

Bihar first State to set up greenfield Ethanol Plant

- Bihar has the distinction of being the first state in the country to set up a greenfield grain-based ethanol production plant.
- Chief Minister Nitish Kumar inaugurated the state's first ethanol production plant in Purnia district on 30 April 2022.
- This is among the 17 ethanol units proposed to be set up in the state.
- The state industries minister Syed Shahnawaz Hussain said the government has received investment proposals worth Rs.30,382 crore for setting up ethanol production plants.
- Spread over an area of 15 acres and estimated cost of about Rs.105 crore, the Purnia plant is expected to produce 65,000 litres of ethanol per day.
- It is stated to be the country's first green field grain based ethanol production unit.
- Two more such units are ready to be inaugurated soon in Gopalganj and one in Bhojpur district, respectively.
- The other units would be set up in Muzaffarpur, Nalanda, Buxar, Begusarai, East Champaran and Bhagalpur districts.
- Besides, plans are afoot to set up mega food park, leather park, logistic park and textile park. While leather park will be set up in Kishanganj, logistic park will come up in Gaya.
- The food park is proposed to be set up in Champaran region.



Parasailing in Bihar's Amwaman Lake

- In a first in Bihar, West Champaran district is set to introduce parasailing and other adventurous water sports in Amwaman lake.
- Amawaman, an oxbow lake spread over 400 acres along NH 727 near Madhopur, is known as "Gateway of West Champaran".



HIV screening in Bihar

- At least 27% of women in Bihar who reported pregnancy during financial year 2021-22 have not been screened for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), as per health department's records.
- This goes against the Centre and the state's mandate to screen all pregnant women for HIV as part of efforts to eliminate the transmission of the disease from mother to child during pregnancy.
- Bihar, which records around 8,000 new cases of PLHIV annually, ranks third, after Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh, in new HIV infections every year, despite a 27% reduction in new infection rate from 2010.

Bihar first state to provide 24x7 green power

- Bihar will achieve the unique distinction of being the first state in the country to provide 24x7 green power to its tourist towns of Rajgir and Bodh Gaya
- Bihar has inked a power sale agreement with the Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI), a Central government PSU, to purchase 210 MW renewable hybrid energy for its Buddhist pilgrim towns.

Digital Gram Panchayat in Bihar

- In a bid to bring accountability and transparency in the system of rural governance, all gram panchayat units in the state will have their own websites.
- Each website will contain demographic details, places of historical importance, important institutions as well as details of elected representatives of the area.

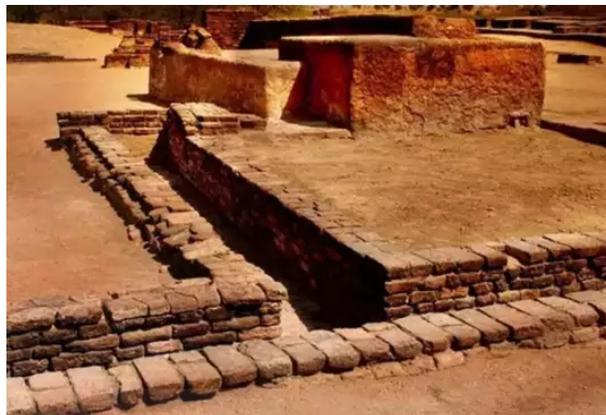
Hike in Bihar Minimum Wages

- Bihar Minimum Wages Advisory Board has recommended a 15 per cent hike in minimum wages for workers of the unorganised sector in the state.
- If the new wages come into effect, a worker in Bihar will be paid Rs 48 more than the existing daily wages of Rs 318.
- Minimum wages are revised after every five years.
- The registered workers will be issued digital identity cards soon. Bihar ranked second after Uttar Pradesh, which has altogether 8.28 crore workers registered on the e-Shram portal.



Kushan Age Brick wall in Kumrahar

ASI unearths 2,000-year-old brick walls believed to be of Kushan age in Bihar at the site of a pond rejuvenation work in Kumrahar area here.



Rajya Sabha Election

- All five candidates for biennial elections to as many Rajya Sabha seats in Bihar were on declared elected unopposed.
- Elected candidates: Misa Bharti and Faiyaz Ahmed (RJD), Satish Chandra Dubey and Shambhu Sharan Patel (BJP), and Kheeru Mahto (JDU).

Caste census in Bihar

- The Bihar cabinet gave its nod for a headcount of all castes in the state
- Allocated budget outlay of Rs 500 crore for this exercise
- Deadline of February 2023 for completion of the survey.
- The general administration department shall be the nodal authority for the survey of castes.

CAG Report flags Bihar's outstanding debt during pandemic year

A report by Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India on Bihar's finances for the fiscal 2020-21, which coincided with the first wave of Covid-19 pandemic year flags Bihar's outstanding debt.

According to the report, 82.94% of the borrowed funds were used for discharging existing liabilities during 2020-21 and could not be used for capital formation/development activities of the State. The state, according to the report, recorded a fiscal deficit of ₹ 29,827 crore during the fiscal 2020-21

Largest Political Party in Bihar

RJD becomes largest party in Bihar after 4 AIMIM MLAs join it.



Bihar's new Startup Policy 2022

- The Bihar cabinet has approved the state's new startup policy 2022.
- Under the new policy, only the selection committee of the old start up policy-2017 has been changed.
- Now the selection committee meeting will be held every month to approve the startup.
- The selection committee will be headed by the Principal Secretary, Industries Department.
- Bihar Start-up Policy, 2022 will be effective from the date of notification and will remain in force for 5 years (2027).
- The Chairman of the Bihar Start-up Fund Trust will be the Development Commissioner.
- The filing of the applications and their processing will be done online.
- At the same time, the third party will rate the startups for their certification and payment of the seed fund/matching grant to them.
- Startups set up by scheduled caste and scheduled tribe persons, as well as women and divyangs will get additional grants/exemptions/subsidies.

Bihar to train jurors of Gram Kachahari

- Bihar government is organising training sessions for jurors of Gram Kachahari (village courts) in a bid to strengthen the justice delivery system at the grassroots level, which could help take the load off the courts and police.
- As per the Bihar Panchayati Raj Act, 2006, the government has to impart training to the members of the village courts, including sarpanch, his deputy (up-sarpanch) and its members and secretary, so that they could resolve certain types of disputes at the panchayat level itself through mutual understanding and goodwill without the involvement of police and courts.

Downloaded from bpscnotes.com

Bihar's own Governance Ranking

- Kishanganj has emerged as the best governed district in Bihar, followed by Siwan, in an internal assessment carried out by the office of chief secretary according to internal survey report prepared by the office of chief secretary.
- Jehanabad district has been ranked the lowest.
- Capital Patna has been placed on the 30th rank while chief minister Nitish Kumar's home district of Nalanda has been rated 36th among the total 38 districts in the state.
- Governance ranking was part of the state government's drive to make the governance reach to the masses.

Kakolat Waterfall

- Kakolat waterfall, a popular tourist destination in Bihar's Nawada district, will get a facelift with additional amenities at an estimated cost of ₹23 crore.
- The 150-foot-high waterfall at Kakolat hill is known for its scenic beauty.
- The site also draws a large number of pilgrims during the month of Vaishakh because of the popular belief that the Pandawas of the Mahabharata age had visited this site during their Vanvaas (exile) period.

