

NEWS LETTER

Edition : July 2024



NEW NALANDA UNIVERSITY CAMPUS



10th International Yoga Day



BAPU Tower in making!



FROM THE DESK OF RESIDENT COMMISSIONER

.....

Team Bihar Bhawan is delighted to present to you the July edition of our monthly newsletter. Engaging with our readers brings us immense joy, and we are excited to share important updates from Bihar.

The recent Lok Sabha elections were a vibrant celebration of democracy. Amid the festival of democracy, Bihar continues its journey towards growth with significant advancements, including enhanced connectivity via the newly launched Vande Bharat trains, new metro routes and more.

In noteworthy developments, new campus of the historical Nalanda University was inaugurated by hon'ble PM Shri Narendra Modi in the presence of His Excellency Governor Shri Rajendra Arlekar and hon'ble CM Shri Nitish Kumar. Patna witnessed the opening of Asia's first Dolphin Research Centre and the PM Ekta Mall, showcasing a variety of Indian art forms.

Furthermore, in this newsletter, we have featured prominent youth from Bihar who have made a mark with awards and recognitions in their respective fields. Speaking of making a mark, hon'ble CM also announced his vision to complete the target of 10 lakh jobs in government by 2025 under 7 Nischay Part 2.

In this edition of the newsletter, we showcase the vibrant celebrations of Bihar Diwas by the Bihari diaspora across India and the globe. Bihar Bhawan actively promotes investment and prosperity through local events like roadshows, exhibitions and regular interaction with stakeholders..

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.

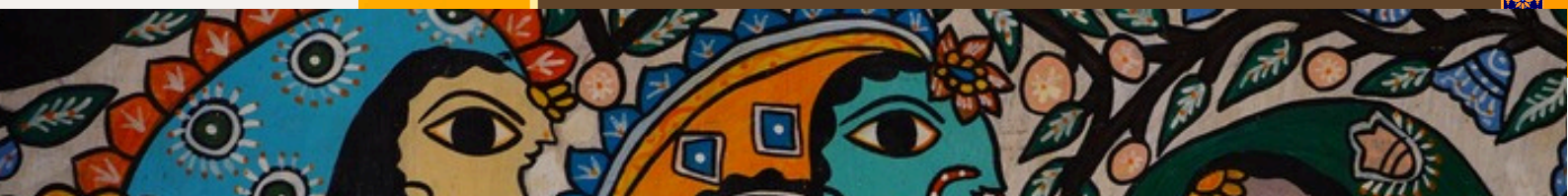


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NEW NALANDA UNIVERSITY CAMPUS



Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the new campus of the Nalanda University near Rajgir, Bihar. On this occasion, he also planted a sapling of the Bodhi tree—an enduring symbol of Buddhist heritage and Indian spirituality, at the campus.



HE Governor of Bihar, Shri Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, and the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Bihar, Shri Nitish Kumar, were also present at the event.



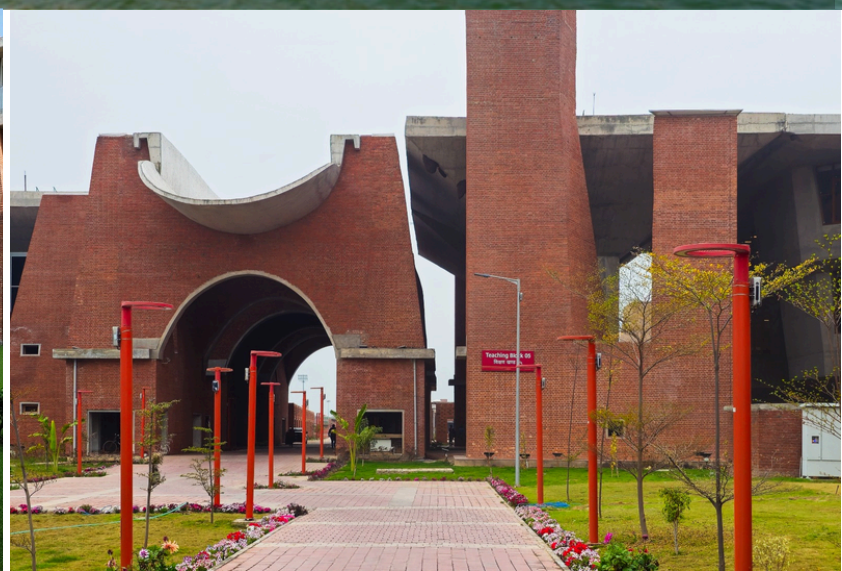
Hon'ble PM Shri Narendra Modi also visited ruins of old Nalanda University, which is considered to be amongst the first residential universities in the world.

Glimpse of Nalanda University New Campus

The design and architectural elements of the new 455-acre campus are inspired by the original monasteries and buildings at the ancient Nalanda Mahavihara.



The new campus is also a 'Net Zero Green Campus' and includes over 100 acres of water bodies (Kamal Sagar ponds), an on-grid solar plant, a domestic and drinking water treatment plant, and a water recycling plant for reusing wastewater as well as over 100 acres of green cover. The University also has a 250-capacity Yoga Center, a state-of-the-art auditorium, library, an archival centre and a fully equipped sports complex.





Academics at Nalanda University

The Schools at Nalanda University emphasize promoting learning in diverse institutional environments to develop a nuanced understanding of real-world problems.

The University currently offers programs in the School of Historical Studies, the School of Ecology and Environment Studies, the School of Buddhist Studies, Philosophy, and Comparative Religions, the School of Languages and Literature/Humanities, and the School of Management Studies. The programs include a Global PhD program, a Master of Arts in Historical Studies (MA), a Master of Science in Ecology and Environment Studies (MSc), a Master of Arts in Buddhist Studies, Philosophy, and Comparative Religions (MA), a Master of Arts in Hindu Studies (MA), a Master of Arts in World Literature (MA), a Master of Business Administration in Sustainable Development and Management (MBA), and various short-term diploma and certificate programs in Pali, Sanskrit, English, Korean, and Yoga. The University enrolled its first batch of students in the Fall semester of 2014.

Vision



The vision encompasses three vital goals rooted in Bihar's rich cultural legacy: Firstly, the creation of an international institution devoted to intellectual, philosophical, historical, and spiritual studies, alongside related pursuits. Secondly, the revitalization of Nalanda University, aimed at deepening regional understanding and fostering mutual appreciation of our diverse heritages and histories. Lastly, the nurturing of a dynamic community of learners—comprising students, scholars, researchers, and academicians—collaborating in harmony with the spiritual essence that unites all of humanity.

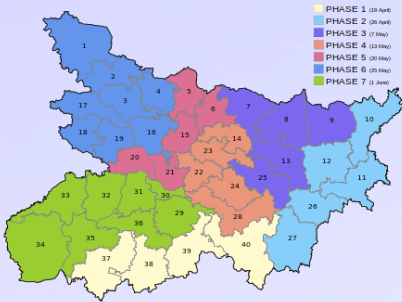




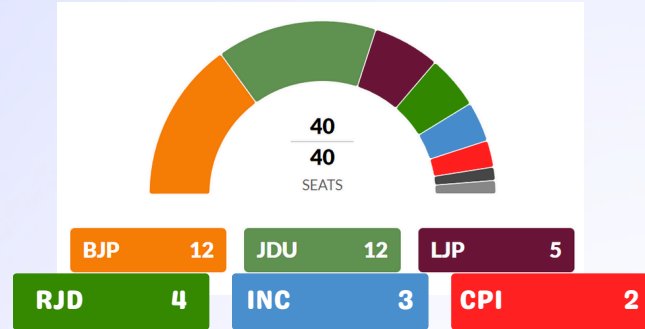
General Elections 2024



In 2024, the Lok Sabha Elections were held in seven phases from April 19 to June 1. In Bihar, voting was held in all seven phases to elect 40 members of the 18th Lok Sabha. The results were declared on June 4 by the Election Commission of India.



RESULT



After the results were announced, Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar visited Delhi and met with the Hon'ble Prime Minister. During his visit, he also met with former President Shri Ram Nath Kovind at his residence.



Swearing-in ceremony

Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Damodardas Modi took the oath for his third consecutive term on Sunday, June 9, 2024. Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar, along with other ministers, attended the ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhawan. Her Excellency Smt. Droupadi Murmu administered the oath.



Ministers from Bihar in 18th Lok Sabha



Shri Jitan Ram Manjhi (HAM)

Cabinet Minister (Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises)



Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh(JD(U))

Cabinet Minister (Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying,
Ministry of Panchayati Raj)



Shri Giriraj Singh(BJP)

Cabinet Minister (Ministry of Textiles)



Shri Chirag Paswan (LJP (Ram Vilas))

Cabinet Minister (Ministry for Food Processing Industries)



Shri Ram Nath Thakur(JD(U))

Minister of State (Agri & Farmers Welfare)



Shri Nityanand Rai(BJP)

Minister of State (Ministry of Home Affairs)



Shri Raj Bhushan Prasad Choudhary Nishad (BJP)

Minister of State (Ministry Of Jal Shakti)



Shri Satish Chandra Dubey(BJP)

Minister of State (Ministry of Coal, Ministry of Mines)

Remembering former Deputy Chief Minister late Shri Sushil Kumar Modi

Former Bihar Deputy CM Shri Sushil Kumar Modi passed away on May 13, 2024 at the age of 72. He is survived by his wife Jessie George and two sons, Utkarsh Tathaghat and Akshay Amritanshu. Honorable Chief Minister of Bihar, Shri Nitish Kumar, paid tribute to him and met his family members. His Excellency Governor of Bihar, Shri Rajendra Arlekar, accompanied him to the tribute ceremony held at Ravindra Bhawan on May 17, 2024.



The illustrious career

Late Shri Sushil Kumar Modi began his active political career in 1990. He won the Patna Central Assembly seat (now known as Kumhrar) and was re-elected in 1995 and 2000. Starting in 1990, he served as both Chief Whip of the BJP Bihar Legislature Party and Leader of Opposition in the State Assembly from 1996 to 2004.

In 2004, he shifted gears and was elected to the Lok Sabha representing Bhagalpur. He briefly held the position of Minister for Parliamentary Affairs in 2000 and advocated for the creation of Jharkhand.

Following the NDA's victory in the 2005 Bihar elections, Late Shri Sushil Kumar Modi resigned from the Lok Sabha to become the Deputy Chief Minister. He held this role through subsequent elections until 2017. He served as deputy Chief Minister for eleven years.

On December 8, 2020, he was elected unopposed to the Rajya Sabha .

"Youth should become job providers, not job seekers"

Raj Bhawan



His Excellency, the Governor of Bihar, Shri Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, addressed the inaugural session of a seminar on "Digital Transformation: Navigating the New Era of Industry 5.0" under Bharat @2047 at Lalit Narayan Mishra College of Business Management, Muzaffarpur.

During the event, His Excellency emphasized ongoing efforts to change the negative perception of Bihar in other states. Discussing the Digital India initiative, he highlighted the importance of digitizing the activities and management of institutions. He advocated for granting tourism the status of an industry and encouraged the youth to become job providers rather than job seekers.

HE Governor of Bihar Shri Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar inaugurated the newly constructed library building at Lalit Narayan Mishra College of Business Management, Muzaffarpur.



Celebrating 10th International Yoga Day

His Excellency, the Governor of Bihar, Shri Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, along with the officials and employees of the Governor's Secretariat, participated in a yoga camp organized at Raj Bhavan on the occasion of the 10th International Yoga Day. Yoga instructors from Art of Living guided them through various yogasanas, pranayama, and meditation as per the protocol issued by the Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India.



MANGO FESTIVAL 2024: MANGOLICIOUS TWO DAYS IN PATNA



Honorable Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar inaugurated the two-day Mango Festival 2024 (June 22 and 23) at Gyan Bhawan, located in the Samrat Ashok Convention Center. The Honorable CM visited stalls set up by various mango producers, who showcased different varieties of the fruit and explained their characteristics. During the event, grants were also awarded to various agricultural producer groups and food processing units.

KHARIF MAHABHIYAN 2024: RAISING AWARENESS TO FARMERS



Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar on June 20, 2024 flagged off Kisan Jagrukta Vahan (Farmer Awareness Vehicles) for all districts under Kharif MahAbhiyan-2024. These vehicles are used to make farmers aware of various schemes being run by the Agriculture Department of Bihar Government.

Additionally, information about the distribution of inputs at subsidized rates in Kharif, awareness about crop residue management, information related to climate-friendly agricultural programs, promotion of organic farming, special information on crop diversification, various dimensions of the Fourth Agricultural Roadmap and other programs are also disseminated.

BAPU TOWER IN MAKING...



Bapu Tower in Patna will be landmark place that will showcase historical events related to Bapu's life, his thoughts, his role in the freedom struggle and his attachment to Bihar. On June 23, Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar visited the place and directed officers to pace up the construction work and make it people friendly with description of the exhibits in Hindi and English.

“1.99 LAKH TO GET GOVERNMENT JOBS IN NEXT 3 MONTHS”

Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar announced on Monday (June 17) his commitment to provide government jobs to 1.99 lakh youths within the next three months. Additionally, Hon'ble CM pledged to secure employment for another 5.17 lakh youths by the end of the current financial year (2024-25), in order to fulfill his promise of creating 10 lakh government jobs for the state's youth by 2025.



Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar in London



During the starting week of March, Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar visited London, where he visited Science Museum and talked about upcoming Science City in Patna. He said that similar techniques would be employed in its construction, aimed at facilitating students' comprehension of the fundamentals, activities, and principles of science. This initiative aims to enhance students' interest in science.

Hon'ble Chief Minister also met His Excellency High Commissioner of India in Britain Shri Vikram K. Doraiswamy during the visit and presented him a memento.

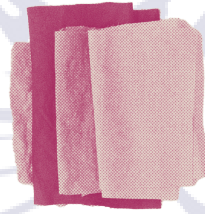


Hon'ble CM meets MPs

Hon'ble CM Shri Nitish Kumar held a meeting with MPs at his official residence in Delhi. He had arrived in the national capital to take part in the oath-taking ceremony of Hon'ble PM Shri Narendra Modi.



The New Bihar Textile and Leather Policy 2024



On March 15, 2024, the Government of Bihar approved the new Bihar Textile and Leather Policy 2024, making it more attractive than the previous policy. The new policy offers a range of benefits for investors, including capital subsidies and tax incentives.

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Early mover advantage- Capital Subsidy** of 30% with cap of 30 cr for units starting production by 30.6.25. Units starting after that will get 20% capital subsidy with cap of 20 cr.
- **Employment Subsidy**- up to Rs 5000 per employee per month for a period of 7 years- No cap on total subsidy.
- **SGST**: 100% SGST reimbursement for 7 years
- **Freight subsidy** for exports up to Rs 50 lacs per year for 7 years
- **Power subsidy**: Rs 2 per unit for 7 years.

Bihar Export Promotion Policy 2024

Additionally, Govt. of Bihar also approved Bihar Export Promotion Policy 2024.

Export Subsidy

1% of Free On-Board value at seaport or air cargo terminal, being used for export, up to maximum of INR **20 Lakh** per financial year for **7 years**.

Performance based subsidy

Reimbursement of **1%** of additional Free On-Board value, up to INR **10 Lakhs** pa for **7 years**, in case an exporter achieves **50% above** the value of export over previous financial year.

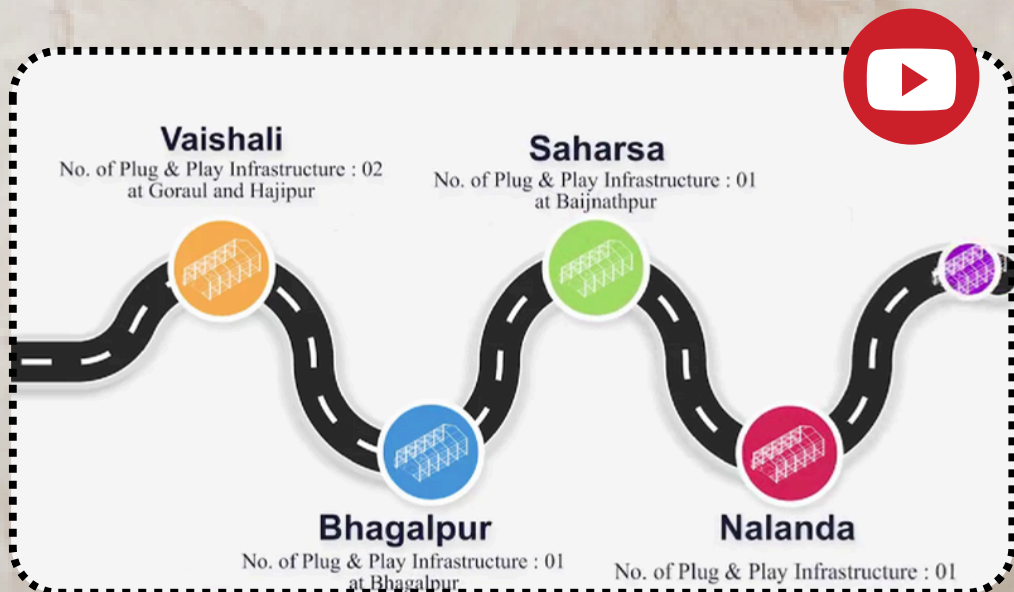
Astra Packaging in Bihar

Astra Packaging, the first operational unit in BIADA's new Industrial Area Goraul, Vaishali district of Bihar, began production of laminated packaging solutions within 9 months of land allotment.



Plug and Play facilities at ₹4 per sq ft.

BIADA provides Plug & Play industrial sheds equipped with basic amenities across 9 districts in Bihar. 24 lakh sq. ft. of P&P is available for lease at a monthly rent starting from just ₹4 per sq. ft. Interested companies can book their space at <https://biada1.bihar.gov.in>.

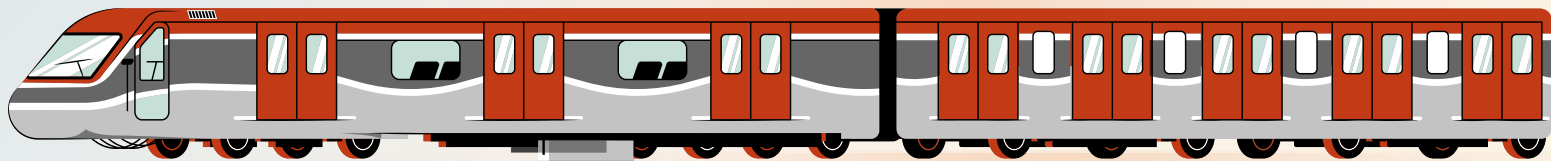


Metro expansion in Bihar

Led by Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar, the Bihar cabinet has approved new metro projects in four more cities. Bihar thus look forward to new milestones in creating modern infrastructure!

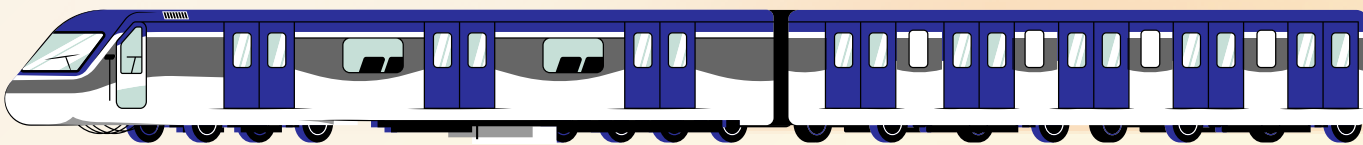


In addition to the Patna Metro, which was inaugurated by Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2019, the cities of Muzaffarpur, Gaya, Darbhanga, and Bhagalpur will also receive metro connectivity. The Patna Metro routes, currently under construction, are divided into two lines: the East-West Line from Danapur Cantonment to Khemni Chak and the North-South Line from Patna Junction Railway Station to New ISBT.



Bihar gets new Vande Bharat trains

Indian Railways has added two new Vande Bharat Express trains which will operate on Patna-Gomti Nagar and Patna-New Jalpaiguri routes. With the addition of these two new semi-high-speed trains, the connectivity to the region will be enhanced. Additionally, the third Vande Bharat train will have a halt at Gaya on its journey from Ranchi to Varanasi.



Asia's first Dolphin Research Centre in Patna

India's first National Dolphin Research Center (NDRC) was officially inaugurated by Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar on March 6, 2024 (Wednesday). The 30-crore rupee facility is located on the banks of the Ganges River within the Patna University campus.

Focus on Gangetic Dolphin Conservation



The NDRC's primary objective is to aid researchers and students in better understanding the behavior and ecology of freshwater dolphins, particularly the endangered Gangetic dolphin. These dolphins inhabit the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna and Karnaphuli-Sangu river systems of South Asia. They were first documented in 1801. According to a 2018 survey by the Government of Bihar, an estimated 1,048 dolphins reside in the Ganges River.

All you need to know about PM Ekta Mall in Patna

PM Ekta Mall in Patna is Rs 200 crore project that aims to create a state-of-the-art complex featuring international design standards, advanced technology, and a comfortable and aesthetically pleasing environment.

The mall will dedicate space for individual states, union territories, and even districts. This allows each region to showcase its unique products and handicrafts, promoting India's diverse heritage.

With 36 large stalls for States/UTs and 38 dedicated stalls for each Bihar district, the PM Ekta Mall fosters local manufacturing initiatives like One District One Product (ODOP) and Geographical Indicators (GI) products.

The project is expected to generate significant socio-economic benefits for Bihar, including job creation, infrastructure development, and potentially increased exports.





Son of Bihar farmer shines in IIT

Bihar is known for producing talents! Shri Roshan Kumar from Kharsari village in the Sadar block of Jamui district proved this by securing All India Rank 34 in recently held IIT JEE Advanced examination. This was his first attempt. He studied at a private school in Jamui and credited his disciplined preparation—studying 7-8 hours daily—and his father's strong support for his success.



Ms. Maithili Thakur gets National Creators Award

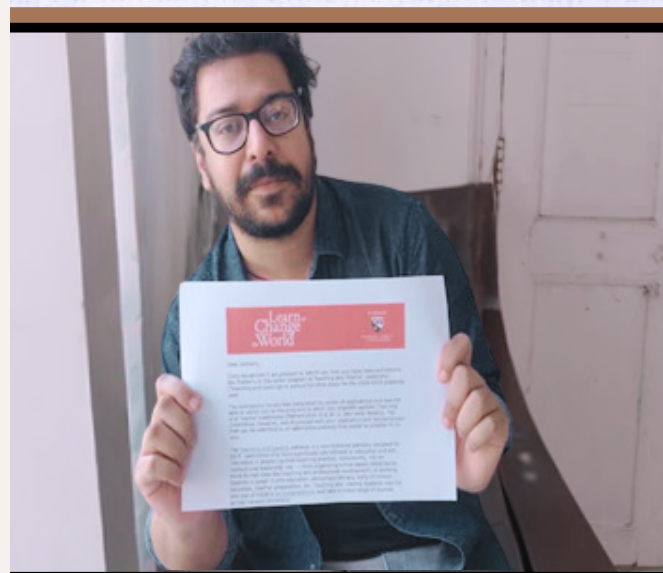
Famous singer Ms. Maithili Thakur from Bihar received the Cultural Ambassador of the Year Award at the National Creators Award ceremony. Presented by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at Bharat Mandapan in Delhi, the award recognizes her contributions to Indian culture. Maithili Thakur, known for her soulful renditions of traditional Maithili folk songs and popular hits like "Om Namah Shivaya," also performed a devotional song dedicated to Lord Shiva during the ceremony.

Harvard University Scholarship for Bhagalpur teacher

Bhagalpur resident and educator Shri Satyam Mishra has received a prestigious 42 lakh scholarship from Harvard University in the US. He'll be pursuing postgraduate studies in Teaching and Teacher Leadership, honing his expertise in innovative math education.

He has received accolades like the Global Teacher Award and the Fulbright Distinguished Award. A champion for global education, he has equipped children in 18 countries with knowledge and collaborated with Teach For All to bridge educational gaps. Notably, he integrates artificial intelligence into his teaching methods.

Upon returning from Harvard, he aims to develop and implement education models that are culturally and historically relevant to Bihar.



Nagi and Nakti Sanctuaries

Bihar's Gems on the Ramsar List

Nagi and Nakti Sanctuaries, in the serene Jhajha forest range of Jamui District, Bihar, have been recognized as wetlands of international importance.

Marking a significant achievement on World Environment Day, these sites are now proudly part of the Ramsar List, making them India's 81st and 82nd Ramsar Sites.



Gifting GI tag delights from Bihar



Thousands of VVIP dignitaries, including President of India, Vice President, and Prime Minister, were presented with fresh, mouth-watering Jardalu mangoes from Bhagalpur and Shahi Litchis from Muzaffarpur. Over 2,500 packets were sent to New Delhi as gifts from the Hon'ble Bihar CM Shri Nitish Kumar. Team at Bihar Bhawan worked diligently for over a week to ensure that each packet arrived fresh and delicious at its destination.

An inspiring story of a hockey coach from Bihar

“A Bihari can only drive a rickshaw in Delhi, how can he play hockey?” - A taunt that made a hockey player



Shri Harendra Singh, coach of the US men's hockey team, hails from Bihar. He was born into an army family and spent his childhood in various parts of India. His passion for hockey ignited when he witnessed India's defeat to Pakistan in the 1982 Asian Games. He was determined to play hockey for India and defeat Pakistan.

During his early days, Shri Harendra Singh faced many challenges as a hockey player. He was often taunted for being from Bihar and told that he would never make it as a professional hockey player. However, he persevered and eventually made it to the Indian national team. He went on to win number of gold medals at the international level and was also awarded the Dronacharya Award, India's highest coaching honor.

After retiring from playing, Shri Harendra took up coaching. He has coached both the Indian men's and women's hockey teams, and has also worked with the Indian junior team. In 2023, he was appointed as the coach of the US men's hockey team.

Shri Harendra Singh is passionate about promoting hockey in Bihar. He believes that the state has a lot of potential in hockey and that there are many talented players who just need the right opportunity. He is working to provide training and support to young hockey players in Bihar so that they can achieve their dreams.

Bihar Dairy Farm shines @ Startup Mahakumbh 2024



Bihar's Anandsagar Natural Dairy Farm Private Limited, a dairy company, shone brightly at the Startup Mahakumbh 2024 event held in Delhi from March 18-20. The company, founded by Shri Santosh Kumar, a resident of Bihar, was awarded the prestigious 'Aavishkar Chamakta Sitara Award' in recognition of its commitment to innovation in the dairy industry. The company's registered office has been in Patna since January 9, 2020.

Investment Meet and Bihar Tourism Roadshow in Delhi

In a bid to promote investment and extensive publicity in the tourism sector, an Investment Meet and Roadshow was conducted in the national capital, New Delhi, on Friday (June 14, 2024). The event was held at Ashoka Hotel in Chanakyapuri. Hon'ble Tourism Minister Shri Nitish Mishra, along with Tourism Secretary Shri Abhay Kumar Singh and Investment-cum-Resident Commissioner of Bihar Govt in Delhi highlighted key features of tourist destinations, policies and programs.



Creating Saviours: CPR Training Session

A CPR training program was organized at Bihar Bhawan Delhi on Monday (June 24). In the program, officers and employees of Bihar Bhawan, Bihar Niwas, and Bihar Sadan were trained on how to save lives using Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) technique. The training was given by the Basic Life Support (BLS) Instructor of Medanta Hospital, Shri Shanky Dagar.



In the heart of Delhi, Bihar Bhawan, Bihar Niwas, and Bihar Sadan stood as beacons of hospitality for the people of Bihar. These establishments offered affordable, high-quality accommodation close to key locations in the city, ensuring comfort and convenience for their guests.

Recognizing the importance of preparedness in emergencies, the management organized a CPR training session for their dedicated staff. This decision underscored their commitment to not only providing excellent service but also ensuring the safety and well-being of their guests.

Employees absorbed every detail, asking questions and engaging in hands-on practice on CPR manikins. Each participant realized the gravity of their role; they weren't just employees but potential first responders.



Appreciating the training program, Resident Commissioner Shri Kundan Kumar said, "This is a process that everyone should be aware of. Which can be helpful in saving someone's life." He also presented a memento to the BLS trainer for effectively providing information.



10th International Yoga Day Celebrations



Bihari diaspora in New York, USA, celebrated 10th International Yoga Day with full fervor. Here is a glimpse to the grand celebrations at the famous Times Square.

International Institute of Yoga in Munger



Bihar Yoga Bharati (BYB) is a pioneering institute devoted exclusively to the study of yoga. Located in the Ganga Darshan Complex in Munger, Bihar, BYB offers a unique ashram environment for the advanced study of yogic sciences. Founded in 1994 by Swami Niranjanananda Saraswati, with inspiration from Swami Sivananda Saraswati and Swami Satyananda Saraswati, BYB aims to preserve and advance the full scope of yogic science by integrating academic rigor with spiritual insight. Modeled after ancient centers of learning like Nalanda and Vikramshila, BYB serves as a beacon for spiritual awakening in the modern world.

बिहार दिवस 2024



Delhi



Gujarat

Explore the cultural magnificence of Bihar's rich culture and heritage through snapshots from Bihar Diwas Celebrations held in Delhi, Gujarat, and Assam. These pictures vividly portray the essence of Bihar's rich heritage, featuring a kaleidoscope of traditional attire, vibrant folk performances, and spirited festivities.



Assam



बिहार दिवस 2024 अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय

US (East Coast)



UAE

संयुक्त अरब अमीरात में भी
धूमधाम से मना बिहार दिवस



संयुक्त अरब अमीरात में बिहार दिवस समारोह में नृत्य करती कलाकार।
पटना। संयुक्त अरब अमीरात में धूमधाम से बिहार दिवस मनाया गया। बिहार झारखंड समाज, अबू धाबी ने भारतीय दुतावास अबुधाबी के संरक्षण और वृषी परिवार गुरुई के सहयोग से इसका आयोजन किया। मौके पर बिहार केंद्रित रंगारंग कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया गया। कार्यक्रम की शुरुआत लोकश्री केशरी, दिव्यांश कुमार केशरी ने गणेश स्तुति से की। उद्घाटन अरब नागरिक अहमद अल होस्नी ने किया। राजदुत संजय सुधीर और काउंसिलर डॉ. बालाजी रामास्वामी की देखरेख में एक भारत ब्रेड भारत की थीम का प्रदर्शन किया गया। मंच संचालन वृषी परिवार के प्रतिनिधि





BIHAR SHOWCASES RICH TRAVEL AND BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES



In a bid to attract tourists and investors, Bihar made a notable mark at SATTE 2024, held at the India Expo Centre and Mart from February 22nd to 24th, 2024. Under the spotlight of SATTE 2024, renowned as India's premier travel and tourism exhibition, Bihar's pavilion emerged as a vibrant showcase of the state's diverse tourism offerings. Through interactive displays and cultural performances, visitors were invited to embark on a journey of exploration and discovery through Bihar's historical and architectural wonders. Beyond the realm of tourism, Bihar's participation also aimed to foster collaborations and partnerships within the travel industry.





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rcbihar@yahoo.in

