCELERATING INNOVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY UNDER VIKSIT BHARAT@2047

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RESEARCH ARTICLE



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Abstract

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) has emerged as a transformative tool for sustainable development in India. Under the visionary framework of Viksit Bharat@2047, CSR-driven industry-academia collaborations are gaining significance in accelerating innovation and sustainability. This research paper explores the strategic role of CSR funding in fostering stronger partnerships between industry and academic institutions to address critical societal challenges, drive technological advancements, and promote sustainable development goals (SDGs). The paper examines key models and case studies where CSR funding has been effectively utilized to build collaborative research ecosystems, skill development programs, and knowledge transfer initiatives. It highlights the potential of such collaborations to bridge skill gaps, drive local innovations, and create long-term socio-economic benefits. Key challenges such as alignment of objectives, effective monitoring, and the need for policy frameworks to streamline CSR investments are also discussed. The analysis underscores that industry-academia partnerships backed by CSR funding can significantly contribute to building a knowledge-driven, equitable, and resilient India aligned with the goals of Viksit Bharat@2047. The paper concludes with strategic recommendations for policymakers, corporate leaders, and educational institutions to optimize CSR investments for national progress.

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Introduction

India's vision of Viksit Bharat or developed India by 2047 (Viksit Bharat@2047) aligns well with its commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDG India Index 2023-24: Towards Viksit Bharat - Sustainable Progress, Inclusive Growth report, released in 2024 by the NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India), the premier policy thinks tank of the Government of India, found India's progress toward the SDGs and corresponding economic growth. As India progresses towards its vision of becoming a developed nation under Viksit Bharat@2047, the role of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in shaping a sustainable and inclusive future has never been more critical (Gul Afshan et al., 2024). CSR, as mandated under the Companies Act 2013, encourages companies to invest in societal development, making it an effective tool for bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical applications, opening vistas for industry-academia partnerships for innovation and sustainable growth (Kim, et. al, 2024).

The current landscape of CSR practices in India reveals a growing trend where corporations increasingly seek meaningful collaborations with educational institutions and vice versa (Chadha & Bharti, 2020; Sharma, 2023; Pandya, 2024). These partnerships aim to tackle pressing societal challenges such as skill shortages, technological stagnation, and unequal access to quality education (Schimperna et al., 2022). Through such collaborations, industries can gain access to research capabilities, while academia benefits from industry insights, funding, and real-world applications (Chopra & Marriya, 2013; Sengupta, 2016). CSR-driven industry-academia collaborations can drive innovation and technology transfer, lead to solving societal and environmental challenges by multi-pronged approaches, foster talent development and skill building, and boost Indians' global competitiveness, especially that of the youth (Kumar & Gupta, 2017). Industry-academia linkage not only fuels innovation (Chakraborty et al., 2024) but also aligns with national goals of sustainability and sustainable development (Mishra, 2020). Alignment between National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) and Vikasit Bharat@2047 for achieving SDGs supports industry-academia collaboration (Wason, et. al, 2024).

Industry-academia collaboration is the need of the hour for India for realizing the vision of Vikasit Bharat@2047. Industry-academia linkages in India have got strengthened through various initiatives and collaborations (Office of the Principal Scientific

Adviser, Govt. of India 2024) with mechanisms like Centres of Excellence (CoEs), student internships in industry, appointment of Professors of Practice in public and private academic institutes. What the UGC Working Group Report recognized in 2019--that the "gap between the functioning of industry and academia is one of the greatest challenges impeding innovation" ---- still remains valid in 2025 and such a gap goes on impairing the vision of Viksit Bharat@2047. Against this background, this study examines how CSR-driven industry-academia collaborations are a powerful tool for accelerating innovation, addressing societal challenges, and driving long-term sustainability. Along with successful case studies, the major challenges are examined and recommendations are made for policymakers and stakeholders to overcome the existing as well as unforeseen challenges in industry-academia collaboration.

Background on CSR and Viksit Bharat@2047

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) has evolved significantly in India, driven by legislative milestones and a growing emphasis on sustainable development. The introduction of the Companies Act, 2013, marked a turning point by mandating companies meeting certain financial thresholds to allocate at least 2% of their average net profit towards CSR activities. This legislative mandate has spurred greater corporate participation in developmental initiatives, ranging from education and healthcare to environmental sustainability.

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in India has undergone significant evolution, marked by key legislative milestones that have shaped corporate engagement in social development. The most transformative regulation was introduced with the Companies Act of 2013, which made CSR mandatory for certain companies. Under Section 135 of the Act, companies meeting specific financial criteria (net worth of INR 500 crore or more, turnover of INR 1,000 crore or more, or net profit of INR 5 crore or more) are required to spend at least 2% of their average net profits over the past three years on CSR activities. This legislation positioned India as a global pioneer in mandating CSR, shifting corporate contributions from voluntary initiatives to structured social responsibility programs aligned with national development priorities.

Prior to the Companies Act 2013, CSR efforts in India were largely discretionary, with businesses participating in philanthropy and community development projects on a voluntary basis. The legislative framework brought greater accountability and transparency, requiring companies to disclose their CSR spending and the nature of projects funded in annual reports. The Act also encouraged CSR initiatives in areas such as education, healthcare, environmental sustainability, rural development, and skill enhancement, aligning closely with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Amendments in subsequent years further strengthened compliance mechanisms, ensuring that unspent CSR funds were redirected to designated government funds for public welfare. This structured approach has led to increased corporate participation in addressing social challenges and contributing to India's inclusive growth agenda.

Viksit Bharat@2047 is a visionary initiative aimed at transforming India into a self-reliant, prosperous, and sustainable nation by the year 2047, coinciding with the centenary of India's independence. This long-term vision emphasizes inclusive growth, innovation, and environmental stewardship, aligning closely with CSR objectives. Companies engaging in CSR activities contribute to the goals of Viksit Bharat@2047 by investing in capacity-building initiatives, renewable energy projects, and research collaborations with academic institutions.

By integrating CSR into the national development agenda, India has created a framework where corporate contributions play a strategic role in addressing developmental challenges while promoting long-term socio-economic resilience. Industry-academia collaborations supported by CSR funding are essential for driving innovation, reducing inequalities, and fostering a knowledge-based economy, all critical components of the Viksit Bharat@2047 vision.

The Need for Industry-Academia Collaboration in India

Industry-academia collaboration is crucial for driving economic growth and sustainable development in India, especially in the context of a rapidly evolving global economy. One of the primary reasons for fostering such partnerships is the need for research-driven innovation to address complex national challenges, including poverty alleviation, climate resilience, and technological self-reliance. Academic institutions are hubs of knowledge creation, yet their research often remains disconnected from real-world applications. On the other hand, industries seek innovation to remain competitive but may lack the fundamental research capacity to drive long-term innovation. By aligning the strengths of both sectors, collaborative models can accelerate the translation of research into commercially viable products, services, and technologies that contribute to economic resilience. Moreover, partnerships can help industries address evolving market demands through innovative solutions tailored for local contexts, such as sustainable agriculture practices, renewable energy technologies, and affordable healthcare innovations.

CSR-driven industry-academia partnerships could pave way for win-win situations by providing an avenue for translating academic research into practical, market-ready solutions. Universities, with their research capabilities, and industries, with their practical expertise, can work together to create innovative products, services, and technologies that drive economic growth. CSR-driven university-industry collaborations are particularly valuable for tackling India's pressing social and environmental issues. For instance, joint research initiatives in areas like clean energy, water conservation, sustainable agriculture, and healthcare can lead to solutions that not only benefit businesses but also contribute to the welfare of society. These collaborations also offer an opportunity for students and researchers to engage with real-world challenges, bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application. This helps build a skilled workforce ready to contribute to the nation's economic growth while fostering entrepreneurship and innovation. By fostering a culture of innovation and research, CSR-driven university-industry

collaborations can help India strengthen its position on the global stage. Companies that invest in R&D and collaborate with academic institutions can develop groundbreaking solutions that meet global market demands, enhancing their competitiveness and promoting sustainable growth.

From a sustainable development perspective, industry-academia collaboration plays a pivotal role in bridging skill gaps and promoting inclusive growth. India's large and youthful workforce requires specialized skills that can be cultivated through collaborative education models where industries co-develop curricula and provide experiential learning opportunities. Such partnerships can address the mismatch between academic training and market requirements, ensuring better employability and reducing structural unemployment. Furthermore, collaborative research can focus on sustainability challenges, such as resource optimization and circular economy practices, while driving advancements in fields like green technologies and climate-smart agriculture. This synergy not only boosts national productivity but also supports long-term ecological balance and inclusive prosperity, aligning with the developmental goals of Viksit Bharat@2047.

An illustrative example of industry-academia collaboration in India contributing to sustainable development and the Atmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India) initiative is the Centre for Innovation, Incubation, and Entrepreneurship (CIIE.CO) at the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIM-A). Established in 2002, CIIE.CO has evolved into a significant public-private-academia partnership, fostering innovation and entrepreneurship across various sectors. Through initiatives like the Bharat Innovation Fund and the Bharat Inclusion Initiative, CIIE.CO supports startups focusing on sustainable energy, financial inclusion, and other critical areas aligned with national development goals. By providing mentorship, funding, and access to networks, CIIE.CO bridges the gap between academic research and industry application, promoting indigenous innovations that contribute to economic self-reliance and sustainability.

Another notable collaboration is the establishment of Startup Oasis, an incubator formed in partnership between CIIECO and the Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation (RIICO). Based in Jaipur, Startup Oasis aims to nurture startups in the region, providing them with the necessary resources and support to develop innovative solutions tailored to local needs. This initiative not only fosters entrepreneurship but also contributes to the broader objectives of Atmanirbhar Bharat by encouraging the development of homegrown technologies and solutions that can be scaled nationally.

Role of CSR Funding in Driving Collaboration and Innovation

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funding has emerged as a powerful catalyst for fostering collaboration between industries and academic institutions, driving both innovation and social impact in India. The strategic use of CSR funding enables industries to invest in research-driven initiatives that address societal challenges while simultaneously promoting technological advancements. By channeling resources into academic partnerships, industries can support critical areas such as sustainable energy solutions, climate-resilient agriculture, and healthcare innovations. These collaborations often result in cutting-edge research being translated into scalable technologies, bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical applications. For instance, collaborations between Tata Group and the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) have led to advancements in water purification technologies, directly addressing community health challenges while fostering innovation in water management systems.

CSR funding also plays a crucial role in skill development and capacity building, essential components for long-term sustainable development. By co-financing research projects and academic infrastructure, industries empower educational institutions to expand their research capabilities while aligning with national priorities like Atmanirbhar Bharat and Viksit Bharat@2047. A successful example is the partnership between Infosys and various technical universities, where CSR investments have facilitated digital literacy programs, innovation labs, and STEM education initiatives. These collaborations not only enhance the employability of students but also contribute to the development of a knowledge-driven economy. Additionally, CSR-backed projects often emphasize inclusivity, ensuring that marginalized communities benefit from technological advancements, thus promoting both economic resilience and equitable growth. Through sustained CSR investments, industry-academia collaborations can become a driving force for systemic transformation, innovation, and sustainable development across India.

Case Studies and Success Stories

Several Indian companies have effectively leveraged CSR funding to foster impactful collaborations with academic institutions, driving innovation, skill development, and sustainable development outcomes. These case studies illustrate how strategic CSR investments can create long-term value by addressing societal challenges while promoting knowledge sharing and technological advancements.

Tata Group and Indian Institute of Science (IISc)

The Tata Group, a pioneer in CSR-driven collaborations, partnered with the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore, to establish the Tata Centre for Interdisciplinary Research. This collaboration, funded through CSR contributions, focuses on translational research in areas like water purification, low-cost healthcare solutions, and renewable energy technologies. The center has successfully developed low-cost water filters using nanotechnology and scalable solar energy solutions for rural electrification. Beyond technological innovation, this partnership has enhanced academic research capabilities and contributed to local community welfare by addressing pressing health and energy challenges.

Infosys Foundation and IIT Hyderabad

Infosys Foundation, the CSR arm of Infosys, collaborated with IIT Hyderabad to fund the establishment of the Center for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics Research. This initiative promotes cutting-edge research in AI, machine learning, and data sciences, providing students and faculty with state-of-the-art resources. The collaboration also offers funded scholarships for underprivileged students, ensuring inclusive access to quality education in emerging technologies. As a result, the center has developed several AI-based tools for public health data analysis, directly impacting the national health infrastructure.

ITC Limited and Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU)

ITC Limited has actively supported sustainable agricultural practices through its CSR collaboration with Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU). The partnership has focused on climate-smart agriculture, where ITC funded research on soil health management and organic farming techniques. This initiative led to the development of region-specific crop advisory tools and water management practices, significantly improving farmers' productivity and income. The collaboration also included farmer training workshops, ensuring the practical dissemination of research outcomes at the grassroots level.

Mahindra & Mahindra and IIT Madras

Mahindra & Mahindra collaborated with IIT Madras to establish the Mahindra Research Valley, a center dedicated to automotive and sustainable mobility research. CSR funding facilitated research in electric vehicle technologies, battery management systems, and green manufacturing practices. The collaboration resulted in the development of several prototypes for electric vehicles, contributing directly to India's sustainability goals and the Atmanirbhar Bharat vision. This partnership not only advanced the green technology sector but also created a platform for students and faculty to engage in industry-relevant projects.

Reliance Foundation and Banaras Hindu University (BHU)

Reliance Foundation partnered with Banaras Hindu University (BHU) to support initiatives in rural health research and community development. Through CSR funding, BHU established a community health center that provides affordable healthcare solutions while simultaneously facilitating research on rural health indicators. The collaboration also funds projects focusing on public health awareness and preventive care measures, leading to measurable improvements in local health outcomes.

Key Outcomes and Impact on Communities

These CSR-driven industry-academia collaborations have demonstrated tangible benefits, including:

- **Enhanced Knowledge Transfer**
Facilitating joint research projects and resource-sharing between academia and industries.
- **Community Impact**
Addressing pressing societal challenges such as access to clean water, affordable healthcare, and sustainable agriculture.
- **Innovation Acceleration**
Promoting the development of cutting-edge technologies and sustainable solutions.
- **Skill Development**
Providing students with hands-on research opportunities and industry exposure, enhancing their employability.

These success stories underscore how CSR funding can be strategically harnessed to build collaborative ecosystems, drive innovation, and create long-term positive societal impact, aligning with the vision of Viksit Bharat@2047.

Challenges and Limitations in CSR-Driven Partnerships

While industry-academia collaborations hold immense potential for driving innovation, skill development, and sustainable growth, several structural and operational barriers hinder their effectiveness. Understanding these challenges is essential for optimizing CSR investments and ensuring meaningful partnerships aligned with the goals of Viksit Bharat@2047.

Misaligned Objectives and Priorities

One major challenge in CSR-driven partnerships is the frequent misalignment of objectives between industry partners and academic institutions. Academic institutions often prioritize long-term knowledge generation, fundamental research, and theoretical advancements, while industries are driven by profit motives, market competitiveness, and immediate returns on investment. This misalignment can result in poorly coordinated projects where research outcomes may not align with industry expectations or societal needs. For instance, industries may focus on short-term innovations that offer quick market advantages, whereas academic institutions might emphasize exploratory research with longer gestation periods. Bridging this gap requires the establishment of mutually agreed goals and clearly defined success metrics for both parties.

Lack of Transparency and Communication Gaps

Effective collaboration requires open communication and shared decision-making processes. However, many partnerships suffer from inadequate transparency regarding project expectations, funding disbursement, and data sharing. Industries may be reluctant to disclose proprietary information due to intellectual property concerns, while academic institutions may struggle to share preliminary findings or unpublished data.

Without open and honest dialogue, misunderstandings can arise regarding project scope, timelines, and resource allocation. This lack of clarity can erode trust and hinder progress, ultimately jeopardizing the success of the collaborative venture. For example, if a company's expectations regarding intellectual property rights are not clearly communicated to the university, it can lead to

disputes and legal challenges, hindering future collaborations. This lack of openness can stifle creativity and trust, leading to fragmented efforts rather than cohesive problem-solving initiatives. Establishing clear Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with well-defined communication protocols can mitigate these barriers.

Challenges in Measuring Long-Term Impact of CSR Investments

A significant barrier to effective collaborations is the difficulty in measuring the long-term impact of CSR-funded initiatives. Industries often seek measurable results such as innovation outputs, patents, or community benefits within a short timeframe. However, educational collaborations focusing on fundamental research, skill development, or environmental sustainability may take years to demonstrate visible impact. Furthermore, qualitative outcomes like capacity building, knowledge dissemination, and societal transformation are harder to quantify. The absence of standardized impact assessment frameworks can discourage industries from committing to long-term partnerships. Implementing tools such as Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and Social Return on Investment (SROI) metrics can provide a more holistic view of impact over time.

Bureaucratic Hurdles and Institutional Rigidity

Academic institutions, particularly public universities and research centers, often operate within rigid bureaucratic frameworks that can slow down collaboration processes. Approval procedures for CSR funding, faculty involvement, and intellectual property rights negotiations can be time-consuming, discouraging industries seeking agile and dynamic partnerships. On the other hand, industries may also face regulatory challenges regarding CSR expenditure reporting under the Companies Act 2013, further complicating collaboration dynamics. Streamlining administrative procedures and introducing flexible frameworks for CSR project approvals can facilitate smoother partnerships.

Resource Disparities and Uneven Participation

Collaboration efforts may be limited by resource disparities between elite institutions and smaller educational centers. Prestigious institutions often receive the majority of CSR funding due to their established reputation and research infrastructure, while smaller colleges and rural universities struggle to attract industry partnerships. This imbalance restricts the equitable distribution of resources and limits the developmental impact across regions. Encouraging decentralized funding models and region-specific CSR initiatives can ensure broader participation in industry-academia collaborations.

Intellectual Property and Ownership Disputes

Conflicts over intellectual property (IP) rights often emerge as a barrier in collaborative projects. Industries may seek exclusive rights over research findings, while academic institutions emphasize knowledge dissemination for public benefit. The absence of standardized IP-sharing agreements can lead to disputes, delaying project outcomes and limiting the broader impact of the research. Clear legal frameworks and predefined agreements regarding IP ownership and licensing can prevent such conflicts while ensuring fair recognition for both parties.

Limited Alignment with National Development Goals

While CSR collaborations have made progress, many initiatives still focus on short-term philanthropic contributions rather than aligning with national goals like Atmanirbhar Bharat and Viksit Bharat@2047. Projects often lack strategic alignment with India's long-term priorities such as technological self-reliance, rural development, and environmental sustainability. Encouraging a policy-driven approach where CSR collaborations are evaluated based on their alignment with national priorities can help maximize societal impact.

Measuring the Long-term Impact of CSR Investments

Finally, measuring the long-term impact of CSR investments presents a significant challenge. While short-term outcomes, such as the number of beneficiaries or the immediate economic impact, may be relatively easy to quantify, assessing the long-term societal and environmental effects can be complex and multifaceted. This lack of robust impact assessment can make it difficult to demonstrate the true value of CSR initiatives and attract further investment in these endeavors. For example, measuring the long-term impact of a community development project may require years of data collection and analysis, making it difficult to demonstrate a clear return on investment in the short term.

Recommendations to Overcome These Barriers

- **Develop Clear Collaboration Frameworks:** Standardize MoUs with clearly defined objectives, timelines, and impact metrics.
- **Promote Open Communication:** Encourage regular dialogue through joint advisory committees and shared platforms.
- **Incentivize Long-Term Investments:** Offer fiscal benefits and regulatory support for sustained CSR collaborations.
- **Simplify Bureaucratic Processes:** Reduce approval timelines for CSR funding and research partnerships.
- **Foster Inclusive Participation:** Create targeted CSR incentives for collaborations with smaller institutions and rural academic centers.

By addressing these barriers, CSR-driven industry-academia partnerships can become more effective in advancing sustainable development, technological innovation, and the broader objectives of Viksit Bharat@2047.

Policy Recommendations for Effective Collaboration:

To foster more effective CSR-driven partnerships, policymakers should consider implementing the following strategies:

i. Develop Clearer Guidelines for CSR Investments

- **Standardize CSR Frameworks:** Establish clear, standardized frameworks to define and classify CSR activities, ensuring consistency and comparability across industries. A uniform approach would allow stakeholders to better understand the scope and intent of CSR initiatives.
- **Focus on Long-term Sustainability and Impact:** Policymakers should provide guidance on eligible CSR activities, emphasizing long-term sustainability and social impact. This will help companies align their efforts with broader societal goals and encourage investments that contribute to lasting change.
- **Set Measurable Objectives:** Encourage the development of clear and measurable objectives for CSR initiatives. These objectives should include both short-term and long-term outcomes, ensuring that CSR activities are not only impactful but also sustainable and measurable over time.

ii. Establish Robust Performance Metrics

- **Develop Comprehensive Impact Metrics:** A robust system of metrics is essential for tracking and evaluating the social and environmental impact of CSR investments. Policymakers should work to develop comprehensive and widely accepted performance metrics that capture the full scope of CSR activities.
- **Encourage Standardized Methodologies for Evaluation:** To ensure the reliability and comparability of data, it is crucial to promote the use of standardized methodologies for impact assessment. This will enable stakeholders to measure the effectiveness of CSR initiatives more accurately.
- **Promote Transparency:** Policymakers should encourage the public disclosure of CSR performance data. Transparency not only builds trust among stakeholders but also helps organizations identify areas for improvement, ensuring greater accountability and effectiveness in CSR activities.

iii. Foster Synergy Between Industries and Academia

- **Create Collaborative Platforms:** Establish platforms for collaboration between industries and academic institutions, such as research consortia, knowledge-sharing workshops, and joint funding initiatives. These platforms would facilitate knowledge exchange and encourage cross-sector partnerships that address pressing societal challenges.
- **Incentivize Applied Research in Universities:** Policymakers should incentivize universities to engage in applied research that addresses real-world societal challenges and supports innovation in industry. This approach would ensure that academic research is not only theoretically rigorous but also practically relevant.
- **Support Interdisciplinary Research Programs:** Support the development of interdisciplinary research programs that integrate business, social sciences, and environmental studies. These programs would enable the generation of innovative solutions to complex social and environmental issues, benefiting both academia and industry.

By implementing these recommendations, policymakers can create a more enabling environment for effective CSR-driven partnerships. Clearer guidelines, robust performance metrics, and enhanced collaboration between industries and academia will not only increase the effectiveness of CSR initiatives but also drive greater social and environmental impact. These steps are essential for maximizing the potential of CSR to contribute to sustainable development and societal well-being.

Conclusion

This paper has explored the crucial role of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in fostering industry-academia partnerships, which can significantly contribute to achieving India's long-term sustainable development goals as outlined in *Viksit Bharat@2047*. Through the examination of policy recommendations aimed at creating a more effective and enabling environment for CSR initiatives, it is clear that such collaborations have the potential to drive profound societal and environmental change.

One of the key findings of this paper is the necessity of clearer guidelines for CSR investments that align with national development objectives. By establishing standardized frameworks and providing clear guidance on CSR activities, particularly those focused on long-term sustainability and social impact, policymakers can help businesses direct their investments in ways that contribute meaningfully to India's growth. Clear and measurable objectives will also help to monitor the progress of these initiatives, ensuring that they contribute to real, lasting improvements in the country.

Another critical conclusion is the importance of establishing robust performance metrics to assess and track the social and environmental impact of CSR activities. The development of a comprehensive set of performance metrics, along with standardized methodologies for evaluation, would provide a consistent means of measuring the effectiveness of CSR initiatives. Moreover, the promotion of transparency through public disclosure of CSR performance data will enhance accountability and allow for continuous improvement in these efforts.

Furthermore, this paper emphasizes the need to foster synergy between industries and academia. By creating collaborative platforms for knowledge-sharing, incentivizing universities to engage in applied research, and supporting interdisciplinary programs, policymakers can bridge the gap between research and real-world applications. Such partnerships would not only address immediate societal challenges but also spur innovation that is crucial for sustainable development. These collaborations would align academic research with industry needs, contributing to the creation of solutions that support the nation's economic, social, and environmental goals.

Ultimately, the potential of CSR-driven industry-academia partnerships in achieving the objectives of Viksit Bharat@2047 is immense. These partnerships can play a pivotal role in tackling some of the most pressing issues India faces today, including poverty alleviation, environmental sustainability, healthcare, education, and gender equality. By aligning CSR activities with the country's development agenda, these collaborations can catalyze progress toward a more inclusive, equitable, and sustainable future.

The effective implementation of these recommendations would not only enhance the impact of CSR initiatives but also contribute to India's journey toward becoming a developed nation by 2047. Through the promotion of clearer CSR guidelines, robust performance evaluation, and stronger industry-academia collaboration, India can harness the power of CSR to drive its long-term sustainable development goals and build a prosperous future for its citizens.

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