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India's Modi Highlights Self-Reliance in Tech

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India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi emphasized the country's strides toward self-reliance in critical technology during his Independence Day speech on August 15, 2025. Addressing the nation from Delhi's Red Fort, Modi highlighted initiatives that aim to strengthen India's capabilities in areas including civil infrastructure, digital technology, and oceanic exploration.

A key highlight was the Deep Ocean Mission, designed to enhance India's underwater research and resource exploration. Officials said the mission will deploy advanced

submarines and research vessels to explore marine biodiversity and mineral resources in Indian waters. Analysts note that such projects have implications for global maritime security, trade routes, and environmental monitoring.

Modi also outlined recent legal reforms, including updates to civil and criminal laws, emphasizing efficiency and modernization in governance. These reforms are expected to streamline judicial processes, enhance regulatory compliance, and support India's economic growth. While primarily domestic in scope, experts suggest that these changes could affect international businesses operating in India, particularly in the technology and manufacturing sectors.

The speech repeatedly emphasized self-reliance in critical technology, a strategy that aligns with India's broader "Atmanirbhar Bharat" initiative. This push encourages innovation in semiconductors, renewable energy, and cybersecurity, areas that increasingly intersect with global supply chains. Policy observers say these efforts could influence technology partnerships with the United States and other countries, highlighting the strategic dimension of India's technological development.

Education and skill development were another focus. Modi urged greater investment in research institutions and vocational training programs, particularly in science and engineering. Such measures are aimed at nurturing a workforce capable of supporting advanced technological projects, which could strengthen India's competitiveness in the global market.

Although primarily addressed to Indian citizens, Modi's speech underscores themes relevant to international audiences. Analysts argue that technological self-reliance, legal reform, and oceanic research could shape future collaborations between India and the United States in science, trade, and maritime security.

By combining domestic reforms with a forward-looking vision, India seeks to position itself as a resilient and technologically advanced nation. While the speech reflected national pride, it also highlighted India's growing role on the global stage, including potential implications for international partners, investors, and researchers.