



New Airport Approved in Bihar | Bihar | 21 Feb 2025

Why in News?

Recently, approval has been given by [the Airports Authority of India \(AAI\)](#) for the construction of a **new airport at Bihta, Bihar**.

Key Points

- **About Bihta Airport:**
 - It will be constructed **at a cost of approximately Rs 459 crore**.
 - The work of **construction of the airport has been assigned to a Russian company**.
 - The target has been **set to complete this airport by the year 2026**.
 - The Bihar government has allotted about 108 acres of land for the construction of the airport.
 - Along with this, **Danapur-Bihta elevated corridor** is being constructed at a cost of about Rs 2000 crore, which is likely to be completed by the year 2026.
- **Benefits:**
 - This airport will be **connected to Patna city** and will also become a **new air traffic hub** for the entire Bihar and surrounding areas.
 - This will **enhance air connectivity** between major cities, driving growth in business and **tourism**.
 - The airport's construction will **boost local employment**, enhance passenger facilities, and **make travel more affordable**.

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Airports Authority of India (AAI)

- AAI is a **statutory body**, constituted by an **Act of Parliament on April 1, 1995**.
- Its **headquarters is in New Delhi**.
- This authority **constructs, upgrades, maintains and manages civil aviation infrastructure** both on ground and in airspace.
- At present, the AAI manages **137 airports, including 23 international airports, 10 customs airports, 81 domestic airports and 23 domestic civil enclaves** in defence airfields.
- It also **provides air navigation services and operates a training institute** for aviation.

professionals.

Buddhist Festival 2025 | Bihar | 21 Feb 2025

Why in News?

A three- day **Buddhist Festival 2025** was organized at the Kalachakra Ground in **Gaya district of Bihar** .

Key Points

- **About the Festival:**
 - A glimpse of **spiritual , cultural and tourism activities** was seen in this Buddhist festival
 - Apart from local artists, **artists from 6 countries including Indonesia , Laos and Japan participated in it .**
 - A **Buddhist film festival** was also organized. For this, big filmmakers , writers etc. from many countries were invited.
 - This film festival and arts festival was organised at **Mahabodhi Convention Centre** .

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Buddhist Festival

- Buddhist Festival is an **annual cultural and spiritual event** , celebrated mainly in Bodh Gaya, Bihar .
- This festival celebrates the teachings of **Lord Gautam Buddha** , Buddhism and its rich cultural heritage.
- The Buddhist Festival was **first organised in the year 1998** .
 - **Bodhgaya** is the place where **Lord Buddha attained enlightenment (Bodhi)** , hence this place is very sacred for the followers of Buddhism.
- This festival promotes the basic principles of Buddhism like **non-violence , compassion , peace and meditation** .
- Thousands of devotees and tourists from India as well as Sri Lanka , Nepal , Bhutan , Japan , China , Thailand , Myanmar and other countries participate in it.

