



# STATE PCS CA

(CONSOLIDATION)

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## BIHAR

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Drishti, 641, First Floor, Dr. Mukherjee  
Nagar, Delhi-110009

Phone: 87501 87501,  
WhatsApp: 92058 85200,  
IVR: 8010-440-440

Email: [engweb@groupdrishti.com](mailto:engweb@groupdrishti.com)

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## **'Vaccine Mitra' Chatbot**

### ***Why in News***

- The '**Vaccine Mitra**' chatbot was launched by Bihar Health Minister Mangal Pandey on November 2, 2021 with an aim to promote COVID-19 vaccination.

### ***Key Points***

- The Bihar government has launched this chatbot in association with Meta-owned messaging platform WhatsApp.
- It is built with the latest intuitive capabilities of the WhatsApp API platform, which enables users to select quick replies.
- It is capable of providing information in both English and Hindi languages.
- It helps in creating awareness about vaccines and provides information about the nearest vaccination centre.
- To use this chatbot, WhatsApp users has to send 'Hi' to 9431025555.

## **Public Affairs Index, 2021**

### ***Why in News***

- In the recently released Public Appearances Index, 2021, **Bihar has been ranked last in the category of large states in the growth/growth column.**

### ***Key Points***

- The Public Affairs Index is released by the Bangalore based think tank 'Public Affairs Centre'.
- In this index, Bihar has been ranked 12th in the list of large states in the equity column, while Gujarat is at the first and Uttar Pradesh is at the last position.
- In the category of large states in the growth/growth column, Bihar has got the last (18th) position, while Telangana is at the first position.
- In the sustainability column, Bihar has been ranked 17<sup>th</sup> in the big states category, while Uttar Pradesh has been ranked 18th (last). Kerala is on the first rank.
- In the overall ranking, Kerala has been ranked first and Tamil Nadu is at second place. Bihar and Uttar Pradesh are at the last rank.

## **6<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Dharma-Dhamma**

### ***Why in News***

- On November 7, 2021, the 6th International Dharma-Dhamma Conference was inaugurated by the Vice President of India, Venkaiah Naidu at Nalanda University located in Rajgir, Nalanda district of Bihar.

### ***Key Points***

- This conference, which will run from November 7 to 9, 2021, is being organized by Nalanda University and India Foundation at Nalanda University.
- The theme of this conference is: '**Dharma-Dhamma Traditions in Building World Order after Covid Transition**'.
- The purpose of this conference is to bring together religious, political and thought leaders from the Dharma-Dhamma traditions to consider building a philosophical framework for the emerging new world order.
- The Vice President said that '**Share and Care**' is the core of Indian philosophy and India had become a Vishwa Guru for sharing knowledge, not for winning, but for sharing knowledge, in which the ancient Nalanda University had an important role.
- It may be noted that the first International Dharma-Dhamma Conference was organized on 22-23 September 2012 at Sanchi University (Madhya Pradesh). At the same time, the 5th conference was organized on 27-28 July, 2019 at Nalanda University, Rajgir.
- It is to be known that the ancient Nalanda University was established by the Gupta ruler Kumaragupta, which was destroyed by an invader named Bakhtiyar Khilji. Presently its ruins are located in Nalanda district.

## **8 Celebrities of Bihar Received Padma Awards**

### ***Why in News***

- On November 8, 2021, President Ram Nath Kovind presented the Padma Awards announced for the year 2020 to 8 personalities from Bihar.

Note:



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**Key Points**

- For the year 2020, one person from Bihar was awarded Padma Vibhushan and 7 people were awarded Padma Shri.
- Former Defense Minister George Fernandes was posthumously awarded the Padma Vibhushan for his service in the field of public affairs.
- At the same time, the following seven personalities were given the Padma Shri award:
  - Shri Sujoy Kumar Guha (in the field of Science & Engineering)
  - Shri Bimal Kumar Jain (in the field of Social Work)
  - Mrs. Shanti Jain (in the field of art)
  - Dr. Shanti Roy (in the field of medicine)
  - Shri Shyamsundar Sharma (in the field of Arts)
  - Shri Ramji Singh (in the field of social work)
  - Shri Vashisht Narayan Singh (Posthumous) (in the field of Science and Engineering)
- A total of 141 awards have been given for the year 2020, including 7 Padma Vibhushan, 16 Padma Bhushan and 118 Padma Shri.

## 5 Celebrities From Bihar Get Padma Awards, 2021

**Why in News**

- On November 9, 2021, President Ram Nath Kovind presented the Padma Awards announced for the year 2021 to 5 personalities from Bihar.

**Key Points**

- For the year 2021, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan was posthumously awarded the Padma Bhushan for the year 2021 for his work in public affairs.
- At the same time, the following 4 personalities were given the Padma Shri award:
  - Smt. Dulari Devi (in the field of Arts)
  - Shri Ramchandra Manjhi (in the field of art)
  - Dr. Dilip Kumar Singh (in the field of medicine)
  - Mrs. Mridula Sinha (Posthumous) - In the field of literature and education.
- On November 8, a total of 8 personalities from Bihar were presented the Padma Awards for the year 2020.

- At the same time, for the year 2021, a total of 119 personalities of the country were awarded the Padma Awards [Padma Vibhushan (07), Padma Bhushan (10) and Padma Shri (102)], which includes a total of 5 celebrities from Bihar.
- These awards were announced only on 25 January 2021 but due to Covid infection, it could not be conferred till now.

## Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Education Award-2021

**Why in News**

- On November 11, 2021, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar honored Dr. Shankar Nath Jha, who worked for Musahar children, with the best education award '**Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Education Award-2021**' in a program organized at the convention building on the occasion of Education Day.

**Key Points**

- Dr. Shankar Nath Jha is running 56 centers in Jamui, in which 5500 Musahar children are benefiting.
- With their efforts, five children participated in the national sports competition and 25 children got government jobs. Saved 450 children from child marriage. Enrolled 950 child laborers in the school.
- From 1981 to 2019, he was on the post of medical officer in the state government, but after taking voluntary retirement, he started working for the children of **Musahar society**.

## Skoch Governance Gold Award

**Why in News**

- **Bihar has received the Skoch Governance Gold Award** in the recently held 75th Skoch conference. At the same time, the **Mukhyamantri Gram Sampark Yojana**, which is running under the Department of Rural Affairs, has been given a silver award by the Skoch Institute.

**Key Points**

- This award has been given to Bihar for promoting online delivery of public services and e-governance.

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- Bihar Administrative Reforms Mission has been given this award for implementing a unique initiative of innovation adopted in the form of 'Bihar e-Lok Seva'.
- It may be noted that the **Bihar Government had implemented the Right to Public Services Act on August 15, 2011** with the objective of providing public services to its citizens in due time.
- The **Skoch Award** is presented by the 'Skoch Group' for its best efforts in digital, financial and social inclusion.
- It covers issues such as best governance, inclusive growth, excellence in technology and applications, change management, corporate leadership, corporate governance, citizen service delivery, capacity building and empowerment.

## ASER Report

### Why in News

- The **16<sup>th</sup> Annual Status of Education Report (Gramin) 2021** was released on November 17, 2021. Accordingly, there has been an increase in enrollment in government schools of Bihar.

### Key Points

- According to the report, there has been an **increase of 3.6% in the number** of children in the age group of 6-14 years studying in government schools of Bihar as compared to the previous year.
- In 2020, the number of children (6-14 years) enrolled in government schools in Bihar was 76.9 percent.
- 78.2 percent boys (6-14 years age group) and 82.9 percent girls (6-14 years age group) are enrolled in government schools in Bihar, while at the national level only 67.9 percent boys and 73 percent girls are enrolled in government schools, the rest Enrollment in private schools.
- According to the report, 73.5 percent of Bihar's enrolled students take tuitions, compared to the national average of 39.2 percent.
- In the year 2021, the number of enrolled students of Bihar, who have a smartphone in their homes, has increased to 54.5 percent, which was only 27.2 percent in the year 2018. This has been possible due to the promotion of online education in the Covid era.
- Bihar, however, is still at the bottom in terms of smartphone availability. While Kerala ranks first with

97.5 percent smartphone availability, the national average is also 67.6 percent, which is much higher than Bihar.

- Despite the availability of smartphones at homes, 53.8 percent of the enrolled students of Bihar are not able to get smartphones to study, which is the highest in the country and this has become a cause of great concern.
- Bihar's 89.4 percent of enrolled children have books for their grades, compared to the national average of 91.9 percent.
- According to the report, 6.7 percent of children in Bihar in the age group of 6-14 years are still unenrolled, including 7.1 percent boys and 4.7 percent girls. At the national level, 4.6% children are enrolled.
- It is clear from the report that only 10 percent of the enrolled students of Bihar are able to study online from home, while in Kerala it is 91 percent, while the national average is also much higher than Bihar at 24.2 percent.
- It may be noted that the **Annual Status of Education Report (ASER)** released by NGO Pratham presents data on the schooling status and basic reading and math abilities of children in rural India.
- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, ASER 2021 has been prepared on the basis of a phone based survey.

## Bihar Athletics Meet

### Why in News

- The team of Rohtas has won the title of Bihar Athletics Meet held from 15 to 17 November 2021.

### Key Points

- The team of Rohtas has won the overall title of the 87th Bihar Junior and Senior Athletics Meet held at LS College, Muzaffarpur. On the other hand, the team of Muzaffarpur has won the overall runner-up title.
- In the men's section, the team of Muzaffarpur with 15 points became the winner, while the team of Bhagalpur was runner-up with 10 points.
- In the women's section, the team of Patna became the winner with 13 points, and the team of Nawada was the runner-up with 6 points.
- In the boys' U-14 group, Rohtas' team emerged as the winner, while Jamui's team was the runner-up.

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## Swachh Survekshan, 2021

### Why in News

- Bihar has been ranked 17th in the ranking of states of Swachh Survekshan, 2021 released by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India on November 20, 2021.

### Key Points

- Bihar has been jointly ranked 17<sup>th</sup> with Nagaland in this ranking, while it was ranked 24<sup>th</sup> last year.
- In the ranking of states, Chhattisgarh is at first and West Bengal is at last (28<sup>th</sup>).
- At the same time, in the list of cities with a population of more than 10 lakhs, out of total 48 cities, the state capital Patna has got 44<sup>th</sup> rank, whereas last time it got 47<sup>th</sup> rank (last).
- In the Citizen Feedback category of cities with a population of 50 thousand to 1 lakh, **Supaul of Bihar has got the first place** in the country.
- **Munger has secured the second position** in the list of cities with a population of more than 1 lakh on the banks of the Ganges, while the capital **Patna is at the third place**.
- Sonpur has got the fourth position in the list of cities with population less than one lakh along the Ganges.
- It may be noted that Indore city in Madhya Pradesh has remained the cleanest city in the country for the fifth time in a row.

## Bihar Got New Expressway

### Why in News

- Recently, the Central Government has given in-principle consent for the construction of a new expressway from Gorakhpur to Siliguri, most of which will pass through various districts of North Bihar.

### Key Points

- This expressway will pass through Gopalganj, Siwan, Saran, Muzaffarpur, Sitamarhi, Madhubani, Supaul, Saharsa, Purnia and Kishanganj districts of Bihar.
- Its total length in Bihar will be about 416 km.
- The entire part of this expressway will be green-field.

- This expressway will be connected with the Gorakhpur-Azamgarh Linga Expressway in Uttar Pradesh, which will make the movement between Uttar Pradesh and Bihar faster and easier.
- With the help of this, business activities will be encouraged between North Bihar, Bengal and Uttar Pradesh, whose benefit will be available to the people of North Bihar.

## Significant Improvement in Sex Ratio in Bihar: NFHS-5

### Why in News

- According to the National Family Survey-5 released by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on November 24, 2021, there has been a significant improvement in the sex ratio of Bihar. It has increased from 1062 in 2015-16 survey (NFHS-4) to 1090.

### Key Points

- The sex ratio (number of females per thousand males) in Bihar has increased to 1090 from 1062 in the last survey.
- While the sex ratio of urban areas of Bihar is only 982, the sex ratio of rural areas is 1111.
- According to the survey, the literacy rate among women in the age group of 15-49 in Bihar is only 55 percent, which is a cause for concern.
- The infant mortality rate in Bihar has come down to 46.8 (per thousand) from 48.1 in the previous survey.
- There has been tremendous improvement in the matter of family planning in Bihar. According to NFHS-4, only 24.1 percent of women in the age group of 15-49 years of Bihar had done family planning, which has increased to 55.8 percent in NFHS-5.
- On the other hand, 63.5 percent of women aged 15-49 in Bihar are victims of anemia, which was 60.3 percent in the last survey.
- The total fertility rate in Bihar has also come down to 3.0 (child/female) from 3.4 in the previous survey.

## SDG Urban Index, 2021

### Why in News

- Recently, the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) urban index was released by NITI Aayog, in which the

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performance of Bihar's capital Patna is disappointing. Patna has been ranked 52<sup>nd</sup> out of 56 cities. In this, Patna has been placed in the performer category (50-64).

### Key Points

- For the first time under this type of sustainable development goal, urban index has been released by NITI Aayog.
- In the index, 56 urban areas of the country have been ranked on the basis of progress achieved in 77 indices, in which **Shimla is on the first rank** with the highest score of 75.5. Patna has got a total score of 57.29 in this index.
- In this index, the cities are divided into 4 categories – (I) Achiever (100 marks), (II) Front runner (65-99 marks), (III) Performer (50-64 marks) and (IV) Aspirant (0-49 points).
- Patna has got only 45 score in terms of achievement of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) - 1 (Zero Poverty). While Patna has performed worst in terms of achieving SDG target 8. In this, Patna's score is only 17.
- In terms of achieving SDG-12 (Ensuring Sustainable Consumption and Production Pattern), Patna has scored the best performing 100.
- The United Nations has set 17 SDG goals to ensure sustainable development. Countries and states are committed to fulfilling the objectives of SDGs.

## According to the Multidimensional Poverty Index, 2021, Bihar is the Poorest State in the Country.

### Why in News

- Recently, **Bihar has been ranked as the poorest state in the country** in the **Multidimensional Poverty Index, 2021** released by NITI Aayog.

### Key Points

- According to the report, 51.91 percent of the population of Bihar is poor. Whereas Kerala is the least poor state in the country, only 0.71 percent of its population is poor.

- Bihar's 51.88 percent population (highest in the country) is malnourished, while Sikkim is the least malnourished state in the country.
- According to the data of the **National Family Health Survey-4** (2015-16) of the report, 39.86 percent of the population of Bihar was away from access to electricity, while according to the provisional data of the National Family Health Survey-5 (2019-20) Bihar's only 3.7 percent of the population is out of reach of electricity, which shows the remarkable progress of Bihar in the field of electricity.
- Bihar has got a score of 0.265 in this multidimensional index, out of which the MPI score of rural areas is 0.286 and the MPI score of the urban areas is 0.117, which indicates that the rural areas of Bihar have more poverty.
- **Kishanganj is the poorest district of Bihar**, where 64.75 percent of the population is poor. On the other hand, Araria (64.65 percent), Madhepura (64.35 percent), East Champaran (64.13 percent) and Supaul (64.10 percent) are the poorest districts.
- Patna is the least poor district of Bihar, where only 29.20 percent of the population is poor. Bhojpur (40.50 percent), Siwan (40.55 percent), Rohtas (40.74 percent) and Munger (40.99 percent) are the least poor districts of Bihar.

## Bihar Pavilion Won Gold Medal in 40<sup>th</sup> Indian International Trade Fair

### Why in News

- Union Minister for Minority Affairs Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi honored the pavilions and artists in six categories for their excellent performance in the fair at the closing ceremony of the International Trade Fair of India on November 27, 2021. Among the exhibitions of 24 states, the pavilion of Bihar state won the gold medal.

### Key Points

- Along with this, Bihar has also got a gold medal as a partner state. Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand have got gold as focus states. In the state pavilion, Assam's pavilion got silver and Kerala got bronze. As a special

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incentive, the pavilion of the state of Madhya Pradesh was awarded.

- Bihar had decorated 41 stalls in its pavilion, in which a vibrant exhibition of Madhubani paintings of famous folk artist Panshree Dulari Devi was the center of attraction. People also liked the folk artifacts made in other parts of Bihar and the things made by the traditional industries of Bihar.

- The Indian International Trade Fair was first organized in 1979. India International Trade Fair provides a common platform for manufacturers, traders, exporters and importers.
- The fair is organized by the Trade Promotion Organization of India, a trade promotion agency of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.



Note:



**Key Points**

**Details**


**Summary**

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**Summary**