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BIHAR



AUGUST 2025



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21,
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Karol Bagh
New Delhi


Tashkent Marg,
Civil Lines,
Prayagraj,
Uttar Pradesh


Tonk Road,
Vasundhra Colony,
Jaipur,
Rajasthan


Burlington Arcade Mall,
Burlington Chauraha,
Vidhan Sabha Marg,
Lucknow


12, Main AB Road,
Bhawar Kuan,
Indore,
Madhya Pradesh

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Operation Naya Savera to Curb Human Trafficking

Why in News?

To mark World Day Against Trafficking in Persons (30th July), the Bihar Police Headquarters launched 'Operation Naya Savera', a major drive to rescue and rehabilitate trafficking victims, especially minors, from exploitative sectors.

- 💡 The 2025 theme of World Day Against Trafficking in Persons is "Human trafficking is organised crime — End the exploitation."

Key Facts Regarding Operation Naya Savera and Human Trafficking in Bihar

- 💡 **About Operation Naya Savera:** It is a fortnight-long campaign (31st July to 14th August 2025) that aims to rescue and rehabilitate victims of **human trafficking**, child labour, flesh trade, and exploitation in orchestra groups.
 - ✦ It is organised by the Weaker Sections Division of Bihar Police.
- 💡 **Statistics on Trafficking in Bihar:** From January to May 2025, a total of 231 human trafficking cases were registered in Bihar.
 - ✦ During this period, 118 minor girls and 506 boys were rescued, and 144 traffickers were arrested.
 - ✦ According to NCRB 2022, Bihar ranked third nationally in human trafficking cases with 260 cases, but it topped the country in the number of minors rescued.
- 💡 **Anti-Trafficking Mechanism in Bihar:**
 - ✦ **District-Level Mechanism:** Each district has an Anti-Human Trafficking Committee and an Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force (AHTTF) which conducts raids and rescues based on confidential inputs.
 - 📌 In border areas, similar operations are carried out by the **Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB)**.
 - ✦ **Rehabilitation Process:** Rescued victims are rehabilitated through Child Welfare Committees (CWC) and child care institutions.

- 💡 **Challenges in Combating Trafficking:** Proximity to borders aids traffickers' escape, while delayed information hampers rescues.
 - ✦ Family non-cooperation and social stigma hinder rehabilitation and reintegration of survivors.
- 💡 **Strategy to Enhance Anti-Trafficking Strategy:** Bihar is deploying ground staff across roads and railways to trace victims and has strengthened coordination with NGOs, police, and welfare departments.
 - ✦ It is also promoting community awareness, supporting survivor reintegration, and issuing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to guide police actions.

Bharat Ratna to Bhikhari Thakur

Why in News?

BJP MP Manoj Tiwari has urged Union Home Minister to posthumously award Bharat Ratna to Bhikhari Thakur, the legendary Bhojpuri poet, playwright, singer, and social reformer.

- 💡 The demand for Bharat Ratna to Bhikhari Thakur faces no political opposition in Bihar, reflecting broad cross-party respect for him.

Key Points Regarding Bhikhari Thakur

- 💡 **About:** Bhikhari Thakur, born in 1887 in Qutubpur Diara village, Saran district, Bihar, is often hailed as the "Shakespeare of Bhojpuri".
 - ✦ He later migrated to Calcutta (now Kolkata), where he keenly observed the struggles of migrant workers, which deeply influenced his work.
- 💡 **Literary Contributions:** He authored 29 books, beginning with Batohiya in 1912.
 - ✦ His most famous play, Bidesiya, highlights the pain of separation caused by migration.
 - ✦ Works like Beti Bechwa, Gabar Ghichor, and Achhoot Ki Shikayat addressed critical social issues such as child marriage, dowry, and untouchability.

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- ✦ **Achhoot Ki Shikayat** is based on the life of **Hira Dom**, a **Dalit** character.
- ✦ Through his works, he addressed **social issues** such as **child marriage**, **caste discrimination**, **gender inequality**, **alcoholism**, and **migration and displacement**.

💡 **Legacy:** **Bhikhari Thakur** remains a symbol of **Bhojpuri pride** and **Bihar's cultural legacy**, with his **theatre and music** continuing to **educate, inspire**, and promote **social reform** through **grassroots art**.

Pratyaya Amrit: New Chief Secretary of Bihar

Why in News?

In a significant administrative shift, **Pratyaya Amrit**, a 1991 batch **IAS officer** from **Bihar**, has been appointed as the new **Chief Secretary of Bihar**, succeeding **Amrit Lal Meena**, who will retire on **31st August 2025**.

Pratyaya will officially assume charge on **1st September 2025**.

Key Points

- 💡 **Pratyaya Amrit**, currently serving as the **Development Commissioner** of Bihar, has been entrusted with the responsibility of **Chief Secretary**.
- ✦ In addition, he holds the additional charge of **Additional Chief Secretary** for the **Health** and **Disaster Management Departments**.
- 💡 He was awarded the **Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration** in **2011** for his exceptional contributions to **public service**.

Key Facts About Office of Chief Secretary

- 💡 **Office:** The office of the **Chief Secretary in India** originated during **British rule in 1799** under **Lord Wellesley** and has since become integral to the state's administration.
- ✦ The **Chief Secretary serves as the highest-ranking civil servant in a state**, overseeing the state Secretariat and coordinating government functions.

💡 **Appointment and Status:** The **Chief Secretary is appointed by the Chief Minister** (in the name of the Governor of the state) from senior IAS officers based on factors like seniority, merit, and trust.

- ✦ The office was **standardized in 1973 to equate it with the position of Secretary** to the Government of India.

Powers and Functions:

- ✦ **Advisor to Chief Minister:** Acts as the principal advisor on matters of state administration and provides guidance on policy issues.
- ✦ **Secretary to the Cabinet:** Prepares the Cabinet meeting agenda, records proceedings, and oversees decision implementation.
- ✦ **Head of Civil Service:** Oversees appointments, transfers, and promotions within the state civil service and maintains the morale of the civil servants.

Bihar Student Credit Card Scheme

Why in News?

To **empower the youth with higher education**, the Bihar government has sanctioned a third installment of **Rs 300 crore**, bringing the total allocation under the **Bihar Student Credit Card Scheme (BSCCY)** to **₹900 crore**.

- 💡 This installment, allocated to the **Bihar State Education Finance Corporation Limited (BSEFC)**, **Patna**, aims to ensure timely and accessible educational loans for students aspiring to pursue higher studies.

Bihar Student Credit Card Scheme (BSCCY)

Key Features of the Scheme:

- ✦ Eligible students can avail **education loans up to ₹4 lakh** at a low interest rate of **4% per annum**.
- ✦ For **female, disabled, and transgender** students, the interest rate is just **1%**.
- ✦ **Loan repayment starts one year after course completion or six months after securing a job**—whichever comes first.

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- ✦ Loans up to ₹2 lakh can be repaid in a maximum of 60 installments, while loans above ₹2 lakh are to be repaid in up to 84 installments.
- ✦ An additional interest rebate of 0.25% is provided on early repayments.
- ✦ Applications can be made online through the official portal: Mukhyamantri Nishchay Swayam Sahayata Bhata Yojana (MNSSBY) portal.

💡 Application and Eligibility:

- ✦ Applicants must be permanent residents of Bihar and have passed Class 12 or its equivalent.
- ✦ The applicant's age should not exceed 25 years (relaxation available in special cases).
- ✦ The scheme covers a wide range of courses including engineering, medicine, management, nursing, polytechnic, BA, BSc, BCom, and more.
- ✦ The loan can be used for course fees, purchasing laptops, or other essential study-related expenses.
- ✦ Only students admitted to government-recognized institutions are eligible.
- ✦ The required documents to avail of the benefits of the schemes include Aadhaar card, residence certificate, educational certificates, admission proof, passport-size photos, bank passbook, and more.

Bihar State Education Finance Corporation Limited (BSEFC)

- 💡 It was incorporated in March 2018 under the Companies Act, 2013, as a Public Limited Company and is 100% owned by the Government of Bihar.
- 💡 The main objectives of the Corporation are to implement the "Bihar Student Credit Card Scheme" with the following goals:
 - ✦ Increase the Gross Enrolment Ratio of students in higher education
 - ✦ Enable students to access employment opportunities
 - ✦ Act as the implementing agency/facilitator for the scheme

New Industrial Corridor & Industrial Zone in Bihar

Why in News?

CM Nitish Kumar has announced the establishment of major industrial projects in Bhagalpur and Gopalganj to foster economic development across Bihar.

Industrial Corridor in Bhagalpur

- 💡 In a bid to revitalize Bhagalpur's industrial landscape, the Cabinet also approved the free-of-cost transfer of 96.98 acres of government land in Goradih circle of Bhagalpur district to the industries department.
- 💡 New Thermal Power Plant in Bhagalpur: Bihar State Electricity Commission will lease land to a private company for the establishment of a thermal power plant.

Industrial Zone in Gopalganj

- 💡 The government has approved the transfer of 32.66 acres of land in Gopalganj (Nona Pakad and Khiridih villages) for the establishment of a new industrial area.
- ✦ The land will be handed over to the Bihar Industrial Area Development Authority (BIADA) on a paid basis, for a total value of ₹11.39 crore.
- ✦ This new industrial zone will be key in driving industrial development, attracting investment, and generating employment for the youth and unemployed in the region.

Sectoral Contributions in Bihar's GDP

- 💡 As per NITI Aayog, Bihar's real gross state domestic product (GSDP) has grown at an average rate of 5.0% between 2012-13 and 2021-22 (lower than the national average growth rate of 5.6%).
- 💡 The services sector has the highest share in GSDP (57.1%), followed by agriculture (24.3%), and industry (17.2%).

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Bihar Vriksh Suraksha Diwas

Why in News?

On the occasion of Rakshabandhan 2025 (09th August), Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar celebrated 'Bihar Vriksh Suraksha Diwas' (Tree Protection Day) at Rajdhani Vatika, Patna, by tying a rakhi to a tree and planting saplings.

Key Points

- 💡 'Bihar Vriksh Suraksha Diwas' was launched on **13th August 2012** by CM Nitish Kumar to coincide with Rakshabandhan.
- 💡 Its objectives include:
 - ✦ Promoting public awareness on environmental protection.
 - ✦ Encouraging tree conservation and large-scale plantation.
 - ✦ Mitigating **climate change** impacts.
 - ✦ Supporting greenery expansion and eco-tourism in the state.
- 💡 The government is also **promoting large-scale tree plantation**, eco-tourism, and wildlife conservation through **schemes like Jal-Jeevan-Hariyali** and public awareness campaigns.

India Women Won Bronze at Asia U-20 Rugby

Why in News?

The Asia Rugby Under-20 Sevens Championship 2025 concluded at the Rajgir Sports Complex in Bihar, with the **Indian women's team winning the bronze medal** by beating Uzbekistan. **China defeated Hong Kong in the men's final to claim the championship title.**

- 💡 The **tournament, held for the first time in Bihar**, showcased exceptional rugby talent from across Asia.

Asia Rugby U-20 Sevens Championship Results

- 💡 **Men's Category:**
 - ✦ **Hong Kong (Gold)** beat Sri Lanka (Silver)
 - ✦ **Malaysia (Bronze)** beat China

Women's Category:

- ✦ **China (Gold)** beat Hong Kong (Silver)
- ✦ **India (Bronze)** beat Uzbekistan

India: Bronze medal in women's category

- ✦ **The Indian team included four players from Bihar** – Gudia Kumari, Anshu Kumari, Alpna Kumari, and Aarti Kumari.

Tournament

- 💡 The **official mascot** of the Asia Rugby Under-20 Sevens Championship 2025 was '**Ashoka**', a rabbit.
- 💡 Featured **192 players** from nine Asian nations, along with 32 coaches/support staff and 50 technical officials.
 - ✦ Nations included China, Hong Kong, UAE, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Nepal, and host India.
- 💡 The championship featured **40 matches** over two days.

Rugby Sevens vs Traditional Rugby

Aspect	Rugby Sevens	Traditional Rugby
Team Size	7 players per team	15 players per team
Game Duration	Two 7-minute halves (14 minutes total)	Two 40-minute halves (80 minutes total)
Gameplay Effect	MORE OPEN SPACE = FASTER GAMEPLAY	More players = slower-paced gameplay
Tournament Format	Multiple matches per day, 2-3 day tournaments	Single matches, longer competition periods

Asia Rugby

- 💡 **Asia Rugby** (formerly Asian Rugby Football Union - ARFU)
- 💡 Founded: 1968 by 8 charter nations
- 💡 Current Members: 36 member unions across Asia
- 💡 Governing Body: Regional Association of World Rugby
 - ✦ **Asia Rugby Championship (ARC):** Established in 1969.

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Bihar Government Doubles Pension for JP Senanis

Why in News?

The Bihar government has announced an increase in the pension for **Jayaprakash (JP) Movement** fighters (JP Senanis), who were imprisoned during the **Emergency (1975-77)** for supporting socialist leader Jayaprakash Narayan's movement (1974).

- CM Nitish Kumar emphasized that the initiative was taken to honor the contributions of these fighters and their role in Bihar's development.

Note: 5th June 2025 marks the 51st anniversary of **Jayaprakash Narayan's** call for **Sampoorna Kranti (Total Revolution)**, also known as the **JP Movement**, which was launched on 5th June 1974 by Jayaprakash Narayan at Gandhi Maidan, Patna.

Key Points

- Pension Increase:** Fighters who were imprisoned for more than six months will now receive a pension of ₹30,000 per month, up from ₹15,000.
- Those who were jailed for up to six months will see their pension increase from ₹7,500 to ₹15,000 per month.
- In the event of the pensioner's death, their surviving spouse will also receive the same pension amount.

Key Points About JP Senani Samman Pension Scheme

- Scheme:** This adjustment falls under the "JP Senani Samman Pension Scheme", which was initiated by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar in 2009.
 - The scheme is named after the iconic socialist leader, Loknayak Jayaprakash Narayan.
- Beneficiaries:** Currently (2025), 3,354 individuals in Bihar are receiving this pension, while CM Nitish Kumar, despite being eligible, has never availed of it.

- The notable beneficiaries of the scheme are **Lalu Prasad Yadav** (ex-chief minister of Bihar) and **Sushil Kumar Modi** (former Deputy CM of Bihar).

Eligibility Conditions:

- Period of Participation:** 18th March 1974- 21st March 1977.
 - Beneficiaries must have been imprisoned under the **Maintenance of Internal Security Act (MISA)** or **Defence of India Rules (DIR)**.

Duration Categories:

- Category 1:** 1 to 6 months of imprisonment.
- Category 2:** Imprisonment exceeding 6 months.

- Additional Benefits:** Eligible individuals receive free medical care equivalent to that provided to freedom fighters.

Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme

- The **Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme** was launched in 1972 as the **Freedom Fighters Pension Scheme** and was later renamed and liberalized in August 1980.
- Administered by the **Union Ministry of Home Affairs**, Government of India, it provides financial support to the freedom fighters who participated in India's independence struggle.
- Total Beneficiaries (Ever):** 171,689 freedom fighters and their dependents.
- Current Active Pensioners (as of July 2025):** 13,212 living freedom fighters.
- Widows Receiving Pension:** 9,778.
- Annual Budget (2024-25):** ₹600 crore.
- Coverage:**
 - Time Period:** Freedom fighters who participated in movements between 1857 and 1947.
 - Recognized Movements:** Includes 40 major movements, such as the **Quit India Movement**, **Jallianwala Bagh**, and others.

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12th Men's Asia Cup Hockey Championship

Why in News?

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar unveiled the **logo, mascot, and trophy** for the **12th Men's Asia Cup Hockey Championship**.

- 🔦 The Chief Minister also flagged off the Trophy Pride Journey, a symbolic torch relay that will travel through all districts of Bihar leading up to the tournament.



Key Points

- 🔦 **About:** The tournament will take place from **29th August 2025** (**National Sports Day** and **Major Dhyan Chand's** birth anniversary) to **7th September 2025** at the **Rajgir International Stadium**, marking the first time Bihar is hosting the event.
- ✦ **Rajgir, a historic city in Bihar**, will host the event following an MoU signed between **Hockey India** and the **Bihar State Sports Authority**.
- ✦ This is the second international sporting event for **Rajgir**, after hosting the **Women's Asian Champions Trophy** in 2024.
- 🔦 **Tournament Details:** The tournament will feature teams from **India, China, Japan, Chinese Taipei, Malaysia, South Korea, Oman, and Bangladesh**.
- ✦ The tournament will serve as a qualifier for the **2026 International Hockey Federation (FIH) Men's Hockey World Cup**, to be hosted by **Belgium and the Netherlands**.
- ✦ The winner will qualify directly for the **Hockey World Cup**.

- 🔦 **Mascot:** The official mascot, **Chand**, symbolizes the courage and agility of India's national animal, the **tiger**, and is inspired by **Major Dhyan Chand**, India's legendary hockey player.

- ✦ **Chand's Design:** The red cape represents strength, and the magician's hat honors **Dhyan Chand's** extraordinary talent.

Asian Hockey Federation (AHF)

- 🔦 The Asian Hockey Federation (AHF) was founded during the **Asian Games in Tokyo in 1958**, during which hockey made its first Asian Games appearance.
- 🔦 The **five founding** AHF member countries were **India, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia and Pakistan**.
- 🔦 As one of the **five Continental Federations**, AHF assists the **International Hockey Federation (FIH)** in promoting, developing, and administering the sport by supporting its Member National Associations through high-performance projects, grants, equipment, and technical guidance.

Bihar Industrial Investment Promotion Package 2025

Why in News?

The Bihar Cabinet, on **26th August 2025**, approved the **Bihar Industrial Investment Promotion Package 2025** aimed at boosting industrial growth and attracting large-scale private investment in the state.

- 🔦 The initiative, a continuation of the **Bihar Industrial Investment Promotion Policy 2016**, will remain in effect until **31st March 2026** and is part of Bihar's efforts to **create 1 crore employment opportunities** over the **next five years**, positioning the state as a significant industrial hub.

Key Highlights of Bihar Industrial Investment Promotion Package 2025

- 🔦 **Free Land for Investors:** Investors can avail of land at a nominal fee of Rs 1 for setting up industries, with schemes offering up to **10 acres of land** for investments of **Rs 100 crore** and **1,000 jobs**.

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✦ Larger projects investing over **Rs 1,000 crore** will be allotted up to **25 acres**.

✦ Fortune 500 companies will receive **10 acres** of land.

💡 **Discounts on Land:** Investors not opting for the aforementioned schemes will get land at a **50% discount** of the (Bihar Industrial Area Development Authority) BIADA's land rate.

💡 **Fin Tech City Development:** The Cabinet also sanctioned **Rs 408.81 crore** for acquiring **242 acres** of land for the **Fin Tech City** project near **Fatuha** in **Patna**.

✦ Modeled after **(Gujarat International Finance Tec-City) GIFT City** in Gujarat, the project will enhance financial services and enable direct cargo movement to Patna, boosting exports.

💡 **Viability Gap Funding for International Flights:** The Cabinet also approved **Viability Gap Funding (VGF)** for airlines promoting international routes from **Patna** and **Gaya** airports.

✦ Airlines operating **Patna-Kathmandu, Gaya-Sharjah, Gaya-Bangkok**, and other international routes will receive funding for round trips with a minimum capacity of **150 passengers**.

💡 **Financial Incentives:** Investors can opt for one of the three financial incentive models:

✦ **Interest subvention** of up to **₹40 crore** and **SGST reimbursement** up to **100%**.

✦ **300% SGST reimbursement** of the approved project cost over **14 years**.

✦ **30% capital subsidy** based on the approved project cost.

💡 **Export Incentive:** Export incentives have been increased to **₹40 lakh annually**, doubled from the previous amount, with benefits extended for **14 years**.

💡 **Employment Support:** ₹5,000/month per worker for eligible industries and up to **300% ESI/EPF support**.

✦ Other units will receive ₹2,000 per month per worker, along with social security benefits.

✦ A **₹20,000 skill development grant** per employee is also included.

💡 **Green Incentives:** 25% reimbursement (up to ₹1 crore) for **environmental protection** and up to ₹6 lakh for **renewable energy usage**.

Note: In another development, the Cabinet approved an increase in the honorarium for **Kisan Salahkar** (Farmer Advisors) from **Rs 13,000** to **Rs 21,000** per month to further support and empower agricultural advisors in the state.



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Key Points

Details

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Summary

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Summary