



Bihar Bhawan
New Delhi

Newsletter

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FROM THE DESK OF RESIDENT COMMISSIONER



Team Bihar Bhawan extends warm greetings for New Year 2024! We are delighted to present the January edition of our monthly newsletter. Engaging with our readers brings us immense joy, and we are excited to share important updates from Bihar.

Under the leadership of Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar, the Government of Bihar has launched significant initiatives to propel Bihar on the path of progress and prosperity. In the past month, there have been noteworthy developments in various sectors, including the EV expo, the establishment of new plug-and-play units, and the inauguration of Shri Ram Janki Medical College.

Furthermore, the state has garnered key recognitions in the past month. Former Chief Minister of Bihar Shri Karpoori Thakur was honoured with a Bharat Ratna, also 7 individuals from Bihar were celebrated with Padma Awards.

Additionally, our newsletter highlights the key rewards given to athletes by Hon'ble CM Shri Nitish Kumar in the form of government jobs.

As we embrace the festive spirit, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We encourage you to subscribe to our newsletter for regular updates. Feel free to contact us at rcbihar@yahoo.in with any inquiries or suggestions.

Thank you for your continued support.

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HE Shri Rajendra Uishwanath Arlekar graces Deepotsav and Bhajan Evening



On January 22, 2024, Ram Temple was inaugurated by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in Ayodhya. Governor of Bihar, His Excellency Shri Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, took part in a special Deepotsav and Bhajan evening organised by Shri Ram Navami Shobha Yatra Abhinandan Samiti at Dakbangla chauraha in Patna. Additionally, he illuminated diyas at Raj Bhawan to commemorate the occasion.



On 357th Prakash Parv, HE Governor and Hon'ble CM visit Takhat Sri Harimandir Ji Patna Sahib

Governor of Bihar, HE Shri Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar and Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar paid a visit to Takht Shri Harmandir Ji Patna Sahib and paid their obeisance on the auspicious occasion of 357th Prakash Parv, marking the birth anniversary of the 10th Sikh leader Guru Gobind Singh Ji. They were welcomed by the office-bearers of gurudwara prabandhak committee (Patna Sahib) with 'Saropas' and shawls.



EV-EXPO

Bihar's commitment to sustainable transportation



In a world facing rising vehicular pollution, Bihar remains committed to sustainable transportation. Underscoring this effort was the recent EV-Expo held in Patna on January 11, where leading automakers showcased their latest EV models and outlined their future plans in specialized stalls featuring EV cycles, bikes, and scooters. The event was organised by the Bihar Transport Department in collaboration with World Resources Institute, India, and the Bihar State Pollution Control Board.

Adoption of EVs should be encouraged: HE



His Excellency, Governor Shri Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, graced the 'E-Vahan Expo' held at the premises of Hotel Maurya, Patna. He visited the exhibition of e-vehicles displayed by various companies, scrutinizing their functionalities, features, and charging mechanisms. Following which, he said that e-vehicles hold immense potential for pollution control and environmental protection, and their adoption should be actively encouraged.

Hon'ble CM Shri Nitish Kumar procures two EVs to boost electric mobility

Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar inaugurated the e-vehicle expo program in Patna. He also announced the procurement of two electric cars for the Chief Minister's Office. This is a significant move towards promoting sustainable and eco-friendly transportation in Bihar.



Leader for the nation !

Bihar has once again proven to be a leader for the nation as the installation of solar panels on government buildings, known as the Bihar Model, will now be implemented across India. The Central Government has decided to extend this ongoing initiative in Bihar to power all government establishments in the entire nation. Recently, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy held a meeting with energy officials, including representatives from Bihar Renewable Energy Development Agency (BREDA). Secretary of Ministry, Shri Bhupinder Singh Bhalla, chaired the meeting. Under Government of Bihar's 'Jal Jeevan Hariyali scheme', solar panels are being installed on the roofs of all government buildings in the state. 20 megawatts of electricity is being generated from solar panels installed on government buildings in Bihar. The state government also provides a subsidy of up to 65% of the cost of installation.



Appointment of 96,823 Teachers in Bihar



On January 13, 2024, Government of Bihar, led by Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar, distributed appointment letters to a staggering 96,823 newly recruited teachers across the state. This recruitment drive is part of the government's larger goal of providing appointments to 10 lakh people and employment opportunities to an additional 10 lakh youths.

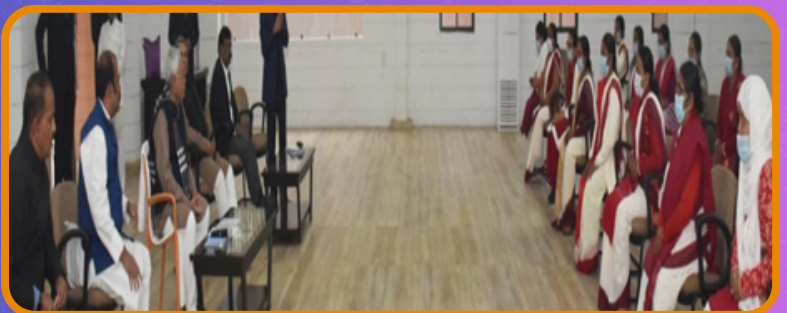
Empowering Bihar's Local Governance and Workers



Bihar's Panchayati Raj leadership, including Chiefs, Deputy Chiefs, Ward Members, and Panchayat members, engaged in a productive discussion with the Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar at Lok Samvad on 1 Anne Marg. The focus of the meeting was on ethical conduct and honorarium increments, with the aim of strengthening the Panchayati Raj system in the state. Several positive measures were announced, including significant increases in honorariums for all levels of leadership. Effective April 1, 2024, Chiefs will receive INR 5000 (up from INR 2500), Sarpanches and Deputy Chiefs will see their honorariums double to INR 5000 and INR 2500 respectively, and Ward Members and Panchs will also receive raised amounts. This is expected to benefit approximately 2,35,148 members, marking a positive step towards a more robust and well-compensated Panchayati Raj system in Bihar.

Upliftment of Anganwadi Workers

While Bihar's Panchayati Raj leadership met at Lok Samvad, the ethical committee representing the state's Anganwadi workers and helpers also held a formal meeting with the Hon'ble Chief Minister Nitish Kumar. This session focused on enhancing services and included the announcement of a significant honorarium increase.



Effective April 1, 2024, Anganwadi Sevikas will receive a 72% raise, their monthly honorarium rising from INR 1450 to INR 2500. Meanwhile, Sahayikas will see a 140% increase, with their honorarium jumping from INR 725 to INR 1750. These changes are expected to benefit a large number of dedicated individuals directly contributing to Bihar's crucial child development services.

Shri Ram Janaki Medical College and Hospital Opens in Samastipur, Bihar

A Milestone for Healthcare in the Region

A day before consecration of Ram Lalla in Ayodhya, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Bihar, Shri Nitish Kumar inaugurated Shri Ram Janaki Medical College and Hospital in Sarairanjan, Samastipur district. This momentous occasion signifies a significant step forward in healthcare accessibility for the entire region. The state-of-the-art facility has been constructed at a cost of 591 million INR and is equipped with all modern facilities.



Key Features:

- **500-bed, modern hospital:** Equipped with cutting-edge technology and medical equipment, the hospital aims to provide comprehensive healthcare services.
- **Annual MBBS intake of 100 students:** Aspiring doctors will receive their medical education within the institution, fostering future healthcare professionals for the region.
- **Earthquake-resistant and green building design:** The infrastructure prioritizes safety and sustainability, ensuring long-term resilience and eco-friendliness.
- **On-campus accommodations:** Dedicated residential quarters for administrators, faculty, medical staff, and students promote a cohesive community environment.
- **Patient family guesthouse:** The thoughtful inclusion of a guesthouse addresses the needs of families accompanying patients for extended stays.

'MEDAL LAO, NAUKRI PAO'

71 Athletes Rewarded with Government Jobs

At a recent event titled "Nek Samvad" held on 1, Anne Marg, 71 athletes were celebrated for their remarkable achievements in various sports and presented with appointment letters under the "Medal Lao, Naukri Pao" program. This initiative, launched by the Government of Bihar through its "Bihar Utkrisht Khiladiyon ki Seedhi Niyog Niyamavali, 2023," aims to incentivize youth participation in sports by offering direct employment opportunities to medal winners in national and international competitions.



This program exemplifies the state's dedication to fostering a culture of sports, as demonstrated by the establishment of a dedicated Sports University and the planned creation of a separate Sports Department. Additionally, the government actively supports talented athletes through monthly scholarships and prioritizes their recruitment in various departments, including the police force.

Interestingly, this initiative finds its roots in the railway sector, where the practice of offering employment to athletes was first introduced in 2010 during the tenure of Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. The "Medal Lao, Naukri Pao" program builds upon this legacy, further solidifying the government's commitment to recognizing and rewarding athletic excellence.

PRIDE OF BIHAR

SEVEN PADMA AWARDS

This Republic Day, 7 individuals from Bihar were celebrated with Padma Awards. 3 of them received Padma Shri awards, acknowledging their contributions in social work, tribal welfare, and environmentalism. Notably, Shri Bindeshwar Pathak, known for his work with rehabilitation of manual scavengers, received a posthumous Padma Bhushan. These awards highlight the diverse achievements and dedication of Bihar's individuals, inspiring others to make a difference.



Padma Vibhushan to Late Shri Bindeshwar Pathak for his significant contribution in the field of social work.



Padma Bhushan to Dr. Chandeshwar Prasad Thakur, former Union Minister from Bihar, for his work in field of medicine.



Padma Shri award to famous Dhrupad maestro Shri Ram Kumar Mallick for his contribution to the field of Indian classical music.



Padma Shri award to Shri Ashok Kr Biswas for his contribution to the ancient Tikuli art form.



Padma Shri award to Shri Surendra Kishore for his unparalleled contribution to literature and journalism.



Padma Shri honor to husband-wife duo, Smt. Shanti Devi Paswan and Shri Shivan Paswan, for their exceptional contribution to the Godna style of Madhubani Painting.

KARPOORI THAKUR: A CHAMPION OF SOCIAL JUSTICE BESTOWED WITH BHARAT RATNA



The Government of India announced the posthumous conferment of the Bharat Ratna, the country's highest civilian award, to former Bihar Chief Minister Shri Karpoori Thakur on January 23, 2024, a day before his 100th birth anniversary. This recognition is a testament to his remarkable contributions to social justice, equality, and the upliftment of marginalized communities.



A LIFE DEDICATED TO SERVICE

Born in 1924 in a marginalized community in Bihar, Shri Karpoori Thakur's life was marked by a deep commitment to social justice. He actively participated in the Quit India Movement and later emerged as a prominent leader of the socialist movement in India. He served as the Chief Minister of Bihar twice, from 1970 to 1971 and from 1977 to 1979.

A LEGACY OF SOCIAL CHANGE

Shri Karpoori Thakur's legacy extends far beyond his political achievements. He is remembered as a champion of social justice, a voice for the voiceless, and a leader who dedicated his life to fighting for equality and opportunity for all. The Bharat Ratna award is a fitting recognition of his immense contributions to the nation.

SMT. NINA SINGH: FIRST WOMAN IPS OFFICER TO LEAD CISF



SMT. NINA SINGH

1989-batch IPS

Officer hailing from Bihar, has made history by becoming the first woman to lead the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), responsible for securing critical infrastructure across India, including airports, the Delhi Metro, and government buildings.

Bihar IT Policy 2024

Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar-led government in Bihar has passed the Bihar IT Policy 2024 with an aim to attract investment, create jobs, and drive development in the IT/ITeS and ESDM (Electronics and Semiconductor Design and Manufacturing) sectors in Bihar.

Financial Incentives:



Fixed Capital Subsidy: Companies can receive a 30% subsidy on their fixed capital investment up to a maximum of ₹30 crore. This means the government will directly contribute to the cost of setting up the business.

OR

Interest Subvention Subsidy: Alternatively, companies can choose a 10% interest subvention on their loan amount, up to 50% of the project cost or a maximum of ₹40 crore. This essentially reduces the borrowing cost for the company.

Lease Rental Subsidy: Companies can get a 50% discount on their lease rental costs for the first five years, making it cheaper to operate in Bihar.

Power Tariff Subsidy: To offset electricity expenses, companies receive a 25% annual reimbursement on their energy bills for five years.

Employment Generation Subsidy: The government reimburses 100% of the employer's contribution towards employee provident fund (EPF) and employee state insurance (ESI) for five years, up to ₹5,000 per employee per month. This reduces the cost of hiring and retaining talent.

Tailor-made Package for Larger Investments:

For particularly large investments exceeding ₹100 crore or creating at least 1000 direct jobs, the government offers a customized package of incentives. This demonstrates flexibility and willingness to provide additional support for significant contributions to the state's economic growth.



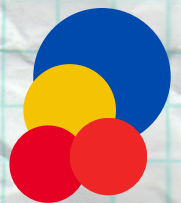
THRIVING STARTUP ECOSYSTEM IN BIHAR



The Government of Bihar has been recognized as an "Aspiring Leader" in the 2022 States' Startup Ranking, highlighting its progress in developing a strong startup ecosystem.

The recognition came for three key factors offered in the state:

- 1: Providing incentives and financial assistance to women entrepreneurs.
- 2: Conducting high number of outreach programs with academia, investors and other key ecosystem players.
- 3: Building a large mentorship network for startups.



PLUG AND PLAY UNITS AVAILABLE FOR RENT

BIADA | Bihar Industrial Area Development Authority | invest BIHAR

PLUG & PLAY SHEDS

INDUSTRIAL GROWTH CENTRE BEGUSARAI
Begusarai, Bihar

165945.22 Sq. ft.
Vacant Shed

Facebook | Instagram | Twitter | LinkedIn | @biadabihar

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PLUG & PLAY SHEDS

LARGE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE BARARI
Bhagalpur, Bihar

113479.46 Sq. ft.
Vacant Shed

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PLUG & PLAY SHEDS

INDUSTRIAL AREA SIKANDRAPUR
Patna, Bihar

243295.40 Sq. ft. Vacant Shed

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PLUG & PLAY SHEDS

INDUSTRIAL AREA MUZAFFARPUR
Muzaffarpur, Bihar

18141 Sq. ft.
Vacant Shed

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PLUG & PLAY SHEDS

INDUSTRIAL AREA HAJIPUR
Vaishali, Bihar

54404.79 Sq. ft.
Vacant Shed

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BIADA | Bihar Industrial Area Development Authority | invest BIHAR

PLUG & PLAY SHEDS

INDUSTRIAL ESTATE JEHANABAD
Jehanabad, Bihar

3000 Sq. ft.
Vacant Shed

Facebook | Instagram | Twitter | LinkedIn | @biadabihar

New Tourism Policy 2024

Bihar is one of the famous tourist destinations in India and receives a large number of foreigner tourists (FTAs) along with domestic tourists (DTAs) every year. The State believes that with its unique offerings and ever improving infrastructure and connectivity, Bihar has the potential to be one of the top states in the country in terms of FTAs and DTAs.

Bihar adopted a new tourism policy with an aim to develop Tourism through a joint and collaborative approach, which would address tourism in a holistic manner. It aims to develop Tourism infrastructure and enhance connectivity to the Tourist sites in the State.

✓ OBJECTIVES:



WORLD-CLASS INFRASTRUCTURE

TALENTED WORKFORCE

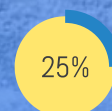
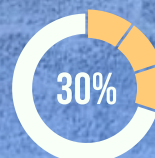
TOURIST SAFETY AND FACILITIES

TECHNOLOGY-FOCUSED TOURISM

✓ CAPITAL SUBSIDY:



- 30% subsidy on investments up to Rs 10 crore, capped at Rs 3 crore.
- 25% subsidy on investments up to Rs 50 crore, capped at Rs 10 crore.
- 25% subsidy on investments exceeding Rs 50 crore, capped at Rs 25 crore.



✓ FINANCIAL INCENTIVES:



- Land Conversion Fee: 100% reimbursement.
- Stamp Duty and Registration Fee: 100% lump-sum reimbursement
- Electricity Duty Reimbursement: 100% reimbursement for new tourism units for five years.
- Green Certification: 50% reimbursement of the certification fee (CAP - Rs 10 lakhs)
- MICE Incentive: 50% GST reimbursement



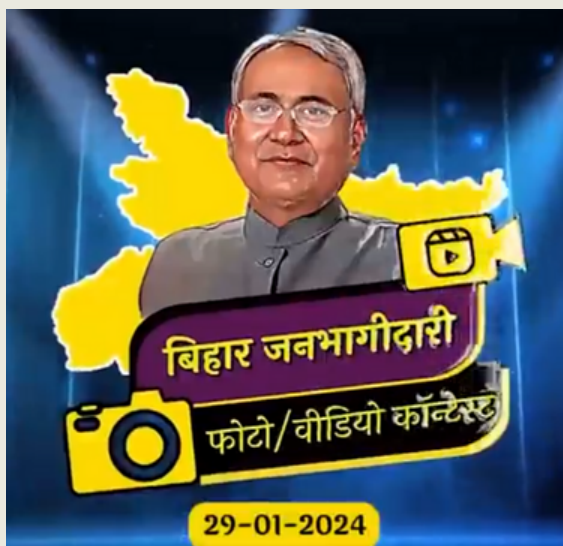
MITHILA HAAT: A CULTURAL HUB THRIVING IN BIHAR



Built by Bihar's Water Resources Department in Araria Sangram, Jhanjharpur, Mithila Haat has become a favourite tourist spot for travellers and locals. Designed for 3,000 visitors, it witnessed an influx of nearly 100,000 tourists on its first day in 2024. Beyond its cultural charm, Mithila Haat has generated direct employment for over 200 individuals and spurred indirect opportunities for countless others involved in Mithila's art, culture, and transportation sectors. This thriving hub serves as a powerful platform for preserving the region's rich heritage while fueling tourism-driven economic growth.

BIHAR JAN BHAGIDARI CONTEST: WIN UP TO RS 1 LAKH

Government of Bihar has launched a videography and photography competition to promote tourism in the state. The grand prize for the videography category is ₹1 lakh, while the grand prize for the photography is ₹50,000. There are also several other prizes available, including ₹25,000 for the second prize in each category and ₹10,000 for the third prize in each category.



If you are interested in participating in the Bihar Jan Bhagidari Contest, please visit the contest website - <https://eadvtprd.bihar.gov.in/janbhagidar> i/ or click the photo below:



मकर संक्रांति

CELEBRATIONS AT BIHAR NIWAS

Bihar Bhawan Corner



Bihar Niwas in New Delhi celebrated Makar Sankranti with a vibrant display of colours and decorations. The venue, adorned with traditional folk art, kites, and Bihari delicacies, drew visitors to enjoy delicious sweets like Laung Lata, Khaja, tilkut, and Dahi Chura, the traditional Makar Sankranti dish made with yoghurt and flattened rice. The day echoed with cultural tunes from live folk music performances.



With hearts as warm as the winter sun, and spirits high as kite strings, guests were welcomed by Resident Commissioner Shri Kundan Kumar and his team.




26 JAN 2024

Bihar Bhawan Corner



Bihar establishments in the national capital celebrated the 75th Republic Day with fervour. The tricolor unfurled at Bihar Bhawan, Bihar Niwas, and Bihar Sadan, with the flag hoisting ceremonies serving as a vibrant display of patriotism and cultural pride.





GAYA: A HUB OF CULTURE, TEMPLES, AND NATURAL WONDERS



Gaya district is one of the thirty-eight districts of the Indian state of Bihar. It was officially established on 3 October 1865. The district has a common boundary with the state of Jharkhand to the south. Gaya city is both the district headquarters and the second-largest city in Bihar.

Geography

Gaya district is located in the southern part of Bihar. It has an area of 4,976 square kilometers (1,921 sq mi). The district is bordered by the districts of Aurangabad to the north, Nawada to the east, Jehanabad to the west, and Jharkhand to the south.

The district is home to a number of hills, including the Mangla Gauri hills, the Shringa Sthan hills, and the Ram Shila hills. The Phalgu River flows through the district.

Demographics

The population of Gaya district is 4,391,418 (as of 2011). The sex ratio is 923 females per 1000 males. The literacy rate is 52.38%.

Tourism

Gaya is a popular tourist destination. The city is home to a number of important temples, including the Mahabodhi Temple, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The district is also known for its natural beauty, and the hills of Gaya are a popular tourist destination.

Transportation

Gaya is well connected by road, rail, and air. The city is located on National Highway 2, which connects it to Kolkata and Delhi. Gaya is also served by the Gaya Airport.





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