



BACKGROUNDERS

Press Information Bureau
Government of India

Building a Connected and Prosperous Bihar

22 August, 2025

Key Takeaways

- On 22nd August 2025, the Prime Minister has inaugurated the **8.15 km Aunta–Simaria bridge project**, built at a cost of over **₹1,870 crore**.
- The state's economy has grown **3.5 times** since 2011–12, driven by investments in **roads, railways, air connectivity, and energy**.
- Annual railway investment increased from **₹1,132 crore (2009–14)** to **₹10,066 crore in 2025–26**.

Bihar: At the Crossroads of Transformation



“The 21st century is witnessing rapid global progress, the dominance once held solely by Western nations is now increasingly shared by Eastern countries. **Just as Eastern countries are advancing globally, in India, it is the era of the Eastern states.** To advance Eastern India, **Bihar must be transformed into a developed state**,”

PM Narendra Modi's remarks during the inauguration of development works worth over Rs 7,000 Crore in Motihari, Bihar

The Prime Minister has inaugurated the **8.15 km Aunta–Simaria bridge project on NH-31**, which includes a **1.86 km six-lane bridge over the river Ganga**, built at a cost of over **₹1,870 crore**. Constructed parallel to the nearly seven-decade-old Rajendra Setu, the new bridge has **established direct connectivity between Mokama in Patna district and Begusarai**, significantly reducing travel distance for heavy vehicles by up to 100 km. Beyond easing transport, it also **enhances access to Simaria Dham**, the revered pilgrimage site and birthplace of the celebrated poet **Ramdhari Singh Dinkar**, linking communities and fostering economic and cultural growth.

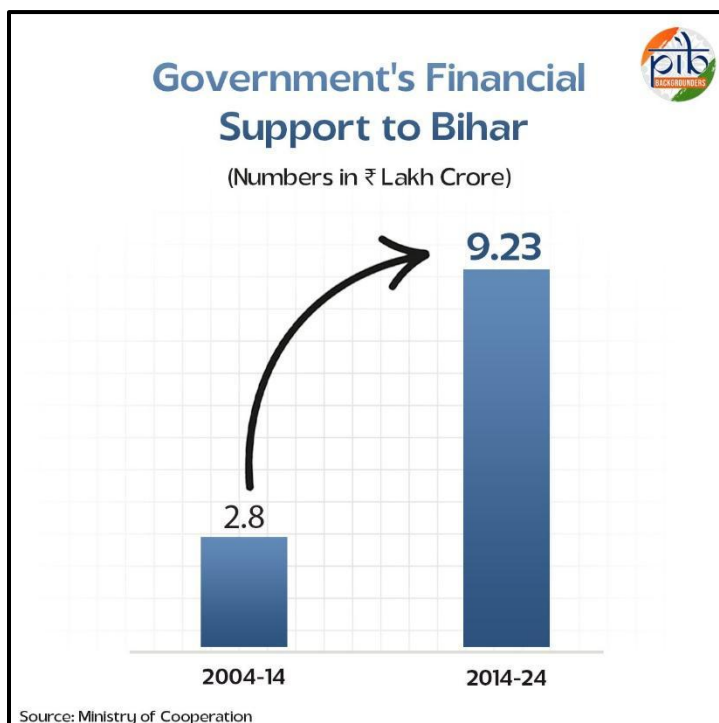
The inauguration of this landmark project reflects the larger wave of transformation underway in Bihar, powered by major

infrastructural investments aimed at boosting connectivity and economic growth across the state. With

its economy expanding **3.5 times since 2011–12** and Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) reaching **8.54 lakh crore in 2023–24**, the state is witnessing a historic shift in recent years.

Over the past decade, access to **roads, electricity, and tap water has reached every village** in Bihar. Government initiatives have focused on enhancing the quality of life through affordable **housing, sanitation, clean drinking water, healthcare, and food security**.

The Central government, making Bihar a key priority, increased its financial assistance from **2.8 lakh crore during 2004–14** to **₹9.23 lakh crore during 2014–24**, enabling large-scale development projects across sectors. Taking this development further, the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi laid foundation stone and inaugurated development works worth **over Rs 7,000 Crore in Motihari, Bihar on 18 July, 2025**.



Bihar, once seen as a development challenge, is now emerging as a shining example of inclusive growth. This wave of infrastructure development is expected to open up new economic opportunities and support India's overall growth

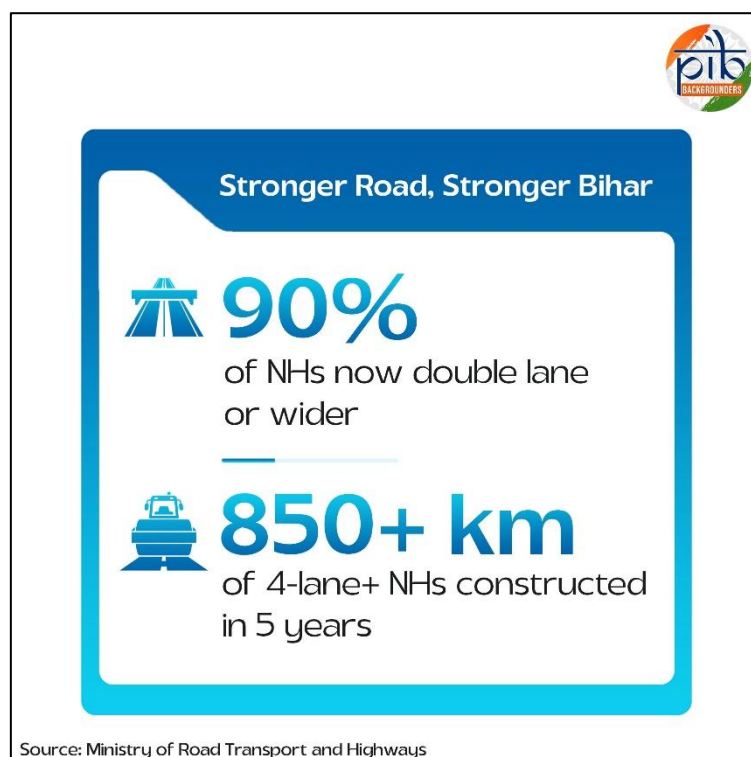
Infrastructure Development in Bihar: A Big Step Forward

Bihar has seen a major boost in infrastructure over the last 10 years, with large-scale projects in roads, railways, bridges, air travel, and energy. Projects worth **₹4 lakh crore** have been allocated for the development of **roads and bridges**, along with **₹1 lakh crore for railway infrastructure** and **₹2,000 crore for aviation-related projects**.

Road and Highway Development: Linking Economies and Communities

Bihar has made notable progress in road and highway infrastructure over the past few years. Nearly **90% of the National Highways** in the state are now double lane or wider, significantly enhancing regional

connectivity. In the last five years, **850+ km of 4-lane** and above National Highways have been constructed (excluding high-speed corridors), contributing to improved mobility, economic development, and ease of travel.



In **August 2025**, the Prime Minister inaugurated the **four-lane Bakhtiyarpur–Mokama section of NH-31**, built at a cost of around ₹1,900 crore, which will ease congestion, reduce travel time, and enhance passenger and freight movement. Additionally, the **Bikramganj–Dawath–Nawanagar–Dumraon section of NH-120** has been upgraded to a two-lane road with paved shoulders, improving rural connectivity and creating new economic opportunities for local communities.

Earlier, on **18th July 2025**, the Prime Minister laid the foundation stone for the four-laning of the Ara Bypass of **NH-319**, which connected **Ara-Mohania NH-319** and **Patna-Buxar NH-922**. The Prime Minister also inaugurated the **four-lane Parariya to Mohania section of NH-319**, built at a cost of over ₹820 crore. This section was part of NH-319, which connected **Ara Town to NH-02 (Golden Quadrilateral)** and improved freight and passenger movement.

In addition, a **2-lane road with paved shoulder** from **Sarwan to Chakai on NH-333C** was developed. This road facilitated the movement of goods and people and acted as a key link between **Bihar and Jharkhand**.

Major Road Infrastructure Projects in Bihar

1. Greenfield Patna–Arrah–Sasaram Corridor (NH-119A)

The Greenfield **Patna–Arrah–Sasaram Corridor**, covering a length of **120.10 km**, has been approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA). The project is being developed under the **Hybrid Annuity Mode (HAM)** at an estimated cost of **₹3,712.4 crore**. This corridor aims to reduce traffic congestion on several state highways, including **SH-2, SH-12, SH-81,**

and SH-102. It will also integrate with major national highways such as NH-19, NH-319, NH-922, NH-131G, and NH-120.

The project will enhance connectivity by **linking two airports, four railway stations, and the Inland Water Terminal at Patna**. It is expected to generate approximately **48 lakh person-days of employment** and significantly improve the movement of goods and passengers.

2. Other High-Value Road Infrastructure Projects

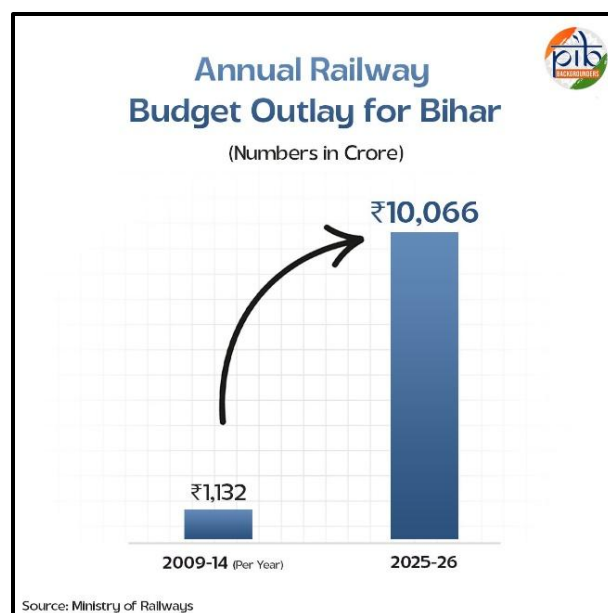
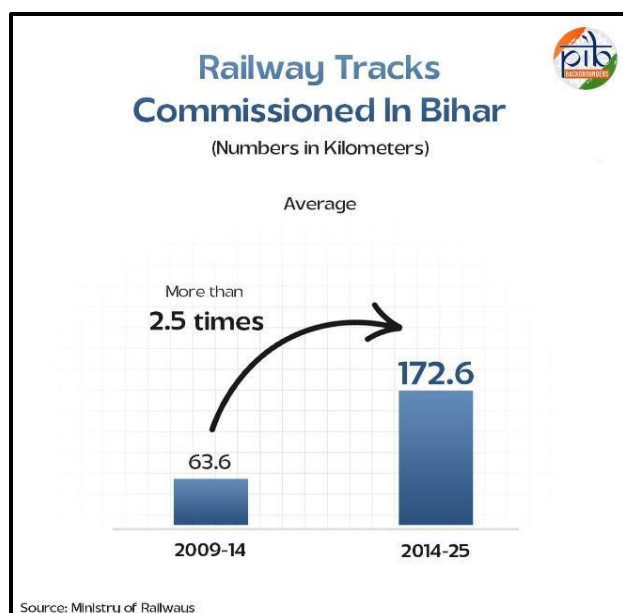
Several major road projects have been launched to strengthen Bihar's transport infrastructure:

- The four-laning of the **Patna–Gaya–Dobhi** section of **NH-22** has been completed at a cost of ₹5,520 crore.
- Work is also underway for the four-laning of **NH-119A** and the six-laning of **NH-319B** and **NH-119D**.
- A new bridge is being constructed over the Ganga River between **Buxar** and **Bharauli** to enhance cross-river connectivity.

These initiatives reflect the state's strong commitment to building next-generation infrastructure that not only connects towns and villages but also **connects people to opportunities, markets, and services**. With each new project, Bihar moves a step closer to becoming a logistics and connectivity hub in Eastern India.

Railways in Bihar: Growing Faster Than Ever

Indian Railways has made remarkable progress in Bihar, significantly improving connectivity and capacity. From **2014–25**, an **average of 172.6 km** of new railway tracks falling fully or partly in Bihar were commissioned, **2.5 times** more than the **63.6 km** built between **2009 and 2014**. In 2023–24 alone, 361 km of new railway tracks were commissioned in Bihar. The annual railway budget outlay for Bihar has seen a



nearly ninefold increase, rising from **₹1,132 crore per year during 2009–2014 to ₹10,066 crore in 2025–26.**

To enhance passenger convenience, **115 new trains** have been introduced since 2014, and additional stoppages have been provided to over **300 pairs** of trains. Bihar also saw the launch of the **first-ever farmers' train** to support agricultural transport. These efforts reflect the government's strong focus on modernising Bihar's rail infrastructure and ensuring greater connectivity across urban and rural regions.

This transformation on the ground is most visible in the expansion of Bihar's railway infrastructure. From new lines and electrification to doubling and modern bridges, several key projects have been completed across the state, significantly improving connectivity and boosting economic potential. Some of the most impactful projects completed in recent years, either fully or partially within Bihar, are listed below:

Sl No	Project	Cost (in ₹ Cr)
1	Araria-Galgolia New Line (111 Km)	4,415
2	Patna Bridge (40 Km)	3,555
3	Munger Bridge (19 km)	2,774
4	Sakri-Laukaha Bazar-Nirmali & Saharsa-Forbesganj Gauge Conversion (206 Km)	2,113
5	Rampurhat-Mandarhill New Line and Rampurhat-Murari-3rd line (160 km)	1,500
6	Kiul-Gaya Doubling (123 km)	1,200
7	Jayanagar-Darbhanga-Narkatiaganj and Narkatiaganj-Bhikhna Tori Gauge Conversion (295 Km)	1,193
8	Hajipur-Bachwara Doubling (72 km)	930
9	Kosi Bridge (22 Km)	516
10	Bakhtiyarpur Flyover (4 Km)	402
11	Valmikinagar-Sugauli-Muzaffarpur and Sugauli-Raxaul Railway Electrification (240 km)	351
12	Katareah-Kursela Patch Doubling incl. bridge on river Kosi (7 km)	222
13	Karota Patner-Mankatha - Surface triangle (8 km)	129
14	Kiul-Tilaiya Railway Electrification (87 kms)	105

Ongoing and Upcoming Rail Projects

Bihar's rail infrastructure is witnessing rapid transformation through multi-tracking, new lines, and modern trains. The state is emerging as a major rail hub, improving regional connectivity, easing congestion, and enhancing passenger convenience.

The following are some of the significant projects undertaken, falling wholly or partially within Bihar:

No.	Project	Cost (In Crores of Rs)
1	Sonnagar – Patratu multitracking (291 Km)	5148
2	Pirpainti-Jasidih New Line (97 Km)	2140
3	Neora-Daniawan–Biharsharif - Barbigah-Shekhpora New Line (166 Km)	2200

4	Vikramshila-Katareah New Line with Bridge over River Ganga (26 Km)	2090
5	Hajipur-Sagauli New Line (151 Km)	2087
6	Koderma-Tilaiya New Line (65 Km)	1626
7	Araria-Supaul New Line (96 Km)	1605
8	Khagaria-Kusheshwarsthan New Line (42 Km)	1511
9	Muzaffarpur-Sagauli Doubling (101 Km)	1465
10	Rampur Dumra - Tal-Rajendra Pul-Additional bridge and doubling (14 Km)	1677
11	Sagauli-Valmikinagar Doubling (110 Km)	1280
12	Sakri-Hasanpur New Line (76 Km)	735
13	Samastipur – Darbhanga Doubling (38 Km)	624
14	Sitamarhi-Sheohar New Line (28 Km)	567
15	Barauni- Bachwara 3rd & 4th line (32 Km)	124

Amrit Bharat Station Scheme: Transforming Passenger Experience

Under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme, 1,337 railway stations across the country have been selected for redevelopment, including **98 stations in Bihar**. The state has seen steady progress under the scheme, with **Phase-I works completed at Pirpainti and Thawe stations**. Redevelopment activities are also underway at key locations such as **Saharsa, Salauna, Luckeesarai, Gaya, and Muzaffarpur**, aiming to enhance passenger amenities and modernise station infrastructure.

The **Ministry of Railways** has launched the **Amrit Bharat Station Scheme** to redevelop railway stations with a long-term, phased approach. The scheme aims to enhance passenger amenities such as improved access, circulating areas, waiting halls, toilets, lifts/escalators, platform surfacing, cleanliness, free Wi-Fi, kiosks for local products (One Station One Product), modern information systems, executive lounges, and Divyangjan-friendly facilities. It also focuses on integrating stations with city infrastructure, promoting sustainability, and transforming stations into future city centres.

Modern Rail Services Transforming Bihar

In addition to infrastructure upgrades, Bihar is also witnessing a significant boost in premium train services. On **22nd August 2025**, the Prime Minister **flagged off two important train services**. Amrit Bharat Express between Gaya and Delhi, which will improve passenger convenience with modern facilities, comfort, and safety. And Buddhist Circuit Train between Vaishali and Koderma which will give a boost to tourism and religious travel across key Buddhist sites in the region.

Out of the **144 Vande Bharat Express services** currently operational across India, **20 services** on an originating or terminating basis are catering to stations in Bihar. The state is also connected through the **Namo Bharat Rapid Rail**, with **2 out of 4** operational services catering to Bihar. These developments mark a major step forward in **providing fast, modern, and comfortable** rail travel for the people of Bihar.

Railways Support Festive Travel and Boost Spiritual Connectivity

Indian Railways is playing a key role in managing festive travel during Durga Puja, Diwali, and Chhath. Indian Railways has announced that **over 12,000** special trains will operate for Diwali and Chhath during

the current year. To ensure hassle-free return travel, specific measures are being put in place. Additionally, passengers travelling onward between October 13 and 26 and returning between November 17 and December 1 will be eligible for a **20% discount** on return tickets, a move expected to benefit a large number of festive-season travellers.

Last year, between October 1 and November 5, 4,521 special trains carried 65 lakh passengers. Chhath, especially important in Bihar, saw an average of 175 special trains per day before the festival and over 160 during the return rush, mainly through Samastipur and Danapur divisions. In total, 6.85 crore passengers travelled to Bihar, Eastern UP, and Jharkhand, highlighting the Railways' crucial support during the festive season.

During his visit to Bihar on 18th July 2025, the Prime Minister also announced the development of a new railway line from Sitamarhi to Ayodhya, which will enable devotees from **Champanan to travel to Ayodhya** for darshan, further boosting spiritual connectivity in the region.

Air Connectivity: Expanding Bihar's Skies

Patna Airport handled **3 crore passengers, 83,000 tonnes of freight**, and recorded **24,026 aircraft movements annually** during 2014–2024. This highlights a shift toward **modern, efficient, and inclusive infrastructure** in the state.

- A new terminal at Patna Airport has been inaugurated, with the capacity to handle up to **10 million passengers annually**.
- **Darbhanga Airport** is now operational, providing direct air connectivity to major cities such as **Delhi, Mumbai, and Bengaluru**.
- **Bihta Airport** is currently under construction, with an investment of **₹1,400 crore**, aimed at decongesting Patna Airport and enhancing regional air infrastructure.

Power and Energy Sector: Ensuring Reliable and Sustainable Supply

The Prime Minister also inaugurated the **Buxar Thermal Power Plant (660x1 MW) in August 2025**, built at a cost of around **₹6,880 crore**. The project will enhance Bihar's power generation capacity, strengthen energy security, and help meet the rising electricity demand in the region. These developments form part of the state's broader efforts to expand conventional energy capacity while promoting a gradual shift towards cleaner, renewable sources for long-term sustainability.

Other projects in the state includes:

1. **Thermal Power Expansion- Nabinagar Super Thermal Power Project, Stage-II (3x800 MW)** in Aurangabad with ₹29,930 crore investment is underway.. This will generate **1,500 MW**, supporting Bihar's and eastern India's power needs.
2. **Renewable Energy Push**

- A **solar park in Kajra** and **PM-KUSUM initiatives** are facilitating solar-based agricultural power.
- Introduction of **renewable agriculture feeders** ensures better farm productivity and sustainable power access.

Vision for the Future: A Developed Bihar for a Developed India



Prime Minister Narendra Modi envisions Bihar as a vibrant hub of modern infrastructure and inclusive growth. The state undergoing transformation through integrated development across key sectors such as power, road, rail, and air transport. This vision is backed by targeted welfare schemes like **PM-KUSUM**, **PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi**, the establishment of the **Makhana Board**, and the creation of food processing institutes, all aimed at empowering farmers and local communities. There is a strong emphasis on rural development, employment generation, and increasing farmers' income, in line with the broader vision of making Bihar a key pillar in the journey towards a developed India.

Over the past 11 years, more than **4 crore houses** have been constructed under the **PM Awas Yojana** across the country, including **nearly 60 lakhs in Bihar**. In **Motihari district**, around **3 lakh families** have received pucca houses. On a single day, **over 12,000 families** in the region received the keys to their new homes, reflecting effective implementation of welfare

Government Vision - 2030 For the State



GSDP Growth

Promotion of Agribusiness through upgraded technology, financial incentives and infrastructure development.



Health

Build medical institutions, create awareness and bring technological advancements



Education

Achieve zero dropout rate and increase spending on building schools and colleges to upgrade the infrastructure.



Tourism

Promote educational, cultural and religious tourism. Knowledge and religious hubs to be built and is expected to attract 100,000 tourists per year.

Source: IBEF

schemes on the ground.

Government's vision for Bihar reflected in Union Budget 2025–26

- **Makhana Board**
Establishment of Makhana Board was announced to improve production, processing, value addition, and marketing of Makhana. This will help in organizing people involved in these activities

into Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs). The board will provide training, handholding support, and help ensure access to relevant government schemes.

- **Support for Food Processing**

Setting up of a National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship and Management in Bihar to strengthen food processing activities in the Eastern region. It will help farmers earn more through value addition and provide skilling, entrepreneurship, and employment opportunities for youth.

- **Expansion of Capacity in IIT Patna**

Infrastructure, including hostels, at IIT Patna is being expanded. Across India, the total number of students in IITs increased from **65,000 to 1.35 lakh in the last 10 years**. Additional facilities in five IITs established after **2014 will support 6,500 more** students.

- **Western Koshi Canal Project (Mithilanchal)**

Financial support is being provided for the Western Koshi Canal ERM Project, benefiting farmers cultivating over **50,000 hectares** of land in the Mithilanchal region.

Major Announcements for Bihar in Union Budget 2024–25

1. Purvodaya

The Government announced formulation of a plan '**Purvodaya**' for the development of eastern states, including Bihar. It focuses on infrastructure, human resource development and economic opportunities to make the region a growth engine for *Viksit Bharat*.

2. Gaya Industrial Node

An industrial node at Gaya was announced under the Amritsar–Kolkata Industrial Corridor. It will promote industry in Bihar and link cultural heritage with modern economy, reflecting the vision of "*Vikas bhi, Virasat bhi*".

3. Religious and Cultural Development

- A comprehensive plan for Rajgir announced to develop it as a major religious and tourist centre.
- The Vishnupad Temple Corridor and Mahabodhi Temple Corridor in Gaya to be developed on the model of the Kashi Vishwanath Corridor.
- Nalanda to be promoted as a tourist hub, and Nalanda University to be revived to its ancient stature.

Conclusion

Bihar's infrastructure transformation reflects a decisive push toward **connectivity, sustainability, and inclusive growth**. With landmark projects in rail, road, energy, and aviation, Bihar is poised to emerge as a growth engine not just for the East, but for the entire nation. These initiatives are expected to yield multiplier effects across **economic, social, and environmental** parameters, ushering in a new era of prosperity and growth.

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