

October, 2019

1. Bihar claims ODF status, announcement delayed

Though most urban and rural areas of Bihar achieved the open defecation free (ODF) status on October 2, its formal announcement was yet to be made, said officials.

All urban areas, including 141 urban bodies, had become ODF as per the deadline and was declared ODF after third party inspection.

Till July, only 5 of the 38 districts of Bihar were declared ODF.

2. School education: Bihar 19th among 20 states

Niti Aayog on Monday released the school education quality index (SEQI) aimed at evaluating the performance of states and Union Territories (UTs) in the school education sector.

To facilitate like-to-like comparisons, states and UTs have been grouped as large states, small states and UTs.

In the large states category, the top five performing states are Kerala, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Assam.

Bihar has emerged as the second lowest in the 'School Education Quality Index' (SEQI) report released by NITI Aayog. The neighbouring Jharkhand has bagged the last rank. The ranking, which was released on Monday, evaluated all states and Union territories (UTs) on the basis of two categories — outcomes and governance processing aiding outcome.

Manipur has topped the list of small states followed by Tripura and Goa

3. Bihar mental disorder graph rises 30% per year

In an alarming trend that has emerged as the world observed mental health day on Thursday, Bihar has been witnessing an annual increase of around 30% in cases of people suffering from mental disorders since 2012, according to the state health department officials.

the increase in the number of cases of people suffering from mental disorders can be attributed to more awareness and people developing the trust in seeking medical help for mental health.

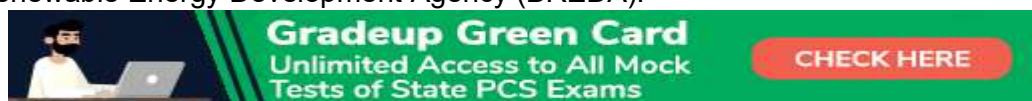
4. Patna-Kathmandu rail link likely by 2021: ECR

The East Central Railway (ECR) has submitted a blueprint to the Railway Board and sought its approval to establish a direct rail link between Patna and Kathmandu in Nepal.

67km-long Jayanagar-Barbidas project, which is funded by the ministry of external affairs, is being implemented by Indian Railway Construction Company (Irrcon).

5. Darbhanga in Bihar to get first floating solar power plant

Known by the 'City of Ponds', Darbhanga will soon have state's first floating solar power plant. The 2 MW capacity grid-tied floating solar power project is an initiative of Bihar Renewable Energy Development Agency (BREDA).



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6. Bihar govt identifies Kaimur forests for tiger reserve

After seeing the increasing number of tigers in Valmiki Tiger Reserve (VTR) the Bihar government has initiated to develop second tiger reserve in Kaimur forests.

The forest officers said that the first initiative to develop Kaimur into a second tiger reserve was made after several tigers and their pug marks were spotted in the area. The number of pug marks are being counted and then the proposal will be sent to the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA).

7. Waterman Rajindra Singh adopts Gaya Pond in Bihar

Water conservationist and Magsaysay award winner Rajindra Singh has adopted Rasalpur pond on the eastern outskirts of Gaya town.

Rasalpur used to be one of the biggest water bodies in Gaya district. The pond, spread over 10 acres, had been a source of water recharge as well as irrigation through nearly half-a-dozen channels called 'payin' in local parlance.

Rajindra Singh undertook an 8kmg long 'Jal Yatra' along with officials and hundreds of activists on Friday morning to create awareness about water conservation. The yatra began from Sita Kund near Vishnupad temple.

8. Bihar second in dowry deaths and murders: NCRB report

Bihar has earned the dubious distinction of recording the second highest number of dowry deaths and murders in the country after Uttar Pradesh, according to the national crime data for 2017 released by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)

The state saw 1,081 dowry deaths in 2017, nearly 10% more than 987 such deaths in 2016. Similarly, the number of murder cases in 2017 was 2,803, which was nearly 9% more than 2016 figure of 2,581. However, nationally the crime rate under both these heads went down by 2% and 6% respectively.

According to NCRB data, UP recorded the highest numbers in both categories with 2,524 dowry deaths and 4,324 murders in 2017 for which the figures were released.

9. President Kovind inaugurates Golden Jubilee celebrations of Vishwa Shanti Stupa in Rajgir

President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the golden jubilee celebrations of the Vishwa Shanti Stupa here, a peace pagoda situated on the Ratnagiri hills.

The pagoda was built by a Japanese Buddhist rattled by the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. He also found solace in the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi.



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Addressing a gathering at 50th anniversary of Vishwa Shanti Stupa in Rajgir in Bihar today the President said the message of peace, unity, and non violence of shanti stupa resonates with the spiritual message of Lord Buddha.

10. 4-day long Chhath Puja begins in Bihar

The four-day Chhath Puja started in Bihar. On the first day of the puja, millions of devotees took a dip in rivers, ponds and makeshift water bodies, preparing traditional meal, offering prayers to the Sun.

Chhath Puja is celebrated on the sixth day following Diwali and is dedicated to the Sun. It is one of the most popular festivals in Bihar. During the festival, women observe a continuous fast for 36 hours. Devotees offer wheat, milk, sugarcane, bananas and coconuts to the Sun.

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