



NEWSLETTER



FROM THE DESK OF RESIDENT COMMISSIONER

Dear Readers,

I am pleased to present the February edition of Bihar Bhawan Newsletter, which highlights key developments in governance, public initiatives, cultural activities, and the observance of the 77th Republic Day.

During the month, several important events took place, including interactions of newly inducted Indian Foreign Service officers with the Hon'ble Governor, oath-taking ceremony of the new Chief Justice of the Patna High Court, and the conduct of Republic Day celebrations at Gandhi Maidan.

Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar undertook **Samriddhi Yatra** across the state to review ongoing development works and assess progress at the ground level. Hon'ble Chief Minister also participated in Makar Sankranti-related programmes during the month.

Industry and investment remained a key focus during this period. Bihar Cabinet approved several important policy measures, including the new Semiconductor Policy, incentive frameworks for multinational companies and Indian firms setting up Global Capability Centres (GCCs) in Bihar, and provisions for subsidised capital expenditure. Further strengthening the investment environment, State Investment Promotion Board (SIPB) approved 73 projects involving investments of several thousand crore rupees, while Project Clearance Committee (PCC) cleared projects amounting to several hundred crore rupees.

The state also witnessed notable youth-led initiatives in the areas of technology, innovation, and social enterprise. These included efforts in waste management, academic achievement at the national level, and Mt. Everest expedition on bicycle undertaken with limited resources. These developments reflect the outcomes of structured governance processes, supported by the state's ISO 9001:2015 certification.

Bihar Foundation continued its outreach activities through Makar Sankranti celebrations organised by its chapters at multiple locations, in line with its objectives of Bonding, Branding, and Business. In the national capital, a five-day Makar Sankranti programme showcased Bihar's art, culture, and cuisine. These activities were complemented by Bihar's participation in Bharat Parv as part of the 77th Republic Day celebrations.

Taken together, these developments indicate Bihar's continued progress across sectors.

For suggestions or queries, readers may write to rescm-bi@nic.in

KUNDAN KUMAR, IAS





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Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue 2026:

Hon'ble Governor interacts with participants from Bihar

Patna, January 7: Hon'ble Governor Shri Arif Mohammed Khan interacted with selected youth participants from Bihar under the National Youth Festival – Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue 2026. The interaction programme was held at the Darbar Hall of Bihar Lok Bhawan.



Shri Sangam Kumar Sahu takes oath as new Chief Justice of Patna High Court

Patna, January 7: Hon'ble Governor Shri Arif Mohammed Khan administered the oath of office to Shri Sangam Kumar Sahu as Chief Justice of Patna High Court. The oath-taking ceremony was held at Bihar Lok Bhawan, Patna.



Indian Foreign Service officers meet Hon'ble Governor

Patna, January 22, 2026: A delegation of Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officers paid a courtesy visit to the Honorable Governor, Shri Arif Mohammad Khan, at Bihar Lok Bhawan.

The officers who met included:

- Shri Aman Patel
- Shri Keshav Raj
- Shri Vaibhav Kumar
- Ms. Devika Priyadarshini
- Shri Mayank Bhardwaj
- Shri Monu Sharma



Republic Day Celebrations @ Gandhi Maidan

Hon'ble Governor Shri Arif Mohammed Khan celebrated 77th Republic Day by attending the ceremonial celebrations at Gandhi Maidan in Patna.



Hon'ble Governor took salute at the Republic Day parade, where tableaus of various departments of Government of Bihar were displayed with great fervour.

Subsequently, Hon'ble Governor also participated in cultural programme organised at German Hangar of Bihar Lok Bhawan.





Hon'ble Chief Minister celebrates 77th R-Day



Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar marked 77th Republic Day by unfurling the National Flag at his residence, 1 Anne Marg, and thereafter joined Hon'ble Governor of Bihar Shri Arif Mohammed Khan at the Republic Day parade held at Gandhi Maidan, Patna.

Flag Hoisting Ceremony at Maranchi Mahadalit Tola, Akouna Panchayat

On the occasion of Republic Day, a flag hoisting ceremony was organised at Maranchi Mahadalit Tola under Akouna Gram Panchayat of Phulwarisharif block in Patna district. The National Flag was unfurled by senior citizen Shri Siddheshwar Manjhi Ji, in the presence of local residents and dignitaries.

The flag hoisting ceremony has been a regular feature in the Mahadalit Tola on both Independence Day and Republic Day since 2011. During the programme, announcements were made regarding several developmental schemes for the local area, and beneficiaries were extended support under various government initiatives.



Samriddhi Yatra 2026 strengthens development momentum across Bihar

Samriddhi Yatra 2026, led by Hon'ble Chief Minister, Shri Nitish Kumar, reviewed and accelerated development works across multiple districts of Bihar, focusing on industry, infrastructure, livelihoods, education, healthcare, agriculture, women's empowerment, and ease of living.

The yatra began from West Champaran, where the Hon'ble Chief Minister visited the Kumarbagh Industrial Area in Chanpatia, inspected the upcoming CBG plant, reviewed the Special Economic Zone, inaugurated a Primary Processing Centre, laid the foundation stone of a working women's hostel, and interacted with entrepreneurs and Jeevika Didis, highlighting employment generation and local industrial growth.



At Bettiah, projects worth over ₹180 crore were inaugurated and initiated, alongside a Kisan Mela and agricultural machinery exhibition. A district review meeting emphasised fast-track implementation of schemes under Saat Nischay-2 and Saat Nischay-3, with special focus on Ease of Living through strengthened grievance redressal mechanisms.

In East Champaran (Motihari), the Hon'ble Chief Minister inspected the Women's Government ITI, where industry-supported skill training is enhancing employability, and inaugurated and laid foundation stones for projects worth over ₹170 crore.



The yatra continued through Sitamarhi and Sheohar, where major infrastructure projects including a high-level RCC bridge on the Bagmati River, education initiatives, and development works worth over ₹550 crore were launched, along with financial support to livelihood families and Jeevika self-help groups.



Samriddhi Yatra 2026



In Gopalganj and Saran, flood protection, road connectivity, industrial link roads, and women-centric livelihood centres were reviewed and inaugurated. Development projects worth ₹538 crore in Saran further strengthened rural livelihoods and women's employment.

At Siwan, projects worth ₹202 crore were launched, including upgrades at the Government Medical College, Mairwa, and support to agriculture, food processing, and self-employment initiatives.

Muzaffarpur saw a major infrastructure push with projects worth over ₹850 crore, covering roads, bridges, ROBs, ring road, and redevelopment of the bus terminal, significantly improving regional connectivity.

In Vaishali, river desilting of Baya River, industrial land identification, power infrastructure, and water management works were reviewed to support flood control and economic development.

The yatra also covered Madhubani, Darbhanga, and Samastipur, focusing on urban infrastructure, industrial areas, transport hubs, tourism sites, education institutions, and heritage development, with large-scale projects launched across these districts.

Samriddhi Yatra 2026 reflects Bihar's continued journey towards balanced, inclusive, and region-wide development—ensuring growth reaches every district and strengthens opportunities for all.



Hon'ble Chief Minister releases Bihar Diary and Calendar 2026



Hon'ble Shri Nitish Kumar on Wednesday released Bihar Diary 2026 and Bihar Calendar 2026, published by Information and Public Relations Department, Government of Bihar, at 'Sankalp', 01 Anne Marg, Patna, and dedicated them to the people of the state. The Calendar 2026 reflects Bihar's development journey marked by confidence, resolve, and inclusive growth, showcasing key public welfare initiatives aligned with **Saat Nischay 3.0 – Viksit Bihar**. It highlights the state's roadmap focused on doubling employment and income, strengthening industry and agriculture, improving education and healthcare, modernising infrastructure, and ensuring dignity and ease of life for all citizens.

Hon'ble CM inaugurates State-level Police Conference 2026



Patna, January 12: Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar inaugurated State-level Police Conference 2026 by lighting the ceremonial lamp at Bihar Police Auditorium, Sardar Patel Bhawan. On the occasion, he also inaugurated the Prohibition and State Narcotics Control Bureau, along with a separate Cyber Crime and Security Unit. Addressing police officers, the Chief Minister said that the police play a crucial role in maintaining law and order in society. Emphasising that Bihar follows the rule of law, he expressed confidence that police personnel would continue to work with honesty, alertness, and strictness to control crime. Prior to this, he also visited Jeevika Didi Ki Rasoi at Sardar Patel Bhawan.

Hon'ble CM celebrates Makar Sankranti, pays courtesy visit to leaders of Bihar

Makar Sankranti is celebrated in Bihar as **Uttarayan**. On this occasion, it is customary for people across the state to eat dahi and chura (flattened rice flakes) as part of the festivities. Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar marked the day by personally visiting fellow leaders at their residences. Below are a few glimpses from the celebrations.



Hon'ble CM inaugurates APICON 2026 at Bapu Sabhagar



Patna, January 29: Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar inaugurated APICON 2026 - Annual Conference of the Association of Physicians of India - by lighting the ceremonial lamp at Bapu Sabhagar. He released several medical publications on the occasion. The four-day national conference brought together physicians from across the country and featured deliberations on the latest research, advancements in medical science, and modern treatment practices, reflecting Bihar's growing role as a hub for academic and professional medical engagement.

Bihar cabinet approves investor incentives, Semiconductor policy

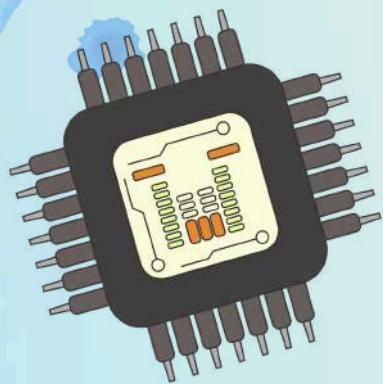


Patna, January 29: Bihar Cabinet approved a series of key decisions aimed at boosting investment, strengthening governance, and expanding women-led entrepreneurship in the state. The meeting, chaired under the leadership of Hon'ble CM Shri Nitish Kumar, cleared a total of 32 proposals.

To attract large-scale investment, the Cabinet approved incentive packages for multinational companies and Indian firms setting up Global Capability Centres (GCCs) in Bihar, as well as for semiconductor and electronic component manufacturing units. Subsidies linked to capital expenditure have been approved, with support capped at ₹50 crore for GCCs. Additional incentives include rental subsidies, R&D support, and salary-linked benefits, with higher incentives for employees holding Bihari domicile. For semiconductor units, state subsidies will complement central assistance, supporting projects involving investments of ₹10,000 crore or more.

Decision on semiconductor policy

Semiconductors are central to modern technology, powering sectors such as healthcare, transport, communication, defence, and space. With India's semiconductor market projected to reach USD 100–110 billion by 2030, Bihar aims to emerge as an Eastern Technology Hub in line with national priorities and the vision of Saat Nischay 3.0 – Prosperous Industry, Empowered Bihar.



The Bihar Semiconductor Policy 2026 offers capital subsidies and key land-related incentives, including allotment of one acre of land at a token rate of ₹1 for every ₹100 crore of approved project cost. Units will also receive exemptions from stamp duty, registration charges, and land conversion fees, creating a supportive ecosystem for high-value, technology-driven investments in the state.

Global Capability Centre (GCC) Policy

The Cabinet approved Bihar Global Capability Centre (GCC) Policy, 2026, aimed at attracting global and domestic companies to establish back-office, technology, analytics, finance, and research centres in the state. The policy seeks to leverage Bihar's young talent pool by promoting employment in knowledge-based services and IT-enabled sectors. Provisions under the policy focus on infrastructure support, incentives, and facilitation mechanisms to encourage companies to set up operations in Bihar, thereby strengthening the state's service economy and expanding skilled job opportunities.

Mukhyamantri Mahila Rojgar Yojana

Under Mukhyamantri Mahila Rojgar Yojana, the Cabinet approved an increase in financial assistance for women entrepreneurs, raising the maximum support to ₹2 lakh. The enhanced assistance is intended to enable women to start or expand small businesses, particularly in micro and home-based enterprises. The decision reflects the government's emphasis on promoting women's economic independence, self-employment, and participation in local economic activities, especially in rural and semi-urban areas.

Bihar State Marketing Authority (BSMA)

The Cabinet approved creation of Bihar State Marketing Authority (BSMA) to strengthen and streamline the marketing framework for agricultural, industrial, and allied products. The new authority is expected to bring better coordination in marketing systems, improve market access for producers, and support efficient price discovery. By consolidating oversight and planning, BSMA aims to modernise marketing practices, strengthen supply chains, and enhance the overall competitiveness of Bihar's produce in domestic and external markets.

बिहार औद्योगिक निवेश प्रोत्साहन पैकेज 2025

(नागरिकीय विनियोग वित्तीय प्रोत्साहन)

मुफ्त भूमि, अद्वितीय वित्तीय प्रोत्साहन

मुफ्त भूमि

10 एकड़ मुफ्त भूमि, अद्वितीय वित्तीय प्रोत्साहन

25 एकड़ मुफ्त भूमि, अद्वितीय वित्तीय प्रोत्साहन

10 एकड़ मुफ्त भूमि, अद्वितीय वित्तीय प्रोत्साहन

रोजगार व निर्यात प्रोत्साहन

वस्तु डिक्टाइल्स:

- ₹5,000/कर्मी/माह
- 300% ESI + EPF सहायता

अन्य डिक्टाइल्स:

- ₹2,000/कर्मी/माह
- 100% ESI + EPF सहायता

निर्यात प्रोत्साहन:

- 14 वर्षों तक लाम
- अधिकतम ₹40 लाख/वर्ष

अतिरिक्त लाभ

अन्य प्रमुख प्रोत्साहन

- स्टार्ट-अप्सी व भूमि संपरिवर्तन शुल्क प्रतिपूर्ति
- पेट्रो वर्निकरण व गुणवत्ता प्रमाणन सहायता
- केंद्र व राज्य योजनाओं का Dovetailing लाभ
- CFC विकास Case-to-case प्रोत्साहन

कौशल, पर्यावरण और ऊर्जा प्रोत्साहन

कौशल विकास सहायता

- प्रति कर्मी ₹20,000 तक प्राशिकृत राशियोंग

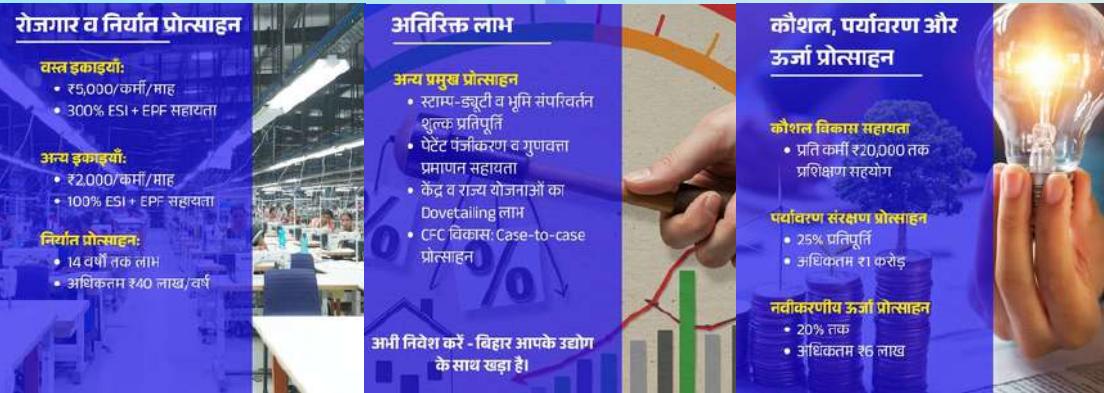
पर्यावरण संरक्षण प्रोत्साहन

- 25% प्रतिपूर्ति
- अधिकतम ₹1 करोड़

नवीनकरणीय ऊर्जा प्रोत्साहन

- 20% तक
- अधिकतम ₹6 लाख

आमी निवेश करें - बिहार आपके उद्योग के साथ खड़ा है।



Big push for industry as SIPB approves 73 projects



In a significant step towards accelerating industrial investment in the state, a high-level meeting of the State Investment Promotion Board (SIPB) was successfully held on January 8, 2026. The meeting was jointly chaired by Shri Kundan Kumar, Secretary, Department of Industries, and Shri Mukul Kumar Gupta, Director of Industries.

During the meeting, 57 projects were granted Stage-I clearance, involving a proposed investment of ₹1,024.78 crore. In addition, 16 projects received financial approval, paving the way for further investment of ₹169.49 crore. Overall, 73 projects were approved.

Detailed deliberations were held on simplifying and expediting the investment approval process to make it more transparent and investor-friendly. Key challenges faced by investors during project implementation—such as land availability, statutory clearances, infrastructure support and inter-departmental coordination—were discussed, with emphasis on ensuring timely and effective administrative assistance.

Major investment proposals from companies including Silica Healthcare Pvt. Ltd., Leap Agri Logistics, and Gautam Trading & Co. were considered during the meeting. These projects are expected to boost industrial expansion while generating employment at the local level.



BIADA Project Clearance Committee accelerates industrial growth



Project Clearance Committee (PCC) of Bihar Industrial Area Development Authority held two key meetings in January to expedite industrial development across the state. Chaired by Shri Kundan Kumar, Secretary, Industries and Managing Director, BIADA & IDA, the PCC reviewed and approved allotment of industrial plots and plug-and-play sheds to eligible applicants, reinforcing Bihar's push towards a diversified and robust industrial ecosystem.

On January 14, the PCC approved allotments to 11 industrial units across multiple industrial areas, covering 7.31 acres. These proposals are expected to attract investments of ₹116.27 crore and generate around 679 employment opportunities.

Subsequently, **on January 27**, approvals were granted to 25 industrial units spanning 12.5 acres, with projected investments of ₹168.52 crore and employment generation of approximately 1,194 jobs. Together, these approvals mark a significant step in boosting industrial activity, job creation, and economic growth in Bihar.

IFS trainee officers interact with Industries Department on Bihar's investment potential

Patna, January 22: Five trainee officers of Indian Foreign Service (IFS) 2025 batch visited Industries Department, Government of Bihar, and interacted with Hon'ble Industries Minister, Shri Dilip Kumar Jaiswal, to gain insights into Bihar's industrial growth and investment potential. During the visit, the officers were briefed via a detailed presentation by Shri Kundan Kumar, Secretary, Industries Department, along with senior departmental officials. The presentation covered the state's industrial policy framework, initiatives for MSMEs and startups, investment facilitation mechanisms, and key upcoming projects.



QR-based grievance system to enhance citizen services in Bihar

Bihar has introduced a new QR code-based grievance redressal system to further strengthen good governance and improve citizen services. The initiative will enable citizens to register their complaints by simply scanning a QR code, ensuring quicker access to concerned officials and reducing procedural delays. QR codes will be displayed at government offices, hospitals, and block and district-level premises. Through a simple online form, citizens can submit details of their grievances, upload supporting documents, and track progress using a unique registration number. Complaints will reach the dashboard of the concerned department and officer, helping ensure accountability and timely resolution.



IIT graduate turns plastic waste into sustainable business opportunity

Patna, January 6: An IIT graduate, along with his brother, has built a successful startup by transforming plastic waste into valuable construction materials, offering a sustainable solution to one of today's biggest environmental challenges. Choosing innovation over conventional career paths, the young entrepreneur developed a structured model for plastic waste collection, segregation, and recycling. Using eco-friendly technology, the startup produces durable tiles, blocks, and other building materials while keeping pollution in check. The initiative also creates local employment by engaging communities in waste collection and processing. With plans to establish a manufacturing unit in Bihar, the venture is set to boost green industry in the state.

आइआइटीयन ने कचरे से खड़ा किया कारोबार

■ दिल्ली देव, पटना

आमनोर पर ग्राहितिन ईश्वरिक संस्थानों से प्रकृती हासिल करने वाले छात्र मर्टनेशनल कॉर्पोरेशन में हाई-सीरीज़ वाली नीतियों का सामना देखते हैं, लेकिन, विद्यार्थी के नवाच जिले के दो भाइयों ने बृद्ध का स्टार्टअप शुरू किया, इसमें विकास आइआइटी दिल्ली से प्रेस्ट ब्रिजुट है, तो गारुल ने निष्प डिल्ली से टेक्नोटाइक डिजिट में स्नायक किया है, योगी नैकरी करने के बजाय आज एक्स्ट्रिक कचरे को नया जीवन देने लायी रायें करते हैं, साथ ही कई लोगों को गोपनीय भी दे रहे हैं।

'आइकल डिवी' ने लैंकिडडॉग्स में प्रकृती ट्रायाइप : गारुल यात्रों हैं कि उन्होंने आपने भई विद्यार्थी के साथ मिलकर लैंकिडॉग्स के द्वारा 'माइनस डिग्री' (Minus Degree) नामक स्टार्टअप की शुरुआत की, उस समय अंग्रेजियान शॉपिंग के कारण एक्स्ट्रिक कचरे की समस्या बढ़ रही थी, इसी समस्या को एक अवसर में बढ़ावा देने वाली भाइयों ने एक्स्ट्रिक वेस्ट को रिसाइकल कर उपयोगी उपयोग में बदलने का फैसला किया, उन्होंने आपसमें और एक-प्रियरस से एक्स्ट्रिक कचरा इकट्ठा करना शुरू किया और उसे प्रोसेस करने के लिए बुद्ध ती मालिनी बनाई।



एक्स्ट्रिक वेस्ट ने बड़ी तारीख पर आयोग तात्त्विक आवास कारोबारी का पहुंच दिया है और वे 12 लीनों वे नेटवर्क देते हैं कि आपके उत्पाद वर्ष की बढ़त वे देते हैं।

राहुल, एम्स अड्डाकेन्द्र

एक्स्ट्रिक वेस्ट को निल रहा नया रूप

कहा दे शिव, दोनों उद्योगी एक्स्ट्रिक वेस्ट को खुशमूल और दिक्कत उन्होंने में बदला रहे हैं, उनके द्वारा बता गए आइटम्स में व्हारिटी शॉट्स, डाइनोन ट्रैक्ट, गिर्ड हैपर, इव्वे यॉर्स, लैपटॉप स्टैड और डेस्क अॅर्माइजर शामिल हैं, इनके उत्पादों की गुणवत्ता का अदाजा द्वारा बात से सम्भव जो सकता है कि इन्हे राज्यपात्र भवन के सूचीबद्ध जागी में भी जगह मिलती है, एक्स्ट्रिक वेस्ट से कभी उत्पाद याद से खारीदी जा सकती है, इसके अलावा, उन्होंने 'खोली इकिया' के लिए भी विशेष उपाद तैयार किया है, खासगयर मेडल।

बिहार में भी फैक्ट्री लगाने की चाल रही तैयारी

दोनों भाइयों का लक्ष्य सिर्फ उत्पाद बनाना नहीं है, बल्कि पर्यावरण बरकरार और जलवायु परिवर्तन के बारे में जागरूकता फैलाना भी है, इस उद्देश्य से वे 'एक्स्ट्रिक वे बर्वी' अधिकार बना रहे हैं, राहुल बातों है कि अगर उन्हें सरकार से सहयोग मिलता है, तो वे जल्दी ही अपने गुरु राज्य में एक बड़ा प्रोजेक्ट शायदित करेंगे।

GAD receives ISO 9001:2015 certification for governance reforms

Patna, January 21: Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar was presented a certificate of ISO 9001:2015 International Quality Standard at Sankalp, 1 Anne Marg, in recognition of institutional reforms and innovations undertaken by the General Administration Department of the Bihar Government. The certificate was handed over by representatives of Indian Register Quality Systems (IRQS).



The General Administration Department has been awarded the ISO 9001:2015 certification for its sustained efforts over the past three years towards workplace modernisation, streamlining of processes, comprehensive improvement in departmental functioning, enhanced transparency, and adoption of innovative practices. The certification, formally granted on January 12, 2026, is valid until 2029.

Bihar receives national award in civil aviation

Patna, January 31: Bihar has been conferred a national award at Wings India 2026 event, organised by the Ministry of Civil Aviation, for its remarkable progress in civil aviation sector, visionary policy reforms, and infrastructure development. The award recognises sustained and effective efforts of the Government of Bihar to strengthen aviation connectivity in the state. Union Civil Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu presented the award to Secretary, Civil Aviation Department, Bihar, Dr Nilesh Ramchandra Deore. The state reaffirmed its commitment to developing safe, affordable, accessible and inclusive air connectivity, supported by key reforms such as the reduction of VAT on Aviation Turbine Fuel from 30 per cent to 4 per cent.

बिहार को मिला राष्ट्रीय पुरस्कार

नागर विमान

हैदराबाद/पटना। नागरिक विमान मंत्रालय की ओर आयोजित प्रतिष्ठित विमांडिया 2026 कार्यक्रम में विहार को नागरिक उड़ान क्षेत्र में उत्तरेखण्डीय प्रगति, दूरदराजे नीतिगत सुधारों तथा अवसरणगत विकास के लिए राष्ट्रीय पुरस्कार से सम्मानित किया गया है।

यह पुरस्कार विहार सरकार द्वारा विमानन क्षेत्र को सुदृढ़ करने हेतु लिए गए सतत एवं प्रभावी प्रयासों के लिए दिया गया है। केन्द्रीय नागरिक उड़ान मंत्री राममोहन नायडू ने यह पुरस्कार विहार के संचिव डॉ. निलेश रामचंद्र देवरे को प्रदान किया। विहार सरकार ने नागरिक



नई दिल्ली में शुक्रवार को केन्द्रीय नागरिक उड़ान मंत्री राममोहन नायडू से नागरिक उड़ान क्षेत्र में उत्तरेखण्डीय प्रगति के लिए राष्ट्रीय पुरस्कार ग्रहण करते विहार के संचिव डॉ. निलेश रामचंद्र देवरे।

को सर्वोच्च प्राविकाता दी जाती रहेगी।

यह पहल हुई: - विहार सरकार द्वारा विमानन क्षेत्र को प्रोत्साहित करने के उद्देश्य से एविएशन ट्रावेनिंग प्रूफर (एटीएफ) पर वैट को 30 प्रतिशत से घटाकर मात्र 4 प्रतिशत कर दिया

From Bhagalpur to Everest Base Camp: A bicycle journey of courage and belief



A youth from Bhagalpur, Bihar, has turned an extraordinary dream into reality through grit and determination. Ritesh Kumar Jha undertook a journey many only imagine—reaching Everest Base Camp—not by flights or support vehicles, but on a bicycle. In an exclusive interaction, Ritesh shared that the journey was far from easy.

It demanded exceptional courage, physical strength, and agility far beyond what most people associate with long-distance travel. With limited money, a non-gear bicycle, no professional trekking equipment, and wearing only basic formal clothing, he began his journey from Delhi. Along the way, injuries to his legs and hands tested his resolve, yet he pushed forward, refusing to give up.

Completing the journey has strengthened his belief that perceived limits can be overcome. Shri Ritesh Kumar Jha now hopes to emerge as a youth icon, inspiring others to step forward and attempt what may seem impossible—proving that determination and self-belief can take one to the highest places on earth.

Padma Awards 2026: Three personalities from Bihar conferred with Padma Shri

Ahead of the 77th Republic Day, the Padma Awards for 2026 were announced, with the President approving the conferment of 131 Padma awards, including five Padma Vibhushan, 13 Padma Bhushan and 113 Padma Shri awards. The list also includes two joint awards, which are treated as a single honour.

Shri Bharat Singh Bharti has been awarded Padma Shri for his contribution to the field of art. Famous artist Shri Vishwabandhu has been conferred the Padma Shri posthumously, in recognition of his significant contribution to art and culture. Additionally, Shri Gopal Ji Trivedi, also from Bihar, has been honoured with Padma Shri for his notable work in the field of science and engineering.



FROM A BIHAR VILLAGE TO IIT: A 13-YEAR-OLD'S IMPOSSIBLE DREAM

At 13, most children worry about homework and school exams. Satyam Kumar did something extraordinary—he cleared the IIT-JEE and created history. From a small village in Bihar to becoming the youngest IITian in India, his journey proves that talent, when guided by belief and hard work, knows no age.

Satyam was born in Bakhorapur, a small village in the Bhojpur district of Bihar. He came from a humble farming family, with no elite educational background or shortcuts to success. However, his father noticed early on that Satyam had an exceptional ability to learn and grasp concepts quickly. This natural aptitude became the foundation of a remarkable journey.

On the advice of a relative, Satyam was sent to Kota to prepare for the IIT-JEE, one of the toughest competitive examinations in the country, attempted by over fifteen lakh students every year. While most aspirants spend several years in preparation, Satyam appeared for the exam at the age of just twelve in 2012 and secured an All India Rank of 8137. For many, this would have been the end of the road, but for Satyam, it was only the beginning.

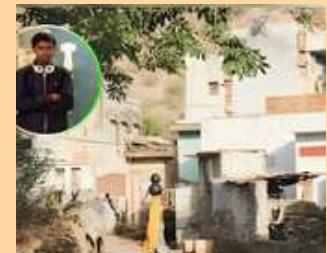
In 2013, at the age of thirteen, Satyam appeared for the IIT-JEE again and stunned the nation by securing an All India Rank of 670 with an impressive score of 292 out of 360. This achievement made him the youngest IITian in Indian history and brought him nationwide recognition.

Satyam went on to join Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, where he pursued a dual degree in Electrical Engineering. His growth was not limited to classrooms alone. He actively engaged in advanced research, explored robotics and machine learning, and worked on brain-interface studies. His dedication to innovation led to the publication of three research papers at a very young age.

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Today, Satyam Kumar is pursuing a PhD in Brain-Computer Interfaces at the University of Texas at Austin. His story is more than an academic achievement—it is a powerful reminder that belief can overcome limitations and dedication can rewrite destiny.

Talent needs belief, and belief creates history. If this story does not inspire you, nothing will. Tag a JEE aspirant who needs to read this today.



Bihar Foundation chapters celebrate Makar Sankranti across the globe



FINLAND

Braving the freezing Finnish winter, Bihar Foundation Finland Chapter celebrated Makar Sankranti with the comforting flavours of home—traditional chuda-dahi-gud-sabji, dahi-khichdi and tilkut.



Netherlands!

Over 200 people came together at Bihar Foundation Netherlands Chapter to celebrate the shared cultural roots of Bihar, Jharkhand, and our Surinamese brothers and sisters.

From the soulful rhythms of Baithak Gana to the folk spirit of Videshiya, the evening was alive with heritage, harmony and homegrown pride.



Gujarat





Makar Sankranti 2026

Makar Sankranti is widely celebrated in Bihar as Uttrayan. Carrying the festive spirit and warmth to the national capital, Team Bihar Bhawan, in coordination with the Department of Industries and Bihar Foundation, organised a five-day festival in Delhi.

The celebrations commenced with a dedicated meet-and-greet over a traditional Bihari feast featuring Dahi-Chura and other regional delicacies. Officers from Bihar posted in Delhi, along with senior officers of the Government of India, participated in the inaugural day, making it a vibrant cultural and social gathering that reflected Bihar's rich traditions and hospitality.





A set of curated stalls was installed to showcase Bihar's rich art and craft traditions alongside its evolving industrial landscape. Department of Industries highlighted new policies and emerging investment opportunities, supported by displays and samples from industries already flourishing in the state. Set of curated stalls by artisans, organised around diverse themes, added cultural depth to the exhibition. Bihar Tourism offered an immersive Bihar Darshan experience through virtual reality, while the Information and Public Relations Department (IPRD), Bihar Foundation, and other departments of the Government of Bihar presented their latest initiatives and policy frameworks.



Makhana: From Local to Global

On the occasion of the 77th Republic Day, Bihar presented a tableau celebrating its prized agricultural treasure—Makhana, widely recognised for its exceptional health benefits and often hailed as a superfood. Accounting for nearly 80–90 per cent of India's total Makhana production, Bihar stands as the nation's leading producer. The tableau also highlighted Makhana's growing global footprint, reflecting its rising demand in international markets.





Bharat Parv 2026

As every year, Bharat Parv 2026 was held at the Red Fort grounds from January 27 to 31, celebrating the spirit of the 77th Republic Day. The event showcased vibrant tableaus presented by various States and departments of the Government of India, reflecting the country's rich cultural and developmental diversity. Alongside, tourism stalls set up by different States promoted their unique heritage and attractions. Bihar emerged as a major highlight, with its tableau on Makhana and the immersive Bihar Darshan experience through virtual reality drawing significant attention from visitors.





WHAT PEOPLE SAY ABOUT SERVICES AT BIHAR BHAWAN

नेहा



मैं बिहार के सारन की निवासी हूं। मैं आरटीपीएस अपना जाति प्रमाण पत्र बनवाने के लिए आई थी। आरटीपीएस के लोग काफी मददगार हैं। मेरा सारा कार्य अच्छे कर दिया गया और उम्मीद है कि मेरा सर्टिफिकेट भी जल्दी बन जाएगा। इस मदद के लिए मैं बिहार सरकार का आभार व्यक्त करती हूं।

पंकज साह

मैं बिहार के भागलपुर का रहने वाला हूं। मैं यहां जाति और आय प्रमाण पत्र बनवाने के लिए आया था। आरटीपीएस कर्मियों का सहयोग सराहनीय है। संबंधित अप्लाई फार्म भरने में भी पूरी मदद करते हैं। ऐसी सर्विस से मुझे काफी खुशी हुई है। जिन लोगों को भी मदद की ज़रूरत है। वह यहां ज़रूर आएं, यहां के लोग उनका पूरा सहयोग करने के लिए बैठे हैं।



चंदन कुमार

मैं बिहार के वैशाली जिले के गांव सुमेरगंज का रहने वाला हूं। मैं यहां जाति और आवासीय प्रमाण पत्र बनवाने के लिए बिहार भवन दिल्ली आया था। बिहार भवन के आरटीपीएस के लोग काफी हेल्पफुल हैं। इन्होंने उनकी काफी मदद की। यहां की सर्विस से मैं बहुत संतुष्ट हूं। मेरा काम काफी अच्छे से हो गया।



सलामत अंसारी

मैं बिहार के समस्तीपुर का रहने वाला हूं। मैं ओबीसी सर्टिफिकेट बनवाने के लिए बिहार भवन आया था। आरटीपीएस के लोगों का सहयोग बहुत ही सराहनीय है। मेरा सारा कार्य बहुत अच्छे से कर दिया गया। दिल्ली में दी जा रही इस प्रकार की सेवा के लिए मैं मुख्यमंत्री जी का भी आभार व्यक्त करता हूं।



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rescm-bi@nic.in

