

# Bihar Special Current Affairs

## April 2023

### *Useful for*

### BPSC, BSSC, CDPO, and Other State Special Exams.



Under the "Aao Khelo-cum-non-Residential Training" programme, a sports complex will be built in the district headquarters.

### Why is in News?

- The state government plans to construct outdoor sports complexes or stadiums, as part of its "Aao Khelo - cum - non - residential training scheme" in each district headquarters.

### Key Points:

- The Patliputra Sports Complex in Patna is the model for the outdoor stadiums that the Bihar Art, Culture, and Youth Department intends to build in each district's administrative center.
- In this framework, the divisions of Tirhut, Saran, Darbhanga, Kosi, Purnia, Bhagalpur, Munger, and Magadha will primarily create outdoor stadiums.
- A total of 14 different sports, including athletics, volleyball, kabaddi, kho-kho, taekwondo, boxing, badminton, football, fencing, Sepak Tekra, Chess, Basketball, Archery, and Yoga, will be taught as part of the "Aao Khelo-cum-Non-Residential Training Scheme," which is being put together by the state government.
- Players from other districts won't have to go to Patna or other states to compete in sports at the state level thanks to the organization of those games in these stadiums. The government has plans to allow for the use of coaches at the highest level from around the world to teach players if necessary.
- The government has taken several initiatives to create a sports environment in the state. In this context Stadiums and gymnasiums are being constructed in each district, adding a sports university would soon be set up at Rajgir.
- It is interesting that the Chief Minister's Sports Scheme includes a plan to build outdoor stadiums in each of the state's 534 blocks. Additionally, permission has been granted for this scheme's construction to take place in 312 blocks. This has 221 blocks with



stadiums built within them. In the years 2022–2023, stadium building has been authorized in 27 of the 222 remaining blocks. There will be built track-equipped stadium out of these 27, with 400 meters in four blocks and 200 meters in the remaining 23.

**In Muzaffarpur, the first ethanol plant for the district and the second in the state will be established.**

### Why is in News?

- The current chief minister of the state, Mr. Nitish Kumar, officially opened the Green Field Grain-Based Ethanol Plant at Motipur in the Muzaffarpur district of South Bihar on April 6, 2023. The plant is valued at Rs 152 crore and was constructed at cost, according to information from Sandeep Poundrik, Principal Secretary, Bihar Industries Department.

### Key Points:

- A goal has been set for the Motipur ethanol plant's annual production of 100 million liters of ethanol based on information most recently obtained from the Bihar Industries Department.
- The facility has been equipped with machinery that has a total installed capacity of 320 KLPD (Kilo Litres Per Day). After four ethanol facilities are launched at once, this number is likely to rise even further.
- More than 1,300 people will be employed by the new ethanol facility in Motipur, according to Sandeep Poundrik, the current Principal Secretary of the Industries Department. Over 1,000 people will be indirectly involved in this, in addition to about 300 people who will be physically involved.
- Under the state government's ethanol initiative, more greenfield plants are almost finished in Bihar. Accordingly, by 2 June 2023, ethanol facilities in the Muzaffarpur district, 3 in the Nalanda



district, 1 in the Begusarai district, and 1 in the Buxar district are projected to be finished.

- The primary ingredient used in the production of ethanol is maize, which is a major crop in the Muzaffarpur district. The farmers will be able to earn a good price in this case because of the need for maize on a local level.
- It is well known that farmers in the state are unable to obtain a fair price for their corn due to the majority of middlemen. The availability of DDG for the poultry feed mill will also grow at the same time.
- As a result, the construction of this ethanol plant will have a positive impact on farmers and create employment prospects in the region. The ethanol plant will require hundreds of tonnes of broken rice or corn every day, so companies connected to farmers will directly contact them to arrange for the purchase of this material.
- It is well known that this is the second ethanol plant to be officially opened in Bihar in the past 12 months. Bihar is currently on the path to becoming India's grain-based ethanol hub, and North Bihar will play a significant role in this direction in the near future, according to information obtained from the Industry Department.
- Sources claim that a 5 lakh liter per day ethanol factory in Ara is prepared for opening. In terms of size, it will rank second in Asia for ethanol production. Additionally, there are efforts being made to commission two plants in each of the districts of Gopalganj and Nalanda, as well as one plant in Bhagalpur.

**The Marcha rice from West Champaran received a GI tag from the government.**

### Why is in News?

- The government recently gave the well-known Mircha rice from Bihar, which resembles black pepper, a GI designation. This rice is renowned for its flavorful aroma and for using it to make fragrant bracelets.



## Key Points:

- The West Champaran district of Bihar is home to the little indigenous variety of rice known as Marcha rice. Because of its size and form, its grain resembles black pepper, earning it the name "mircha."
- Marcha rice is also referred to locally as Mircha, Marchaiya, Marichai, etc. The Marcha rice plant, grain, and bran all have a distinctive aroma that sets them apart from all other rice varieties.
- Some villages in the Chanpatia block of the West Champaran district, including Manatand, Gaunaha, Narkatiaganj, Ramnagar, etc., are major marcha rice production areas in Bihar.
- With a yield of 20–25 quintals per hectare, marcha paddy is a tall plant that reaches maturity 145–150 days after seeding.
- Cooked rice from the Marcha kind is puffy, non-sticky, sweet, and simple to digest. It also has a popcorn-like flavor.
- It is important to highlight that agricultural and horticultural products from Bihar, like the Zardalu mango, Katrani rice from Bhagalpur, Shahi litchi from Muzaffarpur, Magahi paan from the Magadh district, and Makhana from Mithila, have already been given the GI designation.
- Additionally, the state's Manjusha art, Sujani embroidered design, appliqué khatna work, Sikki grass goods, Bhagalpuri silk, Madhubani painting, and Silav ka Khaja have all been accorded GI tags.
- Obtaining a GI tag allows for global recognition of the product's identity. There is a push towards exports. Farmers' financial circumstances are improved as a result. Value for the product increases.
- In order to increase agritourism and conserve the GI-tagged product's sustainability, the government works in tandem with the farmers who produce it.





### Organizing body in charge of granting patents

- Geographical Indications are considered a part of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in accordance with Articles 1(2) and 40 of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property.
- In addition, they are covered under Articles 22 to 24 of the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights Agreement (TRIPS), which was a component of the Uruguay Round of GATT discussions' closing agreement.
- The Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 was passed by India as a World Trade Organisation (WTO) member, and it became effective on September 15, 2003.
- The Indian Patent Office, which has its headquarters in Chennai and is also known as the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trademarks (CGPDTM), is in charge of issuing GI tags and patents. The Indian Ministry of Commerce and Industry is represented by this organization.
- The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, a unit of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, is responsible for issuing the Geographical Indication tag in India.
- Darjeeling tea, which has a distinct quality and natural flavor, received the GI label for the first time in India in 2004–2005.

**Rules for Bihar State School Teachers (Appointment, Transfer, Disciplinary Proceedings, and Service Conditions) 2023 have been approved.**

### Why is in News?

- The Bihar Cabinet gave its approval to the Bihar State School Teacher (Appointment, Transfer, Disciplinary Proceedings and Service Conditions) Rules, 2023 on April 10. All of the units that were making appointments based on outdated provisions were abolished at the same time.



## Key Points:

- The revised criteria for hiring teachers for the seventh round of appointments has received approval from the Bihar state government. From the appointments in the seventh phase forward, this rule will be in effect. All of the state's educators will henceforth be referred to as state workers.
- The new regulations stipulate that all candidates who have successfully completed the CTET and STET exams will be offered the option to work as state employees and teachers. Furthermore, in order to be hired as state employees, the state's currently employed teachers will need to take the competitive exam (STET).
- The age restriction for engaged instructors will also be loosened under the Rules of 2023. For reinstatement and recruiting, the state government has lowered the minimum age for teacher appointments to 21 years old. Teachers will now be hired and/or appointed through the event.
- In addition, the cabinet has given its approval to the plan to raise the dearness allowance. State employees' daily allowance has gone from 38% to 42%, an increase of 4%. The law will go into effect on January 1, 2023.
- The benefit of the Dearness Allowance (DA) will be available beginning on January 1, 2023. Pensioners will further benefit from it, in addition to state workers.
- Additionally, for the current fiscal year, the Bihar Cabinet has approved a temporary increase of the Bihar Contingency Fund from Rs 300 crore to Rs 10,000 crore.
- The Governor of Bihar hereby promulgates the following rules for appointment and service requirements for the post of the school teacher in primary, middle, secondary, senior secondary, upgraded senior secondary, and newly established senior secondary schools in the exercise of the authority granted by Provision to Article 309 of the Indian Constitution.



## Bihar is ranked 16th overall in India according to the Justice Report (IJR) 2022.

### Why is in News?

- In order to thoroughly evaluate the level of justice delivery in India as of April 4, 2023, and suggest areas for improvement, the India Justice Report (IJR) by Tata Trusts in collaboration with the Centre for Social Justice, Common Cause, and Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative has been published.

### Key Points:

- The third edition of the India Justice Report (IJR), which was introduced by Tata Trusts in 2019, has just been released.
- In addition to data partners of IJR, the Centre for Social Justice, Common Cause, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, Daksh, TISS Prayas, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, and How India Lives participated in the creation of this report.
- In order to determine how each state is doing overall, the report assesses how each state is doing in terms of delivering justice using many criteria, including the police, judiciary, prisons, and legal assistance.
- In the IJR report, different states are ranked according to two categories:
  - 18 states are listed in this category of large and medium states with populations over one crore.
  - Seventeen states are small states with fewer than one crore people.
- Bihar is ranked 16th overall in the third edition of the India Justice Report, which was just released, up from 17th in the first edition and 13th in the second.
- Following are the rankings for Bihar in the report's various indicators:





	Indicators						
	Police	Prisons	Judiciary	Legal Aid	Human Resource	Diversity	Trend
Rank in 3rd Report	16	9	16	6	18	12	3
Rank in 2nd Report	11	3	18	2	15	10	4
Rank in 1st Report	14	6	18	16	17	17	13

- 18 states with a population of more than one crore, large and medium-sized, are ranked as follows:

State	Rank 2022	Rank 2020
Karnatak	1	14
Tamilnadu	2	2
Telangana	3	3
Gujrat	4	6
Andhra Pradesh	5	12
Kerala	6	5
Jharkhand	7	8
Madhya Pradesh	8	16
Chhattisgarh	9	7



Odisha	10	4
Maharashtra	11	11
Punjab	12	1
Haryana	13	9
Uttarakhand	14	15
Rajasthan	15	10
<b>Bihar</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>13</b>
West Bengal	17	17
Uttar Pradesh	18	18

- Small states with populations under one crore are ranked as follows:

<b>State</b>	<b>Rank 2022</b>	<b>Rank 2020</b>
Sikkim	1	2
Arunachal Pradesh	2	5
Tripura	3	1
Meghalaya	4	7
Mizoram	5	6
Himachal Pradesh	6	4
Goa	7	3



## In the girl's category of the 67th Junior National Ball Badminton Championship, Bihar got in the third rank.

### Why is in News?

- The Bihar Junior Ball Badminton team, which competed in the boys' and girls' divisions of the 67th Junior National Ball Badminton Championship held in Murtijapur (Maharashtra) from March 30 to April 3, earned the bronze medal.
- According to Gouri Shankar, secretary of the Bihar Ball Badminton Association, Bihar overcame Chhattisgarh in the girls' division match and advanced to the quarterfinals.

### Key Points:

- The "Star Player of India" award in this competition was given to Vandana Kumari of Vaishali, who was also the team captain.
- Karnataka defeated Bihar 35-32, 35-30 in the girls' semifinals.
- The Bihar girls' team finished in third place due to a stronger performance on a points system despite losing in the semi-finals.
- It's noteworthy that Bihar defeated Telangana by the scores of 35-33, 35-31 to take seventh place in the boy's division in the match that was contested for that spot.
- Awarded the championship's "Upcoming Players Award" for his superior performance in the boys' division was Ashish Kumar Ojha of Siwan, Bihar.
- In the girl's category, Vandana Kumari (Captain), Muskan Kumari, Nidhi Kumari (Vaishali), Kashish Kumari (Begusarai), Kajal Kumari, Geeta Kumari (Siwan), Deepali Verma (Darbhanga), Divya Kumari (Kilkari), Sakshi Kumari (Saran), Pragya Kumari (Navagachhia) while, the coach of the team was Vinod Kumar Dhoni (Vaishali) and Manager- Neha Rani (Patna).
- The players selected in the boys' team are Kundan Kumar (Captain), Nitin Kumar, Monu Kumar (Kilkari), Shashank Kumar, Chhotu Kumar (Begusarai), Ashish Kumar, Bittu Kumar



(Navagachhia), Ashish Kumar Ojha (Siwan), Ayush Singh. (Vaishali), Suraj Kumar Thakur (Madhubani) whereas, the coach of the team was Badal Kumar (Nalanda), and the manager was Rakesh Ranjan (Patna).

## Samastipur, a district of Bihar, is one of four in the top 10 districts in Jal Jeevan Survekshan 2023.

### Why is in News?

- According to the nationwide ranking published for the month of January under the Jal Jeevan Survekshan 2023, which was released on 4th April 2023, by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti of the Central Government, Bihar's Samastipur district has come out on top among all the states in the nation. Supaul, third, and Banka, fourth place finishers are all from Bihar, Sheikhpura.

### Key Points:

- The major focus of the survey was a four-point evaluation that looked at four factors: whether or not there was access to tap water in rural households, how much was available, how good the water was, how long the supply would last, and how frequently people complained about the quality of the water.
- Notably, this job is primarily carried out at the district level in the nation with the collaborative assistance of the PHED and Panchayat Raj Department. Four additional districts' rankings, in addition to this one, have been maintained by the Central Government on a scale of one to ten. Where work is being completed at the quickest pace on every household tap water scheme.
- The federal government has begun conducting monthly water supply surveys in a similar fashion to the state's cleanliness survey. As part of this, feedback on the water's purity is being gathered from the beneficiaries. The Central Government is able to do this



and provide a thorough evaluation of the drinking water situation in every hamlet throughout the nation.

- It is interesting that the national government publishes district and state rankings on a monthly and annual basis, and in this study, Bihar's five districts have been determined to be the best, with all five of them placing first.
- In Jal Jeevan Survekshan 2023, these are the top ten districts:
  - i. Samastipur (Bihar)
  - ii. Sheikhpura (Bihar)
  - iii. Supaul (Bihar)
  - iv. Banka (Bihar)
  - v. Vellore (Tamil Nadu)
  - vi. Sirmour (Himachal Pradesh)
  - vii. Dehradun (Uttarakhand)
  - viii. Annambaya (Andhra Pradesh)
  - ix. Lakhisarai (Bihar)
  - x. Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh)

The first wildlife hospital in Bihar will be established in Muzaffarpur.

### Why is in News?

- The state government's proposal to open a wildlife hospital in Forest Forest Sherpur of Muzaffarpur in July 2022 received approval from the central government in April 2023 on the recommendation of the Bihar Forest Department. For this project, 40 percent of the central government's share was given. A 25 percent amount has also been allocated.

### Key Points:

- This will be the first wildlife hospital in Bihar, and it will cost approximately one crore rupees, depending on other resources and building costs.
- Only wild creatures will receive care at this hospital for wildlife, and after being rescued, these animals will remain there for 15 days before being released back into the forest or another suitable habitat, and only then.





- The crew from the forest department will be in charge of this task and will be responsible for rescuing any sick or injured wildlife from the forest and transporting them to a medical facility where they can receive the necessary care.
- It should be noted that wildlife has frequently perished in the past owing to improper care, which is detrimental in terms of environmental conservation.
- The availability of money for the development of the Wildlife Hospital in Sherpur is guaranteed by the cooperation of the Central Government and the State Government in a 60:40 ratio.
- Three animal handlers, two assistant doctors, and one senior doctor will all be hired for this institution.
- A crucial step towards the preservation of the abundant wildlife of the state has been taken with the opening of Muzaffarpur's first wildlife hospital. Animals that are unwell or hurt will receive the required care and assistance from the hospital.

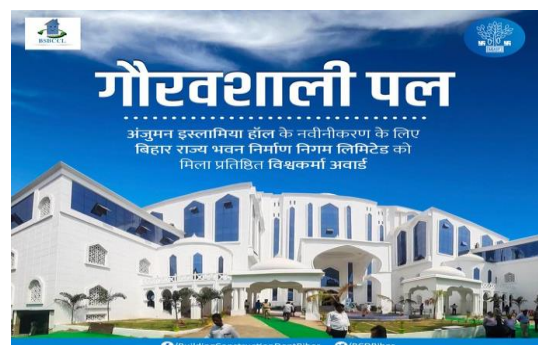
### Honoured with the 14th Vishwakarma Award is Bihar State Building Construction Corporation Limited.

#### Why is in News?

- The Department of Building Construction, Government of India recently presented the 14th Vishwakarma Award to Bihar Rajya Bhavan Nirman Nigam Limited for the superb construction of Anjuman Islamia Hall during the "Indian Construction Meet, 2023" held in Delhi.

#### Key Points:

- The Anjuman Islamia Hall in Patna, which lies on Ashok Rajpath, was founded in 1885.
- Anjuman Islamia Hall, designed in Indo-Islamic style by Bihar Rajya Bhavan Nirman Nigam Limited, just underwent high-quality renovation.
- It is important to note that the Bihar government's building construction department is



currently actively reconstructing world-class structures, museums, schools and colleges, government buildings, etc. under the direction of Chief Minister Mr. Nitish Kumar, a superb engineer.

- Every year, a number of institutions, businesses, organizations, etc. receive "Vishwakarma Awards," a programme established by the Planning Commission, the Government of India, and the Indian construction sector, in recognition of their exceptional contributions to India's infrastructure development.
- The Vishwakarma Award is judged based on a variety of factors, including the project's ability to be completed in less time and money, the use of modern structural technology, engineering, management, and skilled labor, as well as the project's influence on the environment, the use of green technology, the environment, and public health. A variety of security methods should be used.

#### CIDC Vishwakarma Award:

- The Planning Commission, the Indian government, and the country's construction industry came together to form the Construction and Infrastructure Development Council (CIDC).
- The Lord Vishwakarma Awards, which honour excellence in construction, are motivated by the spirit of building and construction that he founded. Lord Vishwakarma was the mastermind behind Indian construction methods.
- The chief organization established by the Government of India and NITI Aayog with the sole purpose of constantly promoting best practices within the Indian construction industry, CIDC, hosts the event each year.
- The CIDC Vishwakarma Awards, which are presented annually, honour the efforts and accomplishments of people and organizations.
- Applications are shortlisted based on and in compliance with the rules set forth by CIDC, and companies are chosen based on the data supplied by the nominees for particular categories.



## DNA testing facilities will be put up in Muzaffarpur and Bhagalpur districts.

### Why is in News?

- On April 18, 2023, the cabinet meeting that was presided over by the state's current chief minister, Mr. Nitish Kumar, approved a total of 11 agendas, one of which called for the establishment of a DNA testing unit in each of the state's two districts of Muzaffarpur and Bhagalpur.

### Key Points:

- The state government has given the go-ahead to create 14 positions in both gazetted and non-gazetted categories in order to establish one DNA branch unit at each of the Regional Forensic Science Laboratories in Muzaffarpur and Bhagalpur to look into cases of sexual assault.
- The PTC (Promotional Training Course) pass constables of the Bihar Police would be able to conduct criminal research as there will be no longer be a requirement to submit the sample to Hyderabad for the DAN test. Currently, Bihar has roughly 2832 of these constables.
- In the investigation of crimes involving sexual abuse, identification of the deceased, and kidnapping of children, DNA testing is crucial. It used to take a long time to receive the report because samples were previously transferred outside of the state for investigation, which also delayed the court process.
- To resolve criminal and contentious situations, forensic experts study DNA discovered in various body fluids, such as blood, semen, skin, saliva, or hair. Their DNA is compared to the relatives of the individuals in question using this.
- One test that provides precise information on our genes is the DNA test, often known as a deoxyribonucleic acid test.



- Both government and private laboratories perform DNA tests. In contrast to commercial laboratories, where anybody can get the test performed on a doctor's recommendation, government labs only perform tests in criminal cases and under government directives.
- For the academic building, girl's hostel, football pitch, etc. at Bakhtiyarpur Polytechnic College, Dr Siddharth claimed that an administrative sanction of Rs 49 crore 72 lakh had been given.
- For the purpose of filling the 189 acres of land in Shobhan, Darbhanga that have been approved for the AIIMS, the government has approved three billion rupees.

**Anjani from Jamui won the gold medal in the javelin throw.**

### Why is in News?

- Anjani Kumari of the state's Jamui district won the gold medal in the javelin throw event on April 15, 2023, in the India Grand Prix-4 2023 competition, which was held in Bangalore.

### Key Points:

- In the senior women's division of the Javelin Throw Championship, which began on April 10 at the Kanteerava Stadium in Bengaluru, Anjani Kumari of the Bihar state's Jamui district threw the javelin at a distance of 47.03 meters. She did this while defeating Runjun Pegu of Assam (43.62 meters) and Hema-Malini Neelakanda of Tamil Nadu (46.27 meters).
- Director General of the Bihar State Sports Authority Ravindran Sankaran announced that Anjani has been chosen for the NIS Patiala National Centre of Excellence.
- Anjani Kumari will train here in anticipation of the 2023 World Athletics Championships, Asian Athletics Championships, and Asian Games, which will take place from April 1 to July 31, 2023.



- It is important to note that the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) hosted a total of four Indian Grand Prix athletics competitions.
- Beginning on March 20, 2023, in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, the first part of the Indian Grand Prix athletics competition began. The third and fourth stages of the Indian Grand Prix were completed in Bengaluru, Karnataka on April 10 and 15, respectively. The second league of the race took place in Thiruvananthapuram on March 27.
- Anjani Kumari, a javelin thrower from Jamui, Bihar, will be competing for her nation at the Asian Games, World Athletics Championship, and World Championships by attending the National Training Camp in Patiala. Anjani Kumari is one of 14 other national athletes who have been chosen for competition in different sports.

According to the delta ranking of aspirational districts, Sheikhpura came in first and Purnia came in second among the top five districts in the nation for education.

### Why is in News?

- Sheikhpura district in Bihar came in first place among the top five districts in the nation for education in the delta ranking of aspirational districts published by NITI Aayog on April 13, 2023, and Purnia district came in second place.

### Key Points:

- NITI Aayog has given a 30 percent weightage for health and nutrition, 30 percent for education, 20 percent for agriculture and related activities, 10 percent for financial inclusion, and 10 percent for infrastructure while determining the delta ranking of aspirational districts.
- Special focus is paid to the education section of the Delta Rating of Aspirational Districts report by NITI Aayog, primarily to





education, libraries, school structures, and other resources for kids.

- The availability of drinking water and restrooms in schools is another issue that is taken into consideration in the educational field.
- On the other hand, not a single district from Bihar is listed in the overall section of the Delta ranking of Champions of Change for February 2023 that was published by NITI Aayog.
- The names of districts from both the states of Bihar and Jharkhand have appeared on the list of the top five aspirational districts in the nation in the field of education, which is notable. East Singhbhum, Bokaro, and Giridih, all located in Jharkhand, were in third, fourth, and fifth place, respectively. Bokaro and Sahibganj, both in Jharkhand, are among the top five districts for health and nutrition, respectively.
- The Aspirational District Programme, which has been in operation since 2018, includes 13 districts in Bihar, including Katihar, Begusarai, Sheikhpura, Araria, Khagaria, Purnia, Aurangabad, Banka, Gaya, Jamui, Muzaffarpur, Seemamarhi, and Nawada, among the 112 underdeveloped districts in the nation. Every month, these districts are ranked according to the established scale of their progress in order to promote better work among them.
- It should be noted that in the ranking from the previous day, Bihar's districts performed better than those of other states in terms of agricultural and water resources. The state's two districts held the top two spots in the nation. Banka and Katihar, two districts in Bihar, were in the top five districts in the nation.

**The second AIIMS in Bihar would be located in Darbhanga and will have more than three billion**

### Why is in News?

- The administrative sanction for more than three billion dollars for Darbhanga AIIMS was approved at the Bihar cabinet meeting on April 18, 2023, which was presided over by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar.



## Key Points:

- It is known that this AIIMS to be built in Darbhanga will be the second AIIMS in Bihar, while the first AIIMS is already built in Patna.
- The leveling and development of a total of 189.17 acres of land given for Darbhanga AIIMS in Ballia near the Shobhan-Ekmi bypass under the Bahadurpur zone will cost the Bihar government more than Rs 309 crore.
- It is well known that the second AIIMS in Bihar will be constructed at Darbhanga, with the first AIIMS already existing in Patna.
- It is notable that permission was provided to allocate land near the Shobhan-Ekmi bypass for the Darbhanga AIIMS during the State Cabinet meeting that was headed by the Chief Minister in the first week of March 2023.
- The Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY), which would cost a total of Rs. 1,264 crores, has received approval from the Union Cabinet to develop a new All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in Darbhanga, Bihar.
- The property designated for AIIMS is about five km from the foreland connecting AIIMS and Darbhanga. This makes it possible to get to Darbhanga AIIMS quickly and without being caught in traffic. Moreover, Darbhanga would gain a fresh extension with the construction of AIIMS on its outskirts.
- The second-oldest medical college hospital in Bihar is Darbhanga Medical College and Hospital (DMCH), behind Patna Medical College and Hospital (PMCH). Patients from all of Mithila as well as from Nepal travel to the DMCH because it is the region's oldest main hospital.



## The application for the GI tag to be issued to the Bihar products Khurma, Tilkut, and Balushahi has been approved.

### Why is in News?

- The application for the GI tag to be given to the well-known sweets Khurma Tilkut and Balushahi from Bihar was accepted on April 23, 2023, according to information from the media. The competent authority will now proceed in this direction in light of this.

### Key Points:

- Udwanthnagar of Bhojpur, Tilkut of Gaya, Balushahi of Sitamarhi, the famous Chinese banana of Hajipur, the famous Bawan booti art of Nalanda, and stone-cut art of Gaya have just had their requests for GI tags approved.
- The 'Khurma' from Bhojpur and the 'ticket' from Gaya, both made from jaggery and sesame, are both immensely popular both domestically and globally, according to Sunil Kumar, Chief General Manager of NABARD. The sweet Balushahi of Runnisaidpur in Sitamarhi is also quite popular throughout the nation at the same time.
- Producer unions have been helped by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to submit GI tag applications for these well-known cuisines and products of Bihar by the relevant union. Also included in this are experts. A product's provenance is primarily linked to its region of origin via the GI tag.
- The addition of GI labels to these foods and items will increase the income of the farmers, producers, and artists who work with them. In addition to the process of GI registration, NABARD is also playing a significant role in this endeavor by branding, promoting, and offering market links to these items on the market.
- It is noteworthy that the state's renowned Mircha rice, which is prized for its flavor and aroma, received a GI grade this month.



Magahi Paan of Nawada, Zardalu Mango and Katrani Paddy of Bhagalpur, and Shahi Litchi of Muzaffarpur have previously received GI tags.

**In-house platforms like Zoom, WhatsApp, and Google Pay will be created by Roynet Solutions and IIT Patna.**

### Why is in News?

- In order to advance in the field of research and development, IIT Patna and Roynet Solutions signed a Memorandum of Understanding on April 27, 2023. As part of this agreement, IIT Patna will create domestic platforms like Zoom, WhatsApp, and Google Pay.

### Key Points:

- The MoU was signed by the Director of IIT Patna Prof. TN Singh and the Managing Director of Roynet Solutions Sameer Mathur on behalf of their respective institutions.
- The goal of this Memorandum of Understanding is to improve research and to create cutting-edge solutions in the technical area of social media.
- Under the umbrella of the Patna Forex Platform, IIT Patna will create national platforms such as Zoom, WhatsApp, and Google-Pay. IIT Patna will carry out its work on this on the academic level, and Roynet Solutions will carry out its work on the commercial level.
- In the upcoming three years, IIT Patna and Roynet Solutions will collaborate on research projects in the fields of digital payments, wealth management, cross-border payments, secure audio-video conferencing, and the use of cutting-edge technologies like machine learning, artificial intelligence, and data analytics. There will be no shortage of amenities.
- IIT Patna will create the Patna Forex Platform, which will include local platforms like Zoom, WhatsApp, and Google Pay. IIT Patna



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**The conversion of National Highway 98 to Fourlane, involving the creation of 454 kilometers of four lanes in Bihar, has been approved by the Central Government.**

### Why is in News?

- A 454 km long new four-lane highway in Bihar has recently received approval from the central government. Various regions of the state will be traversed by these four lanes.
- To the Varanasi-Kolkata Motorway, this lane will also have a direct connection. trader's ability to transport and bring items is as a result. In addition, it will now be simpler to get to Siliguri and Assam than it was previously.

### Key Points:

- A brand-new 454-kilometer four-lane highway will be built in Bihar to link Hariharganj on the Jharkhand border with Valmikinagar along the Indo-Nepal border. Furthermore, the Central Government has given the go-ahead for National Highway 98, which is part of the four-lane building project from Naubatpur to Hariharganj in Patna, to be converted into a four-lane road for up to 143 km.
- As it travels to Bikram-Arwal-Aurangabad and Amba until Hariharganj, National Highway 98 passes quite close to the eastern end of the Son River. National Highway 98 is currently two lanes wide.





- For those traveling to Garhwa-Daltenganj and Chhattisgarh in the western part of Jharkhand state, National Highway 98 is a highly handy route, which contributes to the constant traffic demand on it. The creation of the DPR to widen this National Highway to four lanes has received approval from the central government. One crore 38 lacks have also been allowed for this, in addition to the already mentioned sum.
- A 195 km long, four-lane highway from Patna to Bettiah is being built in this situation, and it will cost Rs 5,600 crore. In addition, a Buddhist Stupa of Kesariya can be found by the side of the road.
- It is also the focal point of the National Highway Buddha Circuit. Additionally, from Sonpur to Areraj, a four-lane highway will be built on the western bank of the Gandak River. This will improve traffic flow in the Gopalganj neighborhoods of Saran and Diara, two districts of the Saran Commissionerate.
- A six-lane bridge between Patna's Digha and Sonpur, to be built in three and a half years at a cost of 2,636 crores, has also been put out to bid close to the JP Setu. In addition, a tender for the construction of a bridge across the Gandak River in Sonpur Manikpur for 868 crores has been floated. The bridge will connect Konhara Ghat in Saran with Jalalpur in Vaishali. Manikpur to Sahebganj, Sahebganj to Areraj, and Areraj to Bettiah are among the remaining portions that have not yet been tendered. Two thousand 159 crores will be spent on these three components in total.
- The journey from Valmikinagar to Hariharganj will take just 6 hours thanks to the development of this new forelane, cutting the travel time from 11 to just 3. In addition, Nepal will have a direct connection to Palamu, Chatra in Jharkhand's west. In terms of transportation, this will also be quite convenient. The traders in Jharkhand and Bihar will thereby benefit the most from this.

### In Bhagalpur, the state of Bihar will debut its first badminton academy.

#### Why is in News?

- Pullela Gopichand recently met State Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav and expressed his appreciation for the new sports policy of Bihar while also discussing a number of other issues with



the administration. Gopichand had traveled to Patna in order to train the chosen players for the badminton talent search competition that the Bihar State Sports Authority had organized.

### Key Points:

- Pullela Gopichand, an international badminton player and the head coach of the Indian badminton team, and the director general of the Bihar State Sports Authority, Ravindran Sankaran, met with Tejashwi Yadav, the deputy chief minister of Bihar, and discussed the need for better training and facilities for the state's badminton players.
- The Bihar State Sports Authority has reached an agreement on four other problems in this regard, in addition to opening a badminton academy in Bhagalpur for better badminton player training.
- The academy, which will open in Bhagalpur, will provide instruction under Pullela Gopichand's supervision. In addition to being the head coach of the Indian badminton team, Pullela Gopichand is a past recipient of the Arjuna, Dronacharya, and Padma awards.
- 10 state badminton players between the ages of 13 and 15 will practice at Gopichand's academy, along with Bihar badminton trainers.
- Gopichand will also give trainers from his academy to train the badminton players in Bihar in addition to this.
- It is noteworthy that from April 7 to 9, the Bihar State Sports Authority held a Badminton talent search and training programme at the indoor stadium of the Pataliputra Sports Complex under the direction of Pullela Gopichand.



A person consumes 400 grams of milk on average each day in Bihar, which produces more milk than the national average.

### Why is in News?

- Recently, certain villages in Bihar's rural and urban areas were located, and data on milk consumption was collected from the locals. Milk sales data were then compared to data on milk production, and from this data, the average number was calculated.

### Key Points:

- According to the research revealed in the year 2006, a person in the state was only consuming 154 grams of milk per day, however at present, an individual in Bihar consumes 400 grams of milk daily.
- The amount of milk consumed per person in Bihar has increased by 246 grams during the past 17 years. The country's population consumed 407 grams of milk daily on average by 2021. In the country right now, each person consumes 444 grams of milk each day.
- Bihar's place in milk production is higher than the national average, despite the fact that its residents' milk consumption decreased from seven to 44 grams fewer per day than the norm by the year 2021, from seven to seven grams less. It should be mentioned that while milk production has been averaging 5.29% nationally, it has been 7.3% on average in Bihar.
- The amount of milk produced in Bihar in 2007 was 57.70 lakh metric tonnes. This amount rose to 87.10 lakhs in the 2008–12 agricultural road map. A total of 115.02 lakh metric tonnes of milk were produced in Bihar the following year, and as of this writing, 121.19 lakh tonnes are produced there annually.
- It is significant that Bihar has seen a surge in meat production. Compared to the 1.80 lakh metric tonnes of meat produced in the



state during the fiscal year 2021–2022, 3.92 lakh metric tonnes of meat are currently produced in Bihar.

