



# **Bihar Current Affairs 2018**

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### **1. Mahadalit Vikas Mission**

- The Bihar cabinet approved a grant of Rs 105 crore for the Bihar Mahadalit Vikas Mission.
- It had set up with the objective of devising and implementing schemes designed especially for the most deprived sections among the Scheduled Castes.
- The Mission was set up in 2008 vide a notification of the state government as an autonomous body functioning under the SC/ST Welfare Department.

### **2. Nitish Kumar received 1st Mufti M Sayeed Award for Probity in Public Life**

- Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar got the 1st Mufti Mohammad Sayeed Award for Probity in Public Life.
- The award was constituted recently by the Jammu and Kashmir government to commemorate the death anniversary of PDP founder and two-time J&K chief minister.

### **3. Water Resources Ministry Signs MoU with Bihar and Jharkhand for Completion of North Koel Reservoir Project**

- A MoU has been signed between Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Government of India, State of Bihar and State of Jharkhand for completion of balance works of North Koel reservoir project at an estimated cost of Rs. 1622.27 crore.
- The project situated on North Koel river, a tributary of Sone river will provide irrigation to 1,11,521 hectares of land annually in the most backward and drought prone areas of Palamu and Garhwa districts in Jharkhand and Aurangabad and Gaya districts in Bihar.

### **4. INS Vikramaditya Affiliated to the Bihar Regiment**

- Indian Naval Ship Vikramaditya, the largest ship in the Navy and the country's only aircraft carrier was formally affiliated to The Bihar Regiment.
- INS Vikramaditya is a highly decorated and battle hardened Infantry Unit of the Indian Army and the No. 6 Squadron of the Indian Air Force that specializes in maritime strike operations and operates the Jaguar fighter aircraft.

### **5. State bans sale of loose cigarettes**

- The Bihar government has banned sale of loose cigarettes in the state.
- The Socio-Economic and Educational Development Society (SEEDS), which is engaged in anti-tobacco movement in the state, has hailed the ban.
- A national survey report says that 53.55% adults in Bihar use tobacco products and 9% of them are smokers.
- Bihar has become the 12th state in India to ban the sale of loose cigarettes.

- The notification specifies that as per Section 7 of the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA), 2003.

#### **6. Lok Sabha speaker Sumitra Mahajan inaugurates CPA conference in Patna**

- Lok Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan inaugurated the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) conference in Patna.
- The conference will mainly deliberate on parliament's role in the development agenda and legislature and judiciary – two important pillars of democracy.
- The CPA is composed of over 180 branches formed in legislatures of commonwealth countries enjoying parliamentary democracy.
- All the CPA branches are geographically grouped into nine commonwealth regions.
- The India region of the CPA consists of the India Union Branch (Parliament of India) and 31 state / union territories branches.

#### **7. Bihar celebrates 106th foundation day**

- Bihar celebrates its 106th foundation day.
- It was on 22 March in 1912 that the state was carved out of United Bengal.
- The theme for this year's Bihar Diwas celebrations is "**Centenary of Champaran Satyagraha and Elimination of Dowry and Child Marriage.**"

#### **8. Madhubani railway station gets an arty makeover**

- The almost forgotten Bihar's Madhubani railway station has come back to life with Madhubani paintings adorned across the place.
- Madhubani painting is known for the manner in which unique geometric patterns are used to create colourful paintings.

#### **9. ADB to give \$84 loan for water project in Bihar**

- Asian Development Bank signed an \$84 million loan agreement finance water supply project in two cities of Bihar.
- The loan will finance water supply improvement and expansion in Bhagalpur and Gaya towns in Bihar.
- ADB also aimed at providing sustainable urban infrastructure and services in Bhagalpur, Gaya, Dharbhanga and Muzaffarpur in Bihar.

#### **10. 4<sup>th</sup> International Dharma-Dhamma Conference held in Nalanda.**

- President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurates 4<sup>th</sup> International Dharma-Dhamma Conference on 'State and Social Oder Dharma-Dhamma Traditions' at Rajgir in Nalanda District.

- Nalanda University in collaboration with the Centre for Study Religion and Society, India Foundation, Ministry of External Affairs and the Vietnam Buddhist University organized the conference.
- The event was organized as part of Commemorative events to celebrate Silver Jubilee years of ASEAN-India Dialogue Partnership.

### **11. Bihar Sabhyata Dwar**

- CM inaugurates Bihar Sabhyata Dwar a civilization gate built on the pattern of Delhi and Mumbai.
- It contains inscription to Mahavira, Lord Buddha, Megasthenes and Emperor Ashoka.
- It had made in Indo- Gothic style Architecture.
- The monument was first envisioned by the governor Lieutenant General Sri Nivas Kumar Sinha.

### **12. Bihar Student Credit Card Scheme**

- Bihar government has setup an Educational Finance Corporation to provide Bihar Student Credit Card Scheme.
- Edu Fin Corp will start providing loan up to Rs. 4 lakh from the next fiscal year i.e. – 2019.
- This loan provided to student to pursue higher studies in educational institution.

### **13. Mukhayamantri Alpasankheyak Rozgar Rin Yojana for Minorities.**

- Bihar government has launched Mukhayamantri Alpasankheyak Rozgar Rin Yojana for Minorities.
- This scheme will create employment opportunities for the minorities' belonging to families having modest income.
- Under this scheme, unemployed candidates can avail loan amount up to Rs. 5 lakh for business and Startups.

### **14. Modi launches India's most powerful electric locomotive in Bihar**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled India's first 12,000 horsepower electric locomotive from Bihar's Madhepura locomotive factory.

### **15. Abhay K the first Indian poet to record poems at Library of Congress**

- Mr. Abhay K became the first Indian poet invited to record his poems at the Library of Congress in Washington D.C.
- He was born in a small village in Nalanda district of Bihar.
- The prestigious reading series is called: 'The Poet and the poem'.

- He received the SAARC Literary Award 2013 and was nominated for Pushcart Prize in 2013.
- His first collection of poems Enigmatic Love was published in 2009.
- His poem-song 'Earth Anthem' is translated into over thirty languages and has been performed by Symphony Orchestra of National Theatre of Brasilia.

#### **16. National Dolphin Research Centre (NDRC) in Patna**

- India's first dolphin research centre to come up soon in Patna National Dolphin Research Centre (NDRC), India's
- It is Asia's first such centre would be soon opened on the banks of river Ganga river in the Patna University premises, Bihar.
- The NDRC has been set up to safeguard the endangered Gangetic river dolphin.
- The State government of Bihar celebrates October 5 as the Dolphin day.

#### **17. Bihar's Shahi litchi gets GI tag On October 18, 2018**

- The famous Shahi litchi of North Bihar has got the state's 4th Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- Shahi Litchi is mainly cultivated in Muzaffarpur, Samastipur, Vaishali, East Champaran and Begusarai
- Earlier, Jardalu mango, Katarni rice and Magahi paan from the state got the GI tag.

#### **18. National Convention of Swachhagrahis launches development projects by PM**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the National Convention of Swachhagrahis (cleanliness ambassadors) at Motihari, in East Champaran district of Bihar.
- The event was organized, as part of the centenary celebrations of the Satyagraha led by Mahatma Gandhi, in Champaran.
- Theme of the centenary celebrations of the **Champaran Satyagraha is "Satyagraha se Swachhagrah"**.

#### **19. Bihar is National topper in FY 17 growth**

- Bihar secured a growth rate of 10.3% in 2016-2017 as against 7.5% in the corresponding fiscal a year ago.
- It shows that state is riding largely on the back of the services sector, according to the latest Economic survey.
- Bihar growth rate is higher than that of the national average of 7.0 percent, the 12<sup>th</sup> economic survey of Bihar said.

## **20. Bihar has highest rate of crime against SC/ST by NCRB**

- As per National Crime Records Bureau data, crime against SC/ST is lowest in West Bengal.
- Madhya Pradesh reported the highest rate of crime (43.4%) against SCs specifically, while West Bengal had the lowest at 6%.
- Rajasthan reported the highest rate of crime (12.9%) against STs specifically, while West Bengal had the lowest at 1.6%.
- National Crime Records Bureau is under the Union Ministry of Home Affairs
- It headquarters in New Delhi.

## **21. NDMA conducts its first-ever Mock Exercise on Bio-Disasters at Patna airport**

- The aim of the mock to enhances the preparedness of Airport Emergency Handlers (AEHs) to respond to Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) emergencies at the airports.
- National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) jointly conducted its first-ever full-scale Biological Management Emergency Exercise at the Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Airport in Patna, Bihar.

## **22. 60 artwork exhibitions at Bihar Museum**

- At least 50 artworks by artists from different parts of the country have been displayed at a 15- day exhibition at the Bihar Museum.
- The name of the exhibition is Christened 'Constellation'.
- The exhibition has been jointly organized by the Bihar museum and Vadodra- based Sarjan Art Gallery.

## **23. Patna tops in 4G connectivity among 20 largest cities**

- As per a report by OpenSignal, Patna has ranked No.1 among 20 largest cities in India in terms of 4G availability.
- OpenSignal is Lonon-based company that specializes in wireless coverage mapping.

## **24. Nitish flags off Beej Vahan Vikas Vahan Rath for every district**

- CM flagged off the 'Krishi Mahabhiyan-cum-Beej Vikas Vahan Rath' to create awareness among farmers about government schemes for them during Kharif season.
- CM flagged off two Raths for each district at a function in Patna on the occasion of 'Kharif Mahabhiyan-cum-Mahotsav 2018'.
- Of the two raths, one is 'Kharif Mahabhiyan-cum-Mahotsav Rath' that would travel to blocks, gram panchayats and villages to tell the farmers about the schemes being run during kharif season.

- The other Rath is 'Beej (Seed) Vahan Vikas Rath' which would have Kharif seeds and pesticides for the treatment of kharif crop.

### **25. Bihar govt launches new crop insurance scheme**

- The state government of Bihar launched new crop insurance scheme named 'Bihar State Crop Assistance scheme'.
- Under this scheme the farmers would get a compensation of Rs7500 per hectare if less than 20% of the crop is damaged.
- And if more than 20% of crop is damaged, Rs.10000 per hectare would be given as compensation.

### **26. World's first and cheapest clean drinking water project**

- The first of world's cheapest drinking water project was launched in Darbhanga district, Bihar.
- This was launched by Sulabh International, an organisation that introduced the concept of 'Sulabh Sauchalya' in the country.
- The foundation of the project at Haribol pond in Darbhanga Nagar Nigam premises.
- It would be managed by Self Help group of Darbhanga Nagar Nigam.
- The water purification process has a capacity to purify 8,000 litres of water per day at nominal cost. 9

### **27. ADB, Power and Finance Ministry approve lining project of the Son canal in Shahabad**

- Union Minister of State (IC) for Power and New & Renewable Energy, ADB and Finance Ministry reviewed the progress of lining project of the Son canal in Shahabad – Bhojpur region of Bihar.
- It may be noted that the estimated cost of this project is USD 503 million (Rs 3272.49 crore) out of which USD 352 million is being provided by ADB.
- This project will bring immense benefits to the agriculture sector of Shahabad – Bhojpur region of Bihar.

### **28. 100 BPOs catering to Women and SC/ST**

- 100 BPOs will be opened at Common service centres in Bihar as part of the government efforts to empower women and people belonging to Scheduled caste and Schedule tribe.
- It will be opening smaller BPO centers of 5-10 seats for SC and ST villages.
- Also, the best performing village level entrepreneur, run by SC and ST will be reward Rs 1 lakh cash prize.

### **29. Solar Study Lamp Scheme**

- Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India has sanctioned the 70 lakh solar study lamp scheme.
- It aims to provide these lamps to rural students with high quality, affordable clean light in the form of solar study lamp through skill transfer to local communities.
- This scheme is launched in the five states of Assam, Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh.
- In Bihar, assembly and distribution centre for these solar lamps first inaugurates at Mahuli Village in Arrah.
- A photovoltaic module manufacturing plants also inaugurated in Sherghati Block of Gaya district.

### **30. CM launched Mukhyamantri Kanya Utthan Yojana for empowerment of girls**

- Chief Minister launched Mukhyamantri Kanya Utthan Yojana for empowerment of women.
- A sum of Rs 7221 crore will be spending in a year on the programme.
- It will be run by three departments — education, health and social welfare.

### **31. Justice Amreshwar Pratap Sahi sworn as Chief Justice of Patna HC**

- Justice Amreshwar Pratap Sahi has been appointed as Chief Justice of Patna High Court.

### **32. Bihar 1<sup>st</sup> Driving Training Institute**

- Bihar Government has inaugurates the state's first Institute of Driving Training and Traffic Research in Aurangabad.
- The institute has been setup up in Collaboration with Maruti Suzuki India Limited which is India's largest car manufacturer.
- The institute will focus on the 'Train-the- Trainer' model to have multiplier effect and upgrade the driving skill of a large number of people.

### **33. Bihar approves funds worth Rs 25000 for graduate girls**

- The state cabinet of Bihar approved a proposal to pay Rs 25000 to every girl graduating in 2018 and onwards.
- As per the decision, the one-time payment will be made to every girl who graduated from the colleges of the state on or after April 25, 2018, irrespective of the pass division, community or region.
- The scheme is a part of a larger government scheme that aims to pay each girl Rs 54000 including the payments made to her, right from birth to graduation.

### **34. Nepal's largest exhibition 'ConMac 2018' starts in Bhaktapur**

- Nepal's largest exhibition on construction equipment and technology "ConMac 2018" started in Bhaktapur near Kathmandu.
- Development is the main agenda of the present government and it is committed to infrastructure development in Nepal and machines and technology are very essential to achieve this goal.
- The event is organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in association with Embassy of India.

### **35. Madar Mahotsav 2018**

- The Annual Bounsi Fair (also known as Bounsi Mela) is one of the major tourist attractions of the Banka.
- Bounsi Mela depicts the village life of the Mandar region.
- Bounsi Mela got state status this year.
- The glorious fair Bounsi mela is held every year in the month of January.
- A Ratha-Yatra procession of Lord Madhusudana occurs every year on the same day as the Rath Yatra procession in Puri.
- Fourteenth-century Vaishnava saint Chaitanya Mahaprabhu started this Rath Yatra during his visit to Mandar.

### **36. Indira Shakti App launches to help women in Bihar Congress**

- Congress leaders launched Indira Shakti App on the occasion of 74th birth anniversary of Rajiv Gandhi.
- The objective of this mobile app is to provide quick support and security to the women trapped in trouble.
- This app is named after the former Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.
- This app also works offline once downloaded.
- As a safety feature, the woman has to register four people's mobile number. In the emergency, two options are given for use in the emergency.

### **37. Bihar Mukhyamantri Civil Seva Protsahan Yojana**

- Bihar government has launched Mukhyamantri Annusuchit Evam Anusuchit Janjati Civil Seva Protsahan Yojana to help Mahadalits to focus on their studies.
- Under this scheme, all the scheduled caste/ Scheduled Tribes students will get rs. 50000 and Rs. 1 lakhs as an assistance for clearing preliminary round of civil service examination conducted by Bihar Public Service Commission and Union Public Service Commission.

### **38. Centre Established Banana Research Centre in Bihar**

- Central Government has established the Banana Research Centre in Gorole, Vaishali.
- Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agriculture University has initiated the research work to double the income of the Banana growers.
- Rajendra Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Pusa has got the status of Central Agriculture University only in October, 2016.
- Banana Research Centre, Vaishali falls under Garole area and because of the ecological conditions of Garole, it has been selected for the establishment of this centre.

### **39. Baseline Ranking of Aspirational Districts**

- NITI Aayog launched the baseline ranking for the Aspirational Districts based on Published data of 49 indicators.
- This focus across five development areas of Health and Nutrition, Education, Agriculture and Water Resources, Financial Inclusion and Basic Infrastructure.
- It consists of **Champions of Change** Dashboard for real time data and monitoring for public view.
- The dashboard will facilitate District Collector of the entire aspirational district to input the latest available data of their respective district.

#### **District of Bihar in Aspirational District**

- Kathiar, Begusarai, Shekhpura, Araria, Sitamarhi,
- Left wing Affected area, Aurangabad, Banka, Jamui, Muzaffarpur and Nawada are also included in this list.

#### **Transformation of Aspirational District Program**

- Launched by PM in January 2018 Transformation of Aspirational District Program aims to quickly and effectly transform some of the most underdeveloped district of the country.
- There are total 115 districts selected under this program.

### **40. Mukhyamantri Vaas Sthal Kray Sahayata Yojana**

- Chief Minister has started the chief minister's accommodation purchase scheme (Mukhyamantri Vaas Sthal Kray Sahayata Yojana) in Bihar for the Scheduled Caste (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), Other Backward Classes (OBC) category.
- Under this scheme, the State Government will provide financial assistance of Rs. 60,000 for the purchase of land to the people to prepare their homes.

- After the purchase of land, people will get 1.2 lakh rupees for the construction of new homes under the Prime Minister's Housing Scheme (PMAY-Grameen).

#### **41. Global Agriculture Leadership Awards – 2018**

- The Global Agriculture Leadership Summit & Awards are organized by Indian Council of Food and Agriculture (ICFA) with support of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare and Ministry of Food Processing Industries and Ministry of Commerce.
- The 2018 Global Agriculture Leadership Summit was 11th in this series and it was held in New Delhi
- Bihar got this award in Best Animal Husbandry State whereas best fisheries State Award was given Jharkhand for efforts in augmenting the production potential of the state in fisheries segment.

#### **42. IOT station to be built in six cities for purification of Ganga**

- Six IOT (Internet of Things) stations will be set up from Haridwar to West Bengal.
- It will help to collect data from everywhere, on the basis of which the design of the STP (sewage treatment plant) will be prepared.
- IOT stations will be set up at Haridwar, Kanpur, Allahabad, Varanasi, Patna and Malda on behalf of the institution.

#### **43. Bihar's first solid waste processing site**

- Bihar's first solid waste processing site to convert organic waste into compost fertilizer inaugurated in Muzaffarpur – under programme jointly managed by Centre for Science and Environment .
- It is the first city in Bihar to set up a fully functional waste processing site and the only city in the whole of north India to have above 70 per cent waste segregation at source.
- Initiative is part of the Muzaffarpur Municipal Corporation's Swachhata Swasthya Samridhi programme, launched in December 2016 in association with CSE and ITC Ltd.

#### **44. Cabinet nods plan to revive fertilizer plant of HURL**

- The Union Cabinet approved the revival plan for fertilizer plants in Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh), Sindri (Jharkhand) and Barauni (Bihar) by Hindustan Urvarak and Rasayan Limited (HURL).
- HURL is a joint venture company of Coal India Ltd, NTPC Ltd, Indian Oil Corporation Ltd, Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd and HFCL. It was incorporated in 2016 to revive the three fertilizer units.

#### **45. Govt: Contract staff to have uniform service conditions**

- The state cabinet approved uniform service conditions for the contractual staff working in various departments, except the data entry operators from Beltron.
- This was in consonance with the cabinet's approval to the recommendations made by a high-level committee headed by former **chief secretary Ashok Sinha**.

#### **46. Kerala has signed MoU with Bihar**

- The Bihar Rajya Khadi Gramodyog Board (BRKGB) has signed MoUs worth Rs95 lakh to supply its products to textile traders and different institutions in Kerala.

#### **47. Healthy Bihar, prosperous Bihar Mobile App'**

- The Bihar Government has created a mobile app called 'Healthy Bihar, Prosper Bihar,' to look after the problems of people.
- The application provide information about the nearest hospital will be found in the disturbed condition of any district of Bihar in case of poor health.
- At the same time, you can also take advantage of hospital access and ambulance facility.

#### **48. Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2018.**

- Performance of Bihar in Multi Multidimensional Poverty Index 2018 is worst.
- The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) have released the 2018 Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI).
- India has reduced its Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) by almost half between 2005-06 and 2015-16.
- Poorest state – Bihar ( 19.3 % of state population are poor ) Jharkhand ( 10.5% ) followed by UP and MP
- Kerala and Lakshadweep have 0% poor.

#### **49. Bandhan Tod app**

- Patna-based Gender Alliance, an initiative of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) had launched app named 'Bandhan Tod.
- It helps to sensitize people across the state against dowry, child marriage, domestic violence and gender inequality.

#### **50. India's Second Tallest Statue of Buddha in Rajgir**

- Chief Minister unveiled a 70-feet tall statue of Lord Buddha at the Ghora Katora Jheel in Rajgir making it the second largest Buddha statue in the nation.
- The first one is in Diskit Monastery, Statue of Jampa in Ladakh, 105-feet tall.
- This has been made with pink sandstone brought from Chunar in Uttar Pradesh.

**51. ADB to extend \$200 mn loan for upgrading roads in Bihar**

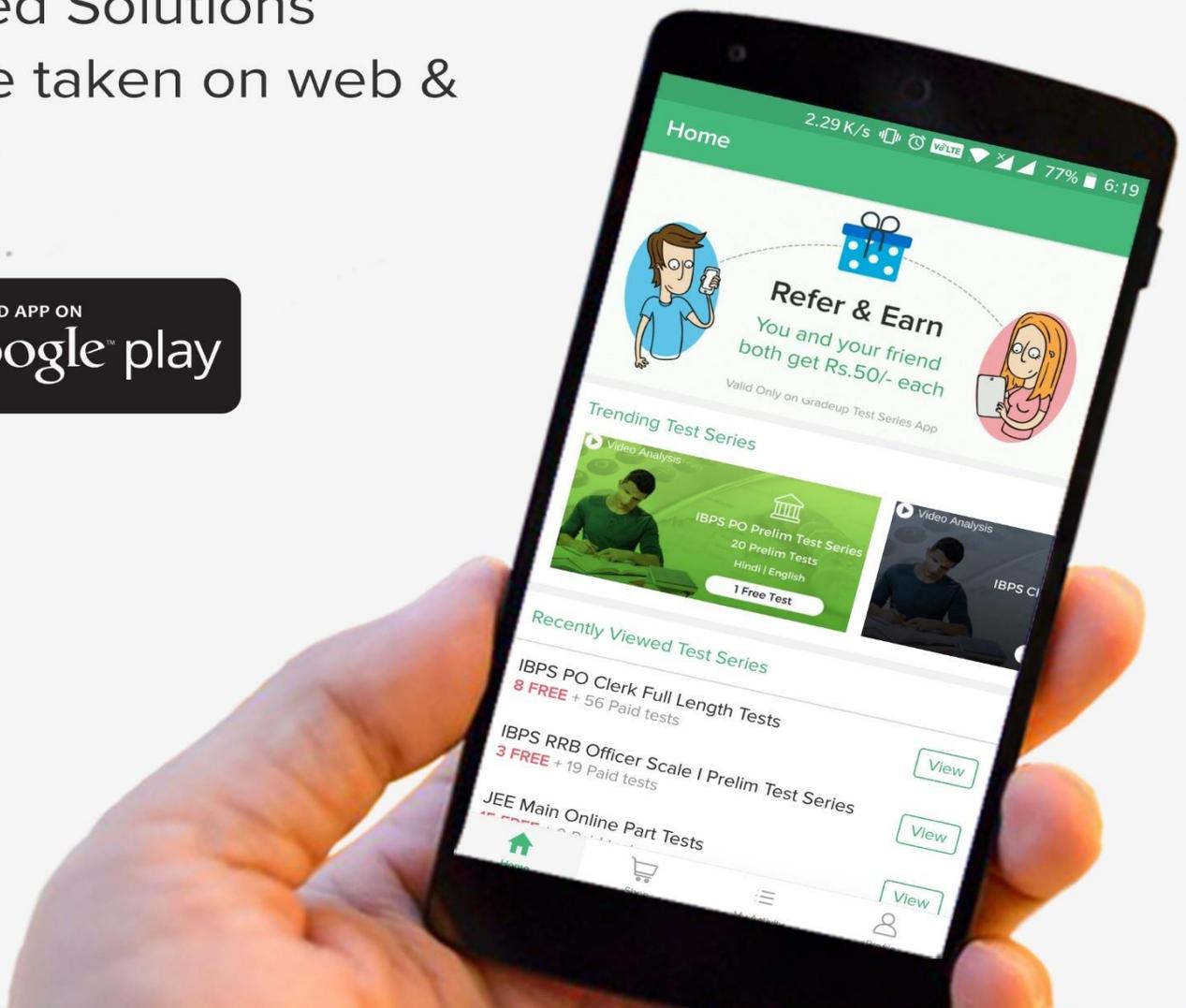
- The Centre and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$200 million loan agreement to finance widening and upgrading of about 230 km of state highways in Bihar to all-weather standards with road safety features.
- Since 2008, ADB has provided four loans amounting to \$1.43 billion to Bihar for upgrading about 1,453 km of state highways and constructing a new bridge over the Ganga River near Patna.



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