



New Tourism Policy | Bihar | 28 Dec 2023

Why in News?

Recently, the **Bihar cabinet approved the Bihar Tourism Policy 2023** to attract more investment in the [tourism sector](#).

Key points

- The policy **aims to develop fundamental infrastructure near tourist destinations** in the state and also includes provisions for stakeholders.
- **The new policy contains several financial incentives for investors. These include:**
 - Capital subsidy of 30% for investments up to Rs 10 crore.
 - 25% for investments up to Rs 50 crore.
 - 25% for investments exceeding Rs 50 crore, with a maximum limit of Rs 25 crore.
 - 100% reimbursement of [land conversion fee, stamp duty and registration fee](#).
 - 80% reimbursement of [Goods and Services Tax \(GST\)](#) on commercial operation for up to 5 years.
 - 100% reimbursement of electricity tariff for new tourism units for 5 years.
 - Hoteliers and tour operators will get a 5% reimbursement of the monthly remuneration paid to tourist guides. The maximum monthly limit for this will be Rs 5000 per guide for up to 2 years.
 - incentives for green certification, MICE (meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions) promotions, are also included in the policy.
- 50% of the subsidy will be paid at the commencement of commercial operation, 25% after 2 years, and 25% after 5 years.
- A sum of Rs 62 crore is also sanctioned for the construction of an alternative approach path with sheds and a bus depot near **Vishnupad Temple in Gaya**.

Famous Tourist Places in Bihar: [Mahabodhi Temple Complex in Bodhgaya](#), Vishwa Shanti Stupa in Rajgir, Nalanda, Ancient city of Patliputra, [Valmiki Nagar Tiger Reserve](#) in the West Champaran, etc.,

Approval of Infrastructure Projects | Bihar | 28 Dec 2023

Why in News?

Recently, the Union Cabinet **approved the infrastructure projects in Bihar and the North-East worth over Rs.5,500 crore.**

- Projects worth Rs.2,486.78 crore for improvement and widening of the 135-km stretch of the **national highway from Khowai to Harina in Tripura are also approved** by the Cabinet

Note

The CCEA **also approved the [Minimum Support Price \(MSP\)](#) for copra for 2024.**

Key Points

- A **4.56 km-long six-lane bridge** over the Ganga connecting Digha and Sonepur in Bihar was approved by the cabinet.
 - Digha, in Patna district, and Sonepur, in Saran district, are **currently connected by a rail-cum-road bridge** that can be used by light vehicles only.
- According to the Information and Broadcasting Minister, the **new bridge would connect north and south Bihar**, and would allow transport by heavy vehicles.
- The project, which will take 42 months to complete, **would also improve connectivity for sites of Buddhist pilgrimage like Vaishali.**

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