

Bihar Special

Bihar to Revive Mukhyamantri Setu Nirman Yojna

Why in the news?

The Bihar government has announced the relaunch of the Mukhyamantri Setu Nirman Yojna, focusing on constructing new bridges and replacing damaged ones on rural roads.

- ❖ Chief Minister Nitish Kumar directed this during a review meeting of the Rural Works Department, emphasizing the importance of the scheme in enhancing rural connectivity.

Key Objectives of Mukhyamantri Setu Nirman Yojana:

- ❖ **Improving Connectivity:** Connects remote villages to markets, schools, and healthcare facilities.
- ❖ **Enhancing Transportation:** Facilitates easier movement of people and goods, aiding economic development.
- ❖ **Addressing Flood Issues:** Mitigates impact of floods by maintaining accessible transportation routes.
- ❖ **Promoting Development:** Supports developmental initiatives and raises living standards in rural areas.

Bihar's first SEZ

Why in the news?

The Government of India has approved the proposal to set up a multi-sector Special Economic Zone (SEZ) at Nawanagar(Buxar) and Kumarbagh(West Champaran).

- ❖ Proposal for Bihar Industrial Area Development Authority (BIADA) was approved in the meeting of the Board of Approval for Special Economic Zones (SEZ) held by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India on July 31, 2024.



#BIHARHAIYAR

Bihar's proposal to establish a multi-sector Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Kumarbagh (Bettiah), West Champaran, has been approved by the Government of India.

The approval was given at a meeting of the Board of Approval for Special Economic Zones (SEZs), held by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Govt of India, on July 31, 2024.

INDUSTRIAL BOOST		
<p>NEW SEZ LOCATIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Kumarbagh (West Champaran district) ➤ Nawanagar (Buxar district) 		<p>NEXT STEPS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ BIADA to provide requisite documents related to the schedule of the land ➤ Development commissioner, Falta SEZ, to forward the proposal to the department of commerce ➤ The proposal will be examined and placed before the Board of Approval for consideration
<p>KEY DETAILS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Union minister of commerce and industries, Piyush Goyal, confirmed physical inspections on June 26 and 27, 2024 ➤ The inspections, conducted by the office of the development commissioner, Falta SEZ, found both sites favourable for development 		<p>INSPECTION FOLLOW-UP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Bihar industry minister Nitish Mishra met Goyal on June 20, seeking the development of the SEZs
<p>SIGNIFICANCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ First SEZs in Bihar upon formal approval ➤ Bihar currently has no 	<p>SEZs, while neighbouring Jharkhand has two, including the Rs 14,000-crore Adani Power project</p> <p>BIHAR INDUSTRY MINISTER NITISH MISHRA MET GOYAL ON JUNE 20, SEEKING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SEZs</p> <p>Goyal highlighted pending documents from the Bihar Industrial Area Development Authority (BIADA)</p>	

International Relations

India Hosts Third Voice of Global South Summit

Why in the news?

India hosts the third edition of the Voice of Global South Summit on August 17, 2024.

- ❖ **Philosophy:** Aligns with the philosophy of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' (The World is One Family).
- ❖ **Prime Minister's Vision:** Reflects PM Narendra Modi's vision of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas aur Sabka Prayas' (Together, for Everyone's Growth, Trust, and Effort).

Summit Objectives

- ❖ **Theme:** "An Empowered Global South for a Sustainable Future."
- ❖ **Focus:** Addressing challenges affecting developing nations, including conflicts, food and energy security crises, and climate change.
- ❖ **Participants:** All Global South nations invited to share perspectives and priorities.

Event Structure

- ❖ **Format:** The summit will be conducted virtually.

❖ Sessions:

- Leaders' and Ministerial levels.
- Inaugural session by PM Modi at the Head of State/Government level.

Ministerial Sessions

The event will also include ten Ministerial Sessions, covering a wide range of topics:

- ❖ **Foreign Ministers:** "Charting a Unique Paradigm for the Global South."
- ❖ **Health Ministers:** "One World-One Health."
- ❖ **Youth Ministers:** "Youth Engagement for a Better Future."
- ❖ **Commerce/Trade Ministers:** "Trade for Development - Perspectives from Global South."
- ❖ **Information & Technology Ministers:** "Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) for Development - A Global South Approach."
- ❖ **Finance Ministers:** "People-Centric Approach to Global Finance."
- ❖ **2nd Foreign Ministers:** "Global South and Global Governance."
- ❖ **Energy Ministers:** "Sustainable Energy Solutions for a Sustainable Future."

- ❖ **Education Ministers:** "Prioritising Human Resource Development: A Global South Perspective."
- ❖ **Environment Ministers:** "Pathways for Progress - A Global South Perspective on Mitigating Climate Change."

Background

- ❖ **Previous Editions:**
 - **1st Summit:** January 12-13, 2023.
 - **2nd Summit:** November 17, 2023.
- ❖ **Participation:** Over 100 Global South countries.
- ❖ **Impact:** Feedback from previous summits influenced the G-20 Summit's agenda under India's Presidency, contributing to the G-20 New Delhi Leaders' Declaration.



Economy

World Bank's New Bond to Protect the Amazon

Why in the news?

A new type of bond has been created to help save the Amazon rainforest. This bond links the returns for investors to the amount of carbon removed from the atmosphere.

- ❖ **World Bank's Bond:** The World Bank has issued a nine-year bond worth \$225 million to fund reforestation in the Amazon. Instead of just focusing on reducing emissions, this bond ties returns to how much carbon the new trees will absorb.
- ❖ **Investor Returns:** Investors will get a guaranteed annual return of 1.745%. However, this is lower than usual World Bank bonds. The savings from lower interest payments will be used to support reforestation efforts.
- ❖ **Largest Outcome-Based Bond:** This bond is the World Bank's largest outcome-based bond to date, following a \$150 million bond in 2022 for black rhino conservation.



Amazon Reforestation Linked Bond



- ✓ The Amazon rainforest plays a critical role for people, economies, biodiversity, and the climate.
- ✓ Private capital can be leveraged to support the sustainable management of the region.
- ✓ A new model for conservation finance has the potential to accelerate reforestation efforts.
- ✓ The Amazon Reforestation-Linked Bond aims to connect capital markets with reforestation projects.

Environment And Geography

Union Cabinet Approves Major Infrastructure Projects

Why in the news?

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved five infrastructure projects.

❖ Metro Rail Projects:

- Bengaluru Metro Phase-3 Project
- Thane Integral Ring Metro Project
- Pune Metro Phase - 1 Project

❖ Airport Projects:

- Bagdogra Airport (West Bengal)
- Bihta Airport (Bihar)

Key cabinet decisions

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved a series of projects, including the expansion of metro networks, alongside the development of two airports

THREE METRO PROJECTS

Bangalore Metro Rail Project
Phase-3 of the project, with an estimated cost of ₹15,611 crore, will add two new elevated corridors totaling 44.65 km, comprising 31 stations.

Thane Integral Ring Metro Rail Project
The 29-km ring corridor, with a budget of ₹12,200 crore, will feature 22 stations, connecting key areas such as Naupada, Wagle Estate, Hiranandani Estate, and Kolsbet.

Pune Metro Phase-1 project
The project will extend further south, with the Cabinet approving the Swargate to Katraj underground line extension. This 5.46 km stretch, known as Line-1B, will include three underground stations, connecting key areas like Market Yard, Bibwewadi, and Katraj, and has an estimated cost of ₹2,954.53 crore.

TWO NEW AIRPORTS

In Bihar
The New Civil Enclave at Bihta will be developed at an estimated cost of ₹1,413 crore. The proposed New Integrated Terminal Building at Bihta Airport spans 66,000 sqm and is designed to handle 3000 Peak Hour Passengers (PHP) and annually cater to 5 million passengers.

In West Bengal
The Cabinet has approved the proposal for the development of a new civil enclave at Bagdogra Airport, Siliguri, with an estimated cost of ₹1,549 crore. The new terminal building will cover 70,390 sqm and is designed to handle 3,000 Peak Hour Passengers (PHP), with an annual capacity of 10 million passengers.

Awards and Honors

70th National Film Awards

Why in the news?

The 70th National Film Awards ceremony is an event where the National Film Development Corporation of India announces the winners for various categories in Indian cinema that took place on August 16, 2024.

Award/Category	Winner/Film	Details
Best Actor	Rishab Shetty	For his role in 'Kantara,' set in a fictional village of Dakshina Kannada.
Best Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment	'Kantara'	Recognized for its engaging and entertaining content.
Best Actress (Shared)	Nithya Menen	For her performance in the Tamil film 'Thiruchitrambam.'
	Manasi Parekh	For her role in the Gujarati film 'Kutch Express.'

Best Feature Film	'Aattam'	Malayalam film directed by Anand Ekarshi, addressing the theme of sexual violence.
Best Hindi Film & Special Mention	'Gulmohar'	Directed by Rahul V. Chittella, the film explores family dynamics and secrets.
Best Director	Sooraj R.Barjatya	For the film 'Uunchai.'
Best Supporting Actress	Neena Gupta	For her performance in 'Uunchai.'
Overall Recognition	70th National Film Awards	Celebrated the best films and cinematic achievements of 2022.
Feature Film Jury Chairperson	Rahul Rawail	Chaired the Feature Film Jury.
Non-Feature Film Jury Chairperson	Nila Madhab Panda	Chaired the Non-Feature Film Jury.
Best Writing on Cinema Jury Chairperson	Gangadhar Mudalair	Chaired the Best Writing on Cinema Jury.
Best Non-Feature Film	AYENA (Mirror) (Hindi/Urdu)	Producer : Teh Films Director : Siddhant Sarin



Sports

Flag Bearers for opening ceremony at Paris Paralympics 2024

Why in the news?

- ❖ **Sumit Antil:** Tokyo Paralympics gold medallist and world record holder in the F64 javelin throw category, will serve as India's flag-bearers at the Paris Paralympics opening ceremony.
- ❖ **Bhagyashri Jadhav:** Asian Para Games silver medallist in shot put (F34 category) will join Sumit Antil as a flag-bearer at the ceremony.

Sumit and Bhagyashri named flag-bearers for Paralympics OC



News in Short

- ❖ The Assembly elections for the 90 constituencies in Haryana will be conducted in a single phase on October 1, with the counting of votes scheduled for October 4, 2024.
- ❖ The Assembly elections in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir will be conducted in three phases, beginning on September 18, 2024.
- ❖ India will send its largest contingent of 84 athletes to the Paralympics in Paris, from August 28 to September 8 who will compete in 12 disciplines.

- ❖ Maharashtra Deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis announced that the state has become the first in India to achieve a half-trillion-dollar economy, highlighting its rapid economic growth and its goal of reaching a trillion-dollar economy.
- ❖ Paetongtarn Shinawatra becomes Thailand's youngest prime minister.
- ❖ ISRO Chairman Somnath announced plans to launch the first unmanned Gaganyaan mission by the end of this year.
- ❖ With 3 patients, Pakistan records Asia's first Mpox (or monkeypox) cases.
- ❖ Kerala High Court launches state's first virtual court in Kollam district.



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