



Bihar Government to Open Degree Colleges in 213 Blocks | Bihar | 06 Feb 2026

Why in News?

The **Bihar government** has announced a major initiative to **open degree colleges in 213 blocks** of the state aiming to improve access to higher education, especially in rural and underserved areas.

Key Points.

- **Addressing Inequality:** Out of **534 blocks in Bihar, 213 currently lack degree college facilities**, and this gap is being addressed through the first phase of expansion to promote equitable access to higher studies.
- **Programme Framework:** This initiative is part of **'Saat Nischay-3'** under the theme **"Advanced Education - Bright Future (Unnat Shiksha - Ujjwal Bhavishya)"**.
 - This initiative was announced by **Chief Minister Nitish Kumar**.
- **Focus:** The key objective is to make **higher education more accessible to girls and rural students**, who often face challenges traveling long distances for college.
 - This will support **gender equity in education** and contribute to broader socio-economic development.
- **Centres of Excellence:** Alongside new colleges, the government will develop **55 existing prestigious educational institutions as Centres of Excellence** to provide quality, employment-oriented higher education.
- **Human Capital:** By expanding higher education infrastructure, Bihar aims to build a **skilled workforce** equipped for employment opportunities and economic growth.

Read More: [Gender equity, Centres of Excellence](#)

Bihar Economic Survey 2025-26 | Bihar | 06 Feb 2026

Why in News?

Bihar Economic Survey **2025-26** was presented in the Bihar Assembly by Finance Minister **Bijendra Prasad Yadav** on **2 February 2026**.

Key Points

- This is the 20th Economic Survey of the state, which presents a detailed analysis of Bihar's economic performance, macro trends, sectoral growth, public finance and development priorities.
- **BIHAR ECONOMY'S OUTLOOK:**
 - Bihar's economic growth outpaced the national average with growth of 14.9% compared with India's 12.0%.

- The **Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP)** for 2024-25 is estimated at **₹9,91,997 crore** at current prices and **₹5,31,372 crore** at 2011-12 constant prices.
- Growth recorded at **13.1% (current prices)** and **8.6% (constant prices)**.
- The **Net State Domestic Product (NSDP)** for 2024-25 is estimated at **₹8,99,020 crore** at current prices and **₹4,71,322 crore** at 2011-12 constant prices.
- Bihar's **per capita NSDP at constant prices (2011-12) is estimated at Rs. 36,342**, which is **31.7 %** of the all-India average for states.
- **Per capita income** rose to **₹76,490 (current prices)** and **₹40,973 (constant prices)**.
 - **Top 3 Districts:** Patna, Begusarai, Munger
 - **Lowest 3 Districts:** Sheohar, Araria, and Sitamarhi
 - **Patna:** Highest Petrol, Diesel and LPG consumption.
- **The tertiary sector** contributes **54.8%** of GSDP, Secondary sector **26.8%**, Primary sector **18.3%**.
- **Sectoral Growth:** At current prices for 2024-25, the **primary sector in the state grew by 9.6 %**, the **secondary sector by 15.5 %**, and the **tertiary sector by 13.5 %** over the previous year.
- **Employment:** The **tertiary sector** contributes **22%**, Secondary sector **24%**, Primary sector **54%**.
- The **Gross Fixed Capital Formation** has nearly doubled in the recent five years from **₹17,416 crore to ₹34,905 crore in 2024-25**.
- **State Finance 2024-25:**
 - **Total Receipts Revenue Account:** 218658 Crore (22% of GSDP)
 - **Capital Receipts:** 66165 Crore (6.7% of GSDP)
 - **Total Expenditure:** 281939 Crore (28.4% of GSDP)
 - **Revenue Expenditure:** Rs. 2,19,015 crore (22.1% of GSDP)
 - 77.7% of Total Expenditure
 - **Capital Expenditure:** 62924 Crore (6.3% of GSDP)
 - 22.3% of Total Expenditure
 - **Total Borrowings:** 66049 Crore (6.7% of GSDP)
 - **Debt Outstanding:** 374134 Crore (37.7% of GSDP)
 - **Gross Fiscal Deficit:** 41223 Crore (4.2% of GSDP)
 - **Primary Deficit:** 21544 Crore (2.2% of GSDP)
 - **Revenue Deficit:** 357 Crore
- **Agriculture:**
 - **Gross Sown Area:** 8207.27 Thousand Hectare
 - **Net Sown Area:** 5411.96 Thousand Hectare
 - **Cropping Intensity:** 1.52 Thousand Hectare
 - **Cropping Pattern in Bihar (2020-21 to 2024-25):** Foodgrains(95.2), Cereals(89.2), Pulses (6.0).
 - **Milk production** rose by 4.2 percent, egg production by 10.0 percent, and fish production by 9.9 percent.
 - The **fisheries sector** recorded a total fish production of 960 thousand tonnes with **Madhubani as leading producer**.
 - **Scheme:** Mukhyamantri Samekit Chaur Vikas Yojana, River Ranching Programme, Jalashay Matsyki Vikas Yojana.
 - **Government Initiative:** Jaivik Kheti Protsahan Yojana, Jaivik Corridor Yojana, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY).
- **ENTERPRISES SECTOR:**
 - **Sugar Industry:** The Riga Sugar Mill was reopened in 2024-25.
 - **Dairy Industry:** The aggregate daily average milk procurement 2,252.28 thousand kg in 2024-25.
 - **Textile Industry:** The State government introduced the Bihar Industrial Investment Promotion Policy (Textile and Leather Policy, 2022) under the broader framework of the Bihar Industrial Investment Promotion Policy, 2016.
 - **Tourism Development:** Takht Sri Harimandir Ji, Matsyagandha Lake in Saharsa district, Luv-Kush Eco Tourism Park in Valmikinagar.
 - **Eco-tourism:** In 2024-25, the total outlay for eco-tourism and park development was Rs. 100.00 crore. Bihar's third biological park at Raniganj in Araria.
 - **Initiative:** Bihar State Khadi and Village Industries Board (KVIB), Industrial Promotion in

Bihar, Bihar Industrial Area Development Authority (BIADA),

▪ **LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND SKILL:**

- In Bihar, the male **labour force participation rate (LFPR)** was 76.8 percent in rural areas and 67.8 percent in urban areas.
- Bihar's **female LFPR** being 11.2 percent lower than the all-India average.
- In **rural Bihar**, the **unemployment rate** for males was 3.3 percent, while the female unemployment rate was just 0.9 percent.
- In **urban areas** about 6.9 percent of male workers and 9.1 percent of female workers in urban Bihar are unemployed.

▪ **PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE:**

- Bihar shares **5.5%** of the total road network of India.
- A **6-lane Bihar New Ganga bridge** is being constructed at an estimate of Rs. **4988 Crore** with the support from ADB.
- Construction of **expressways and national highways** continues.
- The **road transport sector** recorded a high growth of 13.4% annually during the last decade.
- Bihar constituted 5.4 percent of the **rail network** of the country.
- Bihar has recorded a high growth rate of 20 percent in the **air transport sector**.
- **Initiative:** PM e-Bus Sewa, Mukhya Mantri Gram Parivahan Yojana (MMGPY).

▪ **E-GOVERNANCE:**

- **E-governance initiatives: CCTNS, CFMS, Cyber Cell, e-Challan, Bihar AI Mission**
- Tele Density coverage 57.23%, Internet density coverage 43.10%.
- **Initiatives:** Bihar State Data Centre (BSDC 2.0), Bihar State Wide Area Network (BSWAN 3.0), Bihar Aadhaar Authentication Framework (BAAF), Emergency Response Support System (ERSS),

▪ **POWER SECTOR:**

- Per capita energy consumption increased to **374 kilowatt-hours**.
- 13 Innovation & Impact Award for DISCOMs 2025 at **19th India Energy Summit** - Won by both **NBPDCL & SBPDCL** in different categories.
- **BSPTCL** has been awarded A+ certificate from PFC consecutively for 5 years from the year 2020 to 2025.
- **Initiative:** Floating Solar Power Plant, Solar Water Pumps, Mukhyamantri Solar Street Light Scheme, Smart Metering.

▪ **RURAL DEVELOPMENT:**

- Rural development is fundamental to Bihar's inclusive growth, as nearly 90 percent of the population lives in rural areas.
- **JEEVIKA:** It implements the **National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM)** in Bihar. JEEVIKA has mobilized 1.40 crore families into 11.03 lakh **Self-Help Groups (SHGs)**, supported by **Village Organizations and Cluster-Level Federations**.
- **Initiatives:** Didi-Ki-Rasoi Initiative, Pashu Sakhi Model, One Stop Facility Centre, Satat Jeevikoparjan Yojana, Lohiya Swachh Bihar Abhiyan.

▪ **URBAN DEVELOPMENT:**

- The **total population growth** rate in Bihar declined to 14.4 per cent during 2021-25.
- The **Total Fertility Rate (TFR)** in Bihar will reach the replacement level of **2.1 by 2039**.
- **Initiatives:** Mukhyamantri Samagra Shahari Vikas Yojana, Mukhyamantri Shahri Naali-Gali Pakkikaran Nishchay Yojana, Rainwater Harvesting and Artificial Recharge of Ground Water, Solid Waste Management, Smart City Mission, Patna Metro Rail Project .

▪ **FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS:**

- **Initiatives:** ATM infrastructure in Bihar, Microfinance Institutions (MFI), Kisan Credit Card (KCC), National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).

▪ **HUMAN DEVELOPMENT:**

- **Women Empowerment:**The total **expenditure on women** has increased **3.45 times** between 2018-19 and 2023-24.
 - Under **Mukhyamantri Kanya Vivah Yojna**, financial assistance of **Rs. 5,000** is provided to girls from BPL families who marry at the age of 18 years or above.
 - **Initiative:** One-Stop Centre, Palna Ghar, Mahila Thana, Pink Bus Initiative, Nayika Apne Jeevan Ki.
- **Education & Health Sector:**The **Life Expectancy at Birth** in Bihar in 2019-23 has been **68.9 and 69.7 years for males and females** respectively.

- Bihar recorded significant improvement in literacy during 2001-11, rising from **47% to 61.8%**, the **highest among all states**.
- **Initiatives:** E-Shikshakosh, PM Poshan Scheme, BHAVYA initiative, Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY), Immunisation, National Health Mission, Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Bihar Student Credit Card Yojana (BSCCY).

▪ **CHILD DEVELOPMENT:**

- **NFHS-5 (2019-21):** Children under 5 Years who are Stunted (42.9%), Wasted (22.9%) and Underweight(41%).
- **Initiatives:** Anganwadi Services (AS), Poshan Pakhwada, POSHAN Tracker, Mission Vatsalya, Establishment of Child Protection Unit, Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.

▪ **ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT:**

- The **forestry sector** registered an average annual growth of 10.6% between 2011-12 and 2024-25.
- Forest cover increased by **689 sq km** in 12 years.
- **Initiative:** Environment Forest and Climate Change Department, Forest Management Information System (FMIS), Bihar-VanMitra App, e-Parivesh Portal, Hariyali Mission, Bamboo Mission, Wetland Conservation and Development in Bihar, Vikramshila Gangetic Dolphin Sanctuary.
- **Disaster Management Initiatives:** State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) in 2010, Bihar Disaster Risk Reduction Road Map (2015-2030), Modernisation of State Emergency Operation Centre (SEOC).

Kalpetta Becomes India's First Fully Paperless District Court | National Current Affairs | 06 Feb 2026

Why in News?

The **Kalpetta judicial district** in **Wayanad, Kerala** has become **India's first fully paperless district court**.

Key Points

- **Historic Achievement:** Kalpetta has become the **first district court in India** to function completely without paper, transitioning to a fully digital judicial system.
- **Inauguration:** The paperless court system was **virtually inaugurated** by **Chief Justice of India Surya Kant**.
- **Functioning:** All stages of court proceedings — including **pre-trial processes, recording of evidence, interlocutory orders, and final adjudications** — are now conducted electronically without the use of physical files.
 - The digital platform, known as the **District Court Case Management System (DCMS)**, was developed **in-house by the Kerala High Court's IT department** to ensure secure and efficient digital operations.
- **Technology:** The system integrates **AI-based judicial assistance tools** that help generate structured case summaries, assist with annotation, query case details, and support judges with faster access to digital records.
- **Benefits:** Going paperless is expected to **reduce litigation costs, eliminate delays in transferring files**, enhance **access to justice**, and contribute to **"green jurisprudence"** by lowering the environmental impact of judicial processes.
- **Model for Other Districts:** The initiative is being seen as a **model for other judicial districts** across India, with the potential to transform traditional court operations into **efficient**

digital systems nationwide.

Read More: [District court, AI, Chief Justice of India](#)

Tamil Nadu Launches India's First Deep Tech Startup Policy | National Current Affairs | 06 Feb 2026

Why in News?

Tamil Nadu unveiled India's first dedicated Deep Tech Startup Policy at the **UImagineTN 2026** technology summit in **Chennai**.

Key Points

- **Policy Launch:** The **Deep Tech Startup Policy 2025-26** was launched by **Chief Minister M.K. Stalin** at the **UImagineTN 2026** summit held in **Chennai, Tamil Nadu**.
 - Tamil Nadu became the **first Indian state to introduce a dedicated deep tech startup policy**.
- **Implementation:** The policy will be coordinated and facilitated by the **Tamil Nadu Technology (iTNT) Hub**, the nodal agency under the state government.
- **Investment & Startup Support:** The policy **targets support for 100 deep tech startups** and plans to **mobilise ₹100 crore** in public and private investment over the next five years to bridge the gap between research and market deployment.
 - The policy emphasises cutting-edge sectors such as **artificial intelligence (AI), semiconductors, biotechnology, space technologies, and clean energy**, which typically involve advanced scientific research and long gestation periods.
- **Ecosystem Development:** It aims to **facilitate technology transfer from academic and research institutions to startups**, encourage patent creation, and strengthen infrastructure and capital support for innovation.
- **Government Support:** The policy includes provisions like a **"Government as Early Adopter" programme** to pilot and validate deep tech solutions in select government departments, aiding startups in proving their technologies.

Read More: [Startup, AI, Semiconductors, Biotechnology, Space technologies](#)

World Cancer Day 2026 | National Current Affairs | 06 Feb 2026

Why in News?

World Cancer Day was observed on **4 February 2026** to raise awareness about cancer, promote early detection, and encourage equitable access to cancer care worldwide.

Key Points

- **Theme:** The official theme for 2026 is **"United by Unique"**, part of a **three-year global**

campaign (2025-27) that underscores that everyone's cancer journey is different but equally deserving of care and dignity.

- The theme stresses **person-centred care**, recognising individual experiences, needs and the importance of dignity in treatment and survivorship planning.
- **Purpose:** **Raise awareness** about cancer prevention, early detection and treatment.
 - **Encourage** timely screening and healthy lifestyles.
 - **Break** myths, stigma and fear associated with cancer.
 - **Support** patients, survivors and caregivers.
 - **Improve** access to equitable cancer care worldwide.
- **Participation:** Individuals, communities, health institutions and governments take part through **awareness campaigns, educational programmes and screening activities** to promote action against cancer.
 - Health experts emphasise that **early detection saves lives**, and many cancer cases could be **prevented** or better managed with timely screening and lifestyle interventions.
- **Preventable Causes:** According to WHO analyses, an estimated **4 in 10 new cancer cases can be prevented** through risk-reducing measures such as avoiding tobacco, unhealthy diets, alcohol and improving physical activity.
- **Equity and Access:** World Cancer Day calls for **equitable access to high-quality care**, especially in low- and middle-income countries where lack of resources and awareness leads to late diagnosis and poorer outcomes.

Read More: [World Cancer Day, WHO](#)

Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026 | National Current Affairs | 06 Feb 2026

Why in News?

The 25th edition of the Winter Olympic Games will officially begin from 6 February. Milano Cortina 2026 will mark the **first time that two cities will jointly host the Winter Olympics**, and it is the fourth time **Italy** will stage the Winter Games.

Key Points:

- **Opening Ceremony:** Held on 6 February 2026 at the iconic San Siro Stadium in Milan.
- **Closing Ceremony:** Scheduled for 22 February 2026 at the ancient Verona Arena.
- **Mascots: Tina and Milo**, two stoats whose names are inspired by the host cities (Tina for Cortina and Milo for Milano).
- **Theme:** Titled "**Armonia**" (**Harmony**), the show is produced by Balich Wonder Studio and features performances by **Mariah Carey, Andrea Bocelli, and Laura Pausini**.
- **India's Participation:** India is represented by a small but significant contingent at the 2026 Games, continuing its presence in global winter sports.
- **Athletes: Arif Mohammad Khan**, the veteran alpine skier, who previously represented India at the Beijing 2022 Winter Games, has qualified in the **Alpine Skiing** discipline.
 - **Stanzin Lundup:** Competing in **Cross-Country Skiing**. His participation was confirmed after a selection process that involved a Delhi High Court decision regarding the national quota.
- **India participated in the Winter Olympics:** While the Winter Olympic Games began in 1924, India made its debut in 1964.
 - Including the upcoming Milano Cortina Olympics, India has participated in 12 Winter Olympic editions, with 17 different athletes representing the country over the years.

