

TODAY AT A GLANCE — 10 THINGS TO REMEMBER

- Samrat Choudhary Cabinet meets in Patna; festive-season employment & job-creation proposals in focus.
- Bihar floods: 46+ lakh people hit across 15 districts as Ganga, Kosi & Gandak stay above danger mark.
- Bihar Economic Survey: economy crosses ₹9.92 lakh crore; real growth 8.6% beats India's 6.5%.
- Supreme Court: no criminal penalty for refusing to sing the national song (Vande Mataram).
- Jaishankar drives India's UNSC seat bid & Partnership for Multilateralism at UNGA-81.
- SEBI closes Hindenburg-linked case against Adani group for a ₹1.5 crore settlement.
- Canal-top solar flagged as a land-free clean-power route; Bihar among top-potential states.
- Union Home Minister sets a drug-free India target by end-2029.
- Patna High Court pulls up erring officials; ₹1 lakh compensation ordered in a Banka case.
- Mithila Makhana's GI-driven boom continues to lift Bihar's farm exports.

SECTION A • BIHAR SPECIAL

Samrat Choudhary Cabinet pushes jobs, AI & EV agenda

BIHAR BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Polity & Governance)

SYLLABUS LINKAGE	State executive & cabinet system; Bihar schemes on employment, industry & welfare — high-yield for the Prelims Bihar section and GS-II governance.
CONTEXT	The Bihar Cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary , met in Patna on 23 September 2026 to weigh a fresh batch of employment, welfare and post-creation proposals ahead of the festive season, building on flagship decisions cleared through 2026.
KEY FACTS	■ Bihar AI Mission aims to train 7,000 students over 5 years; a new Bihta dairy unit adds ~170 jobs. ■ The CM's environment-friendly transport scheme targets a 30% EV share by 2030, with incentives for women buyers. ■ DA was raised to 60% for ~9 lakh employees & 3.5 lakh pensioners; 100 acres in Vaishali went to a NIFTEM food-tech institute.
WAY FWD	Timely rollout and skilling capacity will decide whether these schemes yield jobs and private investment rather than mere announcements.
CONCEPT	The Council of Ministers is collectively responsible to the Vidhan Sabha (Art. 164); 'cabinet decisions' are executive policy, distinct from Assembly legislation.

SAMRAT CHOUDHARY CABINET 2026

AI Mission

Train 7,000 students over 5 years

EV Transport

30% EV share targeted by 2030

NIFTEM, Vaishali

100 acres for food-tech institute

DA Hike

58% → 60% for ~9 lakh staff

Dairy Unit, Bihta

~170 new jobs added

Bihar floods hit 46 lakh as Ganga breaks records

BIHAR BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Bihar Geography & Disaster Mgmt)

SYLLABUS LINKAGE	Bihar's rivers, flood-prone geography and disaster management — a perennial BPSC theme in both Prelims and GS-II.
CONTEXT	Bihar is battling one of its worst flood spells of the decade, with the Ganga breaching all-time-high water marks and Himalayan rivers swelling after heavy upstream rain.
KEY FACTS	■ Over 46 lakh people across 15 districts are affected; earlier estimates put displacement near 40 lakh (4 million). ■ The Ganga, Kosi, Gandak and Bagmati are all above the danger mark, with embankment breaches reported. ■ NDRF and SDRF teams, boats and relief camps are deployed; North Bihar's Kosi-Gandak belt is worst hit.
WAY FWD	Lasting relief lies in silt management, embankment strengthening and Indo-Nepal coordination on barrage releases — not just annual rescue.
CONCEPT	Bihar is India's most flood-prone state : about 73% of its area is flood-prone. The Kosi is called the ' Sorrow of Bihar ' for its shifting course.

Bihar Floods 2026 — at a glance

46+ lakh

people affected

15

districts hit

4 rivers

above danger mark

Record

Ganga all-time high

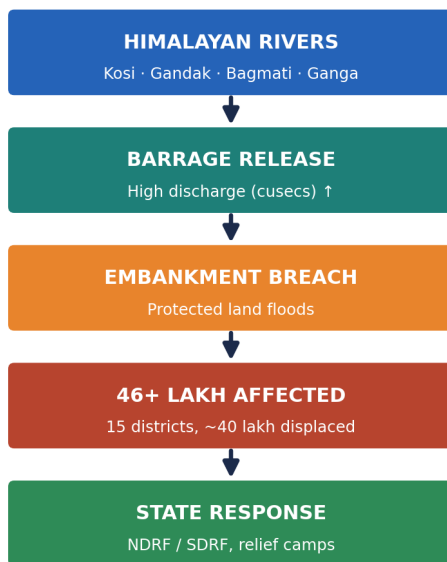
NDRF +

SDRF deployed

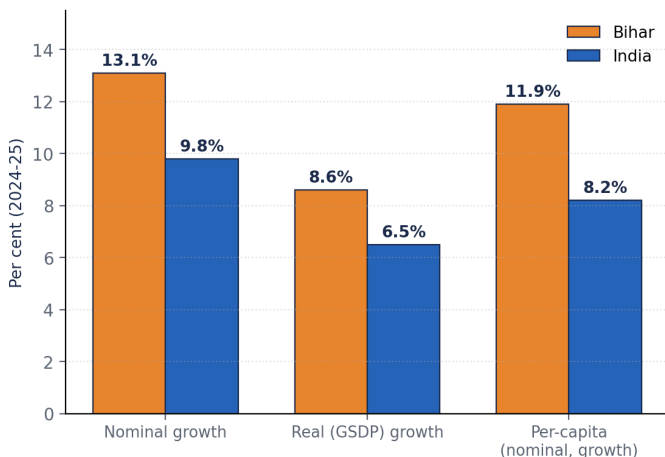
~40 lakh

displaced

The 2026 Bihar flood cycle



Bihar out-grows the national economy



Why the Kosi-Gandak flood cycle keeps repeating

ENVIRONMENT

BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Bihar Geography)

SYLLABUS LINKAGE	River systems of Bihar, barrages and embankments; interlinkage with Nepal — GS-II geography and governance.
CONTEXT	This year's deluge has renewed focus on river management , as barrage discharges and weak embankments turned monsoon surplus into disaster across the plains.
KEY FACTS	■ Bihar's flood rivers — Kosi, Gandak, Bagmati, Burhi Gandak — originate in the Nepal/Himalaya and dump heavy silt on the plains. ■ High-cusec releases from the Kosi and Gandak barrages raise downstream risk within hours. ■ Embankment breaches convert protected land into flood zones; siltation steadily raises riverbeds.
WAY FWD	Experts urge catchment-area treatment , desilting and real-time Indo-Nepal data-sharing over purely structural embankments.
CONCEPT	Embankments give short-term protection but can worsen floods by trapping silt and raising riverbeds — a core Bihar geography debate.

Bihar economy crosses ₹9.9 lakh crore, outpaces India

ECONOMY

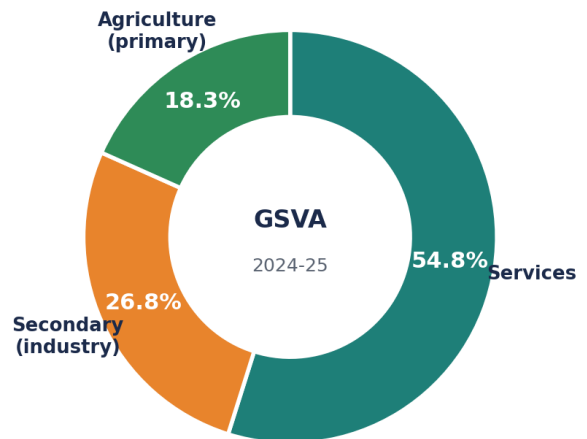
BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Bihar Economy)

SYLLABUS LINKAGE	Bihar's economy, growth, per-capita income and sectoral structure — named directly in the BPSC GS-II syllabus.
CONTEXT	The latest Bihar Economic Survey (2025-26) shows the state growing faster than the national economy, though per-capita income remains well below the India average.
KEY FACTS	■ Bihar's GSDP reached ₹9,91,997 crore at current prices in 2024-25. ■ Real growth was 8.6%, ahead of India's 6.5%; nominal growth was 13.1%. ■ Per-capita income was ₹76,490 — still among India's lowest; the secondary sector grew 11.1%.
WAY FWD	Sustaining double-digit growth needs faster industrialisation and private investment to lift the low per-capita base.
CONCEPT	GSDP is the state analogue of GDP; per-capita income = net state income ÷ population, a key development indicator.

Mithila Makhana's GI boom reshapes Bihar's farm economy

BIHAR	BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Bihar Economy & Agriculture)
SYLLABUS LINKAGE	Agriculture, GI tags and agro-processing in Bihar — a high-frequency Prelims Bihar topic.
CONTEXT	Bihar's makhana (fox nut) economy is expanding on the back of its GI tag , R&D and a start-up push, positioning the state as a global fox-nut hub.
KEY FACTS	■ Mithila Makhana received a Geographical Indication (GI) tag in 2022; Bihar grows the bulk of India's makhana. ■ Makhana — with ghee and gulab jamun — features in Bihar's dairy & food exports to the US and Canada. ■ Shahi Litchi (Muzaffarpur) and Jardalu mango (Bhagalpur) are other Bihar GI produce.
WAY FWD	Cold chains, branding and processing units can move farmers up the value chain beyond raw-produce sales.
CONCEPT	A GI tag legally links a product to its geographic origin, protecting producers and boosting exports.

Bihar's economy: sector share of value added



Patna HC holds officials accountable, orders compensation

POLITY	BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Polity & Administration)
SYLLABUS LINKAGE	High Courts, judicial review and administrative accountability — GS-II polity with a Bihar hook.
CONTEXT	The Patna High Court has again used judicial review to check administrative excess, ordering that compensation be recovered from erring officials in a rights matter.
KEY FACTS	■ A Patna HC bench held a District Magistrate-level action illegal and ordered ₹1 lakh compensation be realised from the responsible officials. ■ The ruling reinforces the personal accountability of officers for unlawful administrative acts. ■ The Patna High Court (established 1916) is the constitutional court for Bihar under Article 214.
WAY FWD	'Cost-on-officials' orders deter arbitrary state action and strengthen citizens' remedies against maladministration.
CONCEPT	Judicial review (Arts. 226/227) lets High Courts quash illegal executive action and grant relief — a basic-structure feature.

SECTION B • DATA POINT OF THE DAY

Size of Bihar's economy
(GSDP, current prices,
2024-25)

₹9.92
lakh
crore

Bihar's GSDP grew **8.6%** in real terms in 2024-25 — faster than India's **6.5%** — even as per-capita income (**₹76,490**) stayed among the country's lowest. Secondary-sector growth of **11.1%** signals a gradual industrial pickup.

SECTION C • NATIONAL & WORLD

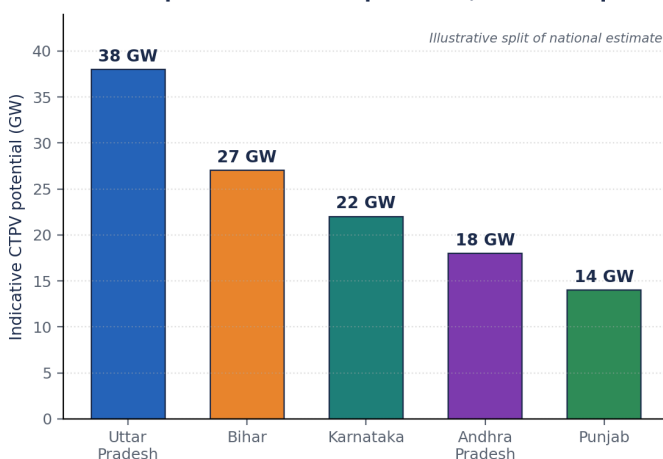
SC: no criminal penalty for refusing the national song

POLITY	BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Polity — Fundamental Rights)
SYLLABUS LINKAGE	Fundamental Rights, freedom of conscience and free speech — core GS-II and Prelims polity.
CONTEXT	The Supreme Court held that the State cannot criminally punish conscientious objectors who decline to sing the national song, protecting respectful silence .
KEY FACTS	- The Court read Articles 25 & 26 (freedom of conscience and religion) to bar compelled patriotic expression. - It relied on Bijoe Emmanuel v. State of Kerala (1986), the classic 'National Anthem' free-conscience case. - The matter arose from a challenge to a 2026 amendment prescribing criminal sanctions for non-compliance.
WAY FWD	Patriotism by persuasion, not coercion, keeps symbolic law within constitutional free-speech limits.
CONCEPT	Article 19(1)(a) free speech includes the right to silence ; Art. 25 protects freedom of conscience.

SEBI settles Hindenburg-linked Adani case for ₹1.5 crore

ECONOMY	BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Economy & Regulation)
SYLLABUS LINKAGE	Financial-market regulation and SEBI — GS-II economy and Prelims on institutions.
CONTEXT	Market regulator SEBI closed proceedings tied to the Hindenburg allegations against Adani group entities through a monetary settlement.
KEY FACTS	- Five Adani entities settled for a cumulative ~₹1.5 crore without admission or denial of the charges. - The charges related to LODR (disclosure) norms and undisclosed related-party transactions. - Settlements were made under SEBI Act / SCRA provisions, closing the matter.
WAY FWD	Robust disclosure enforcement underpins investor trust in India's capital markets.
CONCEPT	SEBI (statutory, 1992) regulates securities markets; LODR norms mandate timely corporate disclosures.

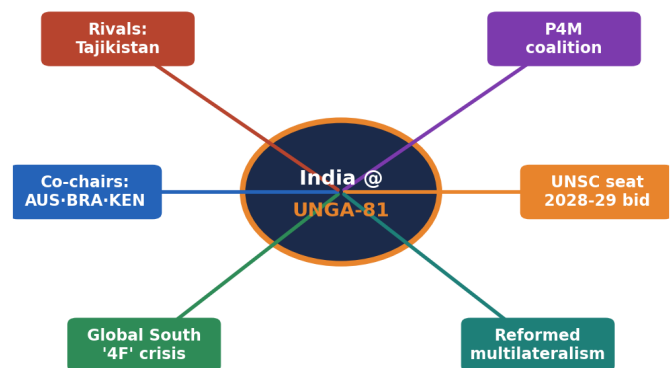
Canal-top solar: ~131 GW pan-India, Bihar in top tier



India drives UNSC bid & 'reformed multilateralism' at UNGA-81

IR	BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (International Relations)
SYLLABUS LINKAGE	India and the UN, global-governance reform — GS-II IR and Prelims on international institutions.
CONTEXT	At the 81st UN General Assembly , India pressed its case for a permanent UNSC seat and joined a coalition for institutional reform.
KEY FACTS	- India joined the Partnership for Multilateralism (P4M), co-chairing with Australia, Brazil, Barbados and Kenya. - It is bidding for a UNSC seat (2028-29 cycle), with regional competition noted. - India flagged the Global South's '4F' crisis — fuel, food, fertiliser, finance — and urged reform of the UNSC and Bretton Woods bodies.
WAY FWD	Sustained coalition-building and credibility on Global-South issues are key to any UNSC reform breakthrough.
CONCEPT	The UNSC has 5 permanent (P5) veto-holding members and 10 elected ; reform needs Charter amendment backed by the P5.

India's push for a reformed UN Security Council



Canal-top solar offers land-free clean power; Bihar in top tier

SCI-TECH	BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Science & Technology)
SYLLABUS LINKAGE	Renewable energy and role of S&T in development — GS-II sci-tech, with a Bihar potential angle.
CONTEXT	Placing solar panels over irrigation canals is emerging as a land-free route to clean power, saving both land and water.
KEY FACTS	Canal-top PV (CTPV) needs no extra land; a Punjab project saved about 100 acres. 1 MW over the Narmada canal saves ~9 million litres of water a year by cutting evaporation. - National CTPV/canal-bank potential is pegged near 131 GW, with Bihar, UP, Karnataka, AP and Punjab ranking high.
WAY FWD	Lower structural costs and viability-gap support can scale CTPV alongside rooftop and floating solar.
CONCEPT	CTPV differs from floating solar ; both cut land use and evaporation, aiding India's 500 GW non-fossil by 2030 goal.

SECTION D • PRELIMS RAPID-FIRE

- **Battle of Haifa (23 September 1918):** Indian cavalry (Jodhpur, Mysore, Hyderabad Lancers) freed Haifa in WWI — marked as **Haifa Day**.
- **UP Gangsters Act, 1986:** SC flagged that defining a 'crime' cannot be left to executive discretion — the **Article 20(1)** legality principle.
- **Critical minerals:** India is eyeing **lithium & nickel** processing (including a Mali venture) to build its **EV-battery** ecosystem.
- **Special Intensive Revision (SIR):** SC found ~**33 lakh** Delhi voter notices 'mechanically issued'; disposal deadline **29 October**.
- **Shahi Litchi (Muzaffarpur)** and **Jardalu mango (Bhagalpur)** carry **GI tags** — frequent BPSC Prelims picks.
- **BIT/ISDS:** India's recent investment treaties push disputes to **domestic arbitration**, omitting investor-state (ISDS) clauses.

SECTION E • PRACTICE CORNER

Q1. With reference to Bihar's rivers, consider the following statements: 1. The Kosi originates in the Nepal/Himalaya. 2. The Kosi is known as the 'Sorrow of Bihar'. 3. The Gandak is a tributary of the Ganga. Which of the above are correct?

- (A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 2 and 3 only
(C) 1 and 3 only
(D) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: D. All three are correct. The Kosi rises in the Himalaya/Nepal, is called the 'Sorrow of Bihar' for its shifting course, and the Gandak (Narayani) is a left-bank tributary of the Ganga.

Q2. The case 'Bijoe Emmanuel v. State of Kerala (1986)' is chiefly associated with which fundamental right?

- (A) Right to property
(B) Freedom of conscience and religion
(C) Right to constitutional remedies
(D) Right against exploitation

Ans: B. It upheld students' freedom of conscience (Arts. 19(1)(a) & 25) in the National Anthem case — cited in the 2026 national-song ruling.

MAINS PRACTICE

Bihar is India's most flood-prone state. Examine the geographical causes of recurring floods in north Bihar and suggest a sustainable river-management strategy. (BPSC Mains, GS-II)

Hint: Cover Himalayan-origin silt-laden rivers (Kosi, Gandak, Bagmati), Nepal barrage releases and embankment limits; suggest desilting, catchment-area treatment, Indo-Nepal cooperation and flood-plain zoning.

★ **QUICK REVISION:** Remember today: Bihar GSDP ₹9.92 lakh crore (8.6% real growth) • 46 lakh flood-affected across 15 districts • SC: no penalty for refusing the national song • India's P4M & UNSC push at UNGA-81 • Canal-top solar ~131 GW potential.

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