



Chanakya National Law University, Patna
Kautilya Society, CNLU

LEGISLATIVE REPORTING ^{of} Bihar State Assembly

Budget & Monsoon Sessions, 2025

by Kautilya Society, CNLU



ABOUT CNLU

Chanakya National Law University (CNLU) is a premier public law university located in Patna, Bihar. Established in 2006 by the Government of Bihar, CNLU is dedicated to the field of legal education and is recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the Bar Council of India (BCI).

The university is situated on an 18-acre residential campus and offers five-year integrated B.A., LL.B. (Hons.) and B.B.A., LL.B. (Hons.) programs. Admission to these undergraduate courses is conducted through the highly competitive Common Law Admission Test (CLAT). Additionally, CNLU provides a one-year postgraduate LL.M. program, doctoral research programs, and 3 year LLB. The Chief Justice of the Patna High Court serves as the ex officio Chancellor of the university. CNLU is committed to fostering a robust academic environment with a focus on legal research, moot court competitions, and various co-curricular activities to ensure the holistic development of its students.

ABOUT KAUTILYA SOCIETY

The Kautilya Society, is a student-driven initiative conceptualised by Vidhi Centre for legal policy which functions in collaboration with Legal Aid Cell, CNLU fostering legal research, policy debates, and leadership development. It bridges academia and real-world governance challenges, empowering future lawyers to engage with contemporary legal reforms and strategic policymaking.

FOREWORDS

We are pleased to present the inaugural edition of the **Legislative Policy Newsletter**, an initiative of the Kautilya Society at Chanakya National Law University. This publication reflects the intellectual energy of our campus and our mission to foster informed discourse on law, governance, and public policy.

Policy shapes how societies allocate resources, secure justice, and respond to global challenges such as climate change, digital transformation, and social equity. It is the bridge between ideals and action, governance and citizenship. The work of our students and scholars gains special relevance in this context, connecting rigorous legal analysis with urgent contemporary issues.

The Legislative Policy Newsletter offers clarity on legislative debates, highlights the analytical strength of our students, and affirms CNLU's commitment to thought leadership. It is both a platform for dialogue and a statement of purpose, underscoring the University's role as a hub for scholarship, critical inquiry, and democratic engagement.

I congratulate the **Kautilya Society** for this achievement and am confident that the Newsletter will grow into a valued forum for policy reflection and legal innovation.



PROF. (DR.) FAIZAN MUSTAFA

Vice Chancellor

Chanakya National Law University

"CNLU: Shaping Law, Shaping Futures."

FOREWORDS

The launch of the Legislative Policy Newsletter by the Kautilya Society at CNLU marks an important step in linking law, governance, and public policy with lived realities. This initiative offers students a platform to engage with pressing policy debates, to question, reflect, and propose, turning ideas into solutions and scholarship into social contribution.

Public policy shapes our daily lives, from infrastructure and digital tools to food safety and crisis response. Each choice reflects constitutional values and competing priorities. By examining these choices with rigor and sensitivity, young scholars can illuminate pathways toward more just, inclusive, and effective governance.



The Legislative Policy Newsletter is both a platform and a promise: a platform for clear, independent analysis, and a promise that student voices will contribute to India's evolving law and policy landscape. Though modest in its beginnings, it has the potential to grow into a lasting forum of scholarship and dialogue.

I congratulate the members of the Kautilya Society for their dedication in bringing this vision to life and look forward to seeing this initiative become a recognised contribution to policy scholarship in the years ahead.

DR. NANDITA S. JHA

Faculty Coordinator

Kautilya Society

Chanakya National Law University



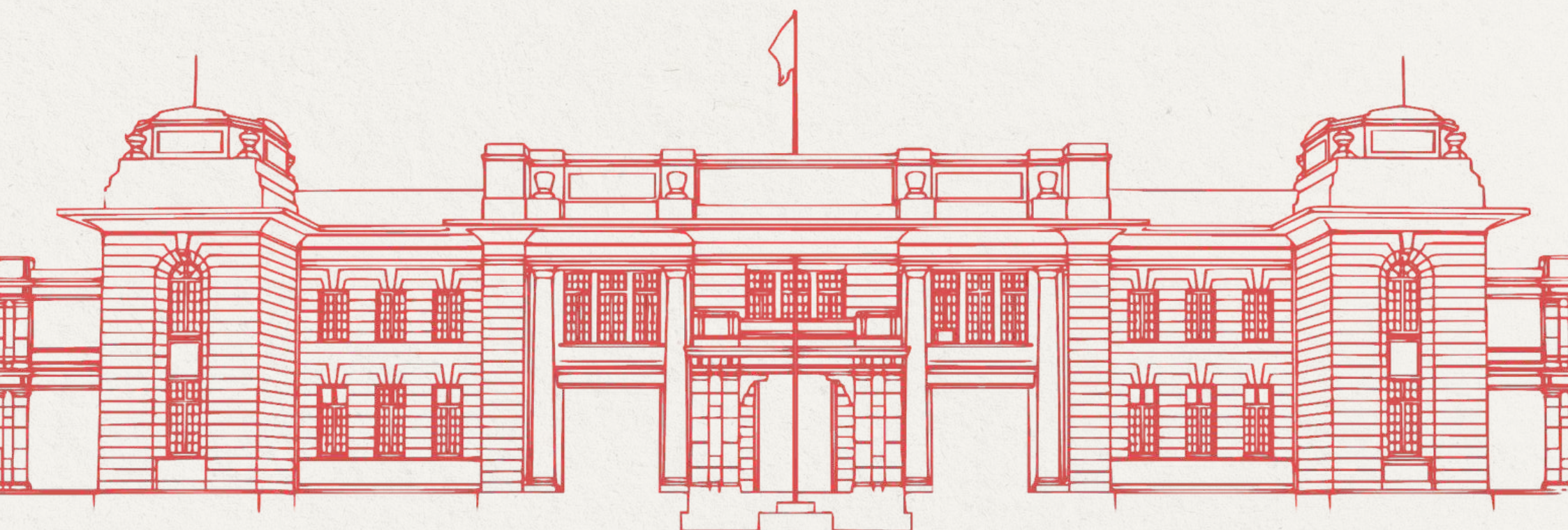
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BUDGET SESSION

Report on the Proceedings of the Bihar Legislative Assembly

Bihar's Finance Minister Samrat Chaudhary, presented the government's 2025-26 budget on 3rd May, 2025 in the state assembly. Out of the total of Rs 3.17 lakh crore budget, total revenue expenditure is estimated at Rs 2.52 lakh crore (79.52% of total expenditure).[1]

Highest provision of Rs. 60,974 crores allocated to Education dept., Rs 20,335 crores to the health sector, Rs 17,908 crores to Road Infrastructure, Rs 17,831 crores to the home dept., Rs 16,043 crores in rural development, Rs 13,484 crores to the energy dept, and Rs. 13,000 crores to the social welfare for targeted support (including SC, ST, Minorities, OBCs, EBCs), Rs 4,012 crore and Rs 2,160 crore to the Panchayati raj and Urban bodies respectively.

Initiatives in Agricultural sector in Bihar:

- Procurement of pulses (Arhar Dal, Urad dal) at Minimum Support Price (MSP).
- Establishment of cold storage facilities across the state.
- Settling up government facility outlets in every block.
- Adopting new market strategies to promote agricultural products.
- Formation of vegetable production committees in all blocks.
- Establishment of a Makhana Board (fox nut production) through Union Budget Support (trading support for farmers)[2]
- National Food Tech Institute to be set up, also in Bihar (improving food processing activities in the entire eastern region of Bihar.)

Women-centric Initiatives:

- Construction of 'Kanya Vivah Mandap' for performing marriages of underprivileged girls.

[1] KKN Gurugram Desk, 'Bihar Budget 2025: Major Announcements, Financial Allocations, and Government's Development Plans' (3 March 2025) <<https://kknlive.com/en/bihar-news/bihar-budget-2025-major-announcements-financial/>> accessed 11 September 2025.

[2] 'Budget 2025: Big Winner Bihar & Its Political Impact Explored' <<https://www.businesstoday.in/union-budget/video/budget-2025-big-winner-bihar-its-political-impact-explored-463082-2025-02-01>> accessed 11 September 2025.

BUDGET SESSION

Report on the Proceedings of the Bihar Legislative Assembly

- Opening of Mahila Haats (special shopping spaces for women) in Patna.
- Construction of pink toilets for women in urban areas.
- Launch of pink bus services, including female drivers and conductors in all major cities of the State.
- Safe hostel accommodation facilities for working women in Bihar.
- 33% reservation for women in the Bihar State Road Transport Corporation.

Education sector:

- Increase in scholarship amount for students from backward classes and extremely backward classes through different schemes from Rs 1000 to 2000 each month.[3]
- Continuation of schemes like Bihar Student Credit Card Yojana (loans up to Rs 4 lakhs after 12th, for higher studies).

Health Sector:

- Est. of a cancer hospital in Begusarai district, in addition to the est.. of a Bihar Cancer Society.
- 108 new urban medical centers to be opened.[4]

Infrastructure:

- Start of Purnia Airport construction; instructions to complete the work by August. [5]

[3] 'Bihar Govt. Tables Budget of ₹3.17 Lakh Crore for the Year 2025-26 - The Hindu' <<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/bihar/bihar-govt-tables-317-lakh-crore-budget-in-assembly/article69285335.ece>> accessed 11 September 2025.

[4] 'Govt Announces New Cancer Hospital in Begu, Health Centres for Urban Poor | Patna News - The Times of India' <<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/patna/govt-announces-new-cancer-hospital-in-begu-health-centres-for-urban-poor/articleshow/118686217.cms>> accessed 11 September 2025.

[5] 'New Airport in Bihar's Purnia Set to Open on August 15, Preparations Underway | Bihar News – India TV' <<https://www.indiatvnews.com/bihar/news-new-airport-in-bihar-s-purnia-set-to-open-on-august-15-preparations-in-full-swing-for-flight-operations-2025-07-21-999817>> accessed 11 September 2025.

BUDGET SESSION

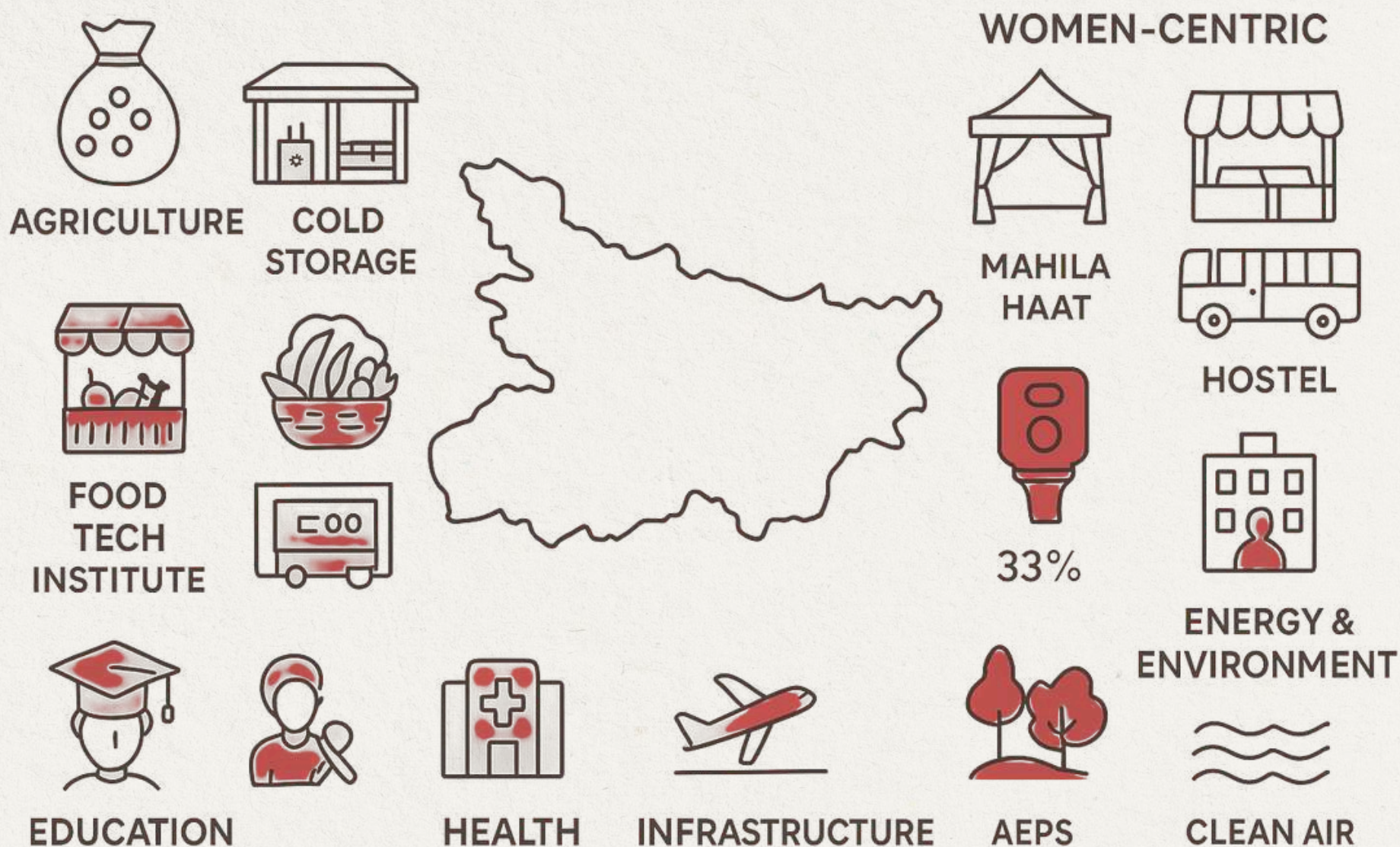
Report on the Proceedings of the Bihar Legislative Assembly

- Construction of 8 new airports, including Rajgir, Sultanganj, Raxaul, and Madhubani, will be built.

Energy and Environment:

- Investment of Rs 100 crore for improving air quality.
- Solar Plants will be installed at a cost of Rs 25 crore.
- Rs 100 crore for green initiatives.

BIHAR'S KEY INITIATIVES



BUDGET SESSION

Important Debates of the Budget Session

On 3 March 2025, the Bihar Legislative Assembly met during the Budget Session for the presentation of the Economic Survey 2024-25 and the subsequent Budget Estimates. The Finance Minister, Samrat Choudhary, laid out Bihar's fiscal position, emphasizing that despite limited resources, the government had adhered to fiscal discipline, kept the deficit within FRBM limits, and directed major allocations towards education, health, infrastructure, and women centric schemes. Opposition members immediately questioned the credibility of the survey figures, pointing out that unemployment remained high, agricultural incomes had stagnated, and large amounts of central funds had either lapsed or gone unutilized. They pressed the government to explain why benefits such as welfare pensions and student scholarships under the Kanya Utthan Yojana were delayed and why lists of eligible beneficiaries were incomplete.

In response, the Finance Minister reiterated that Bihar had pioneered the special pension scheme for families of employees who died during COVID-19 duty, and that 59 cases had already been cleared with departmental verification in process for others. He stressed that fiscal health indicators particularly debt to GSDP were improving, and that the government was committed to long-term social investments. At this stage, several Opposition MLAs raised law-and-order issues, arguing that allocations were meaningless if governance was weak, citing lapses in health departments where frontline doctors and staff had died in service but their families had not received benefits. They demanded accountability and questioned why departmental lists were delayed. The Treasury benches replied that verification was underway and insisted that no family would be denied their entitlement once proper documentation was furnished.

Chief Minister Nitish Kumar intervened to defend the government's record, noting that Bihar had introduced innovative schemes later emulated by other states, and that investments in education, women's empowerment, and infrastructure were designed to raise long-term growth. He criticized the Opposition for obstructing proceedings with repeated interruptions rather than contributing constructively to the debate. The day's exchanges reflected a sharp divide: while the government focused on fiscal prudence and the promise of human-capital development, the Opposition pressed hard on implementation gaps,

BUDGET SESSION

Important Debates of the Budget Session

delayed payments, and governance failures in law-and-order and welfare delivery.[1]

On 6 March 2025, the Assembly moved from the Governor's Address debates to the first detailed discussions on the Annual Budget 2025–26. Opposition members opened with sharp criticisms, arguing that the Budget lacked vision for employment and farmer welfare. RJD legislators highlighted that (no new opportunities for employment have been created; the youth are roaming jobless). They also pointed out failures in implementing existing welfare programmes, with repeated references to Mukhyamantri Kanya Utthan Yojana, delayed pension disbursements, and lapses in health sector recruitment.[2]

The Finance Minister, Samrat Choudhary, defended the government's fiscal planning, stating, (the government has always maintained fiscal discipline, and this time the deficit is only 2.98%, which is within FRBM limits). He emphasized that allocations to education, women's empowerment, and health were the highest ever, noting special attention to school infrastructure and maternal health schemes. Choudhary stressed that Bihar was one of the first states to institutionalize COVID duty pension schemes, reminding the House that *“jo karmchārī COVID se duty ke dauraan shaheed hue unke parivār ko viśesh parivārik pension dene kā faisla yahi sarkār ne kiyā thā.”*

Opposition leaders, however, argued that many families of frontline health workers had still not received benefits. One MLA asked pointedly: (Why has the Health Department not yet prepared the list of doctors and nurses who died during duty?). The Finance Minister replied that 59 cases had already been verified and approved, while others awaited departmental documentation.

[1] Bihar Legislative Assembly, Seventeenth Assembly, Fourteenth session, Daily Bulletin, 3 March 2025, https://vidhansabha.bihar.gov.in/pdf/Question/bulletin/17th_14th/03.03.2025.pdf.

[2] Bihar Legislative Assembly, Seventeenth Assembly, Fourteenth session, Daily Bulletin, 6 March 2025, https://vidhansabha.bihar.gov.in/pdf/Question/bulletin/17th_14th/06.03.2025.pdf.

BUDGET SESSION

Important Debates of the Budget Session

On 10 March 2025, the Bihar Legislative Assembly resumed discussions on the Budget demands, with the Opposition intensifying its attack on the government's policies. Several RJD and Congress members accused the Treasury benches of neglecting employment and rural distress. One Opposition MLA declared, (This Budget exists only on paper; on the ground, its impact is zero). Others highlighted how funds allocated in previous years for schemes such as the Bihar Student Credit Card Yojana and the Kanya Utthan Yojana were either underutilized or delayed, leading to disillusionment among the youth.[3]

The debate also focused heavily on education and healthcare. Members questioned why teacher vacancies remained unfilled despite repeated announcements, with one MLA asking, (Why are advertisements for teacher recruitment not being released when every school is short of staff?). The Treasury benches responded that a recruitment calendar had already been approved and that appointments would be made in a phased manner. On healthcare, Opposition leaders pointed to the shortage of doctors in rural hospitals, claiming that announcements made in last year's budget had not been implemented. Finance Minister Samrat Choudhary defended the allocations, reiterating that the government has made historic provisions this time for education and health. He cited increased budget lines for government medical colleges and anganwadi centres, and assured that the scholarship pipeline for girls would be cleared before the next financial quarter. He reminded the House that fiscal deficit targets remained intact at 2.98% of GSDP, which he described as evidence of strong fiscal management.

On 17 March 2025, the Assembly reconvened for departmental debates on the Budget demands, with the focus shifting to Agriculture, Rural Development, and generation schemes. Opposition MLAs opened with sharp criticisms, arguing that Bihar's farmers had been left unsupported despite promises. One RJD member declared, (For farmers, this Budget is nothing but an empty announcement; they get neither seeds nor timely electricity).

[3] Bihar Legislative Assembly, Seventeenth Assembly, Fourteenth session, Daily Bulletin, 10 March 2025, https://vidhansabha.bihar.gov.in/pdf/Question/bulletin/17th_14th/10.03.2025.pdf

BUDGET SESSION

Important Debates of the Budget Session

Another legislator asked why procurement centres for paddy had not been opened in several districts, charging that middlemen were exploiting farmers.

Treasury benches defended the allocations, highlighting increases in the Chief Minister's Horticulture Mission, Krishi Input Subsidy Yojana, and programs to strengthen cold storage and rural mandis.

The Agriculture Minister stated, (This time, the agriculture department has been given 12% more allocation, which will help increase farmers' income). He argued that Bihar had steadily improved irrigation coverage and that ongoing rural electrification projects were expanding pump irrigation capacity.

The debate then turned toward rural employment and migration. Several Opposition MLAs highlighted how the Kushal Yuva Program and Skill Development Mission were underperforming, with one MLA remarking, (Youth apply for jobs, but the training centers have no facilities). Tejashwi Yadav accused the government of presenting "cosmetic figures" while lakhs of youths were migrating outside Bihar for work. He stated that unless the government created "genuine employment at the district level," migration would continue.

Chief Minister Nitish Kumar intervened to counter the narrative, asserting that employment was being generated through infrastructure works: (Roads, bridges, and electricity projects are creating both direct and indirect jobs). He emphasized that Bihar had pioneered schemes such as the Student Credit Card Yojana and that lakhs of students had benefited from it. Nitish rejected the Opposition's claim that schemes were only on paper, saying that "results are visible in villages where girls are now attending schools and households have electricity."

The day's exchanges were especially heated on the issue of farmer suicides, with the Opposition demanding a white paper on agrarian distress. The government refused, but promised to publish an updated report on subsidy disbursements and rural credit by the next quarter.

BUDGET SESSION

Important Debates of the Budget Session

The Speaker had to intervene several times as slogan-shouting escalated during Tejashwi Yadav's speech.[4]

On 24 March 2025, the Assembly entered a crucial stage of the Budget Session with the demand-for-grants debates intensifying. The Opposition benches, led by RJD and Congress, escalated their attack on the government, accusing it of manipulating figures and neglecting ground-level implementation. One RJD MLA declared, (The government is only juggling numbers, but in every village, unemployment and poverty are rising). They targeted welfare schemes such as the Kanya Utthan Yojana and Vidhwa Pension Yojana, claiming that disbursements were pending for months.[5]

Spending has been earmarked for education, health, and women's empowerment). He highlighted allocations to anganwadi centres, rural housing programs, and scholarships for girl students, arguing that Bihar's welfare architecture was steadily expanding.

The Finance Minister, Samrat Choudhary, responded by emphasizing the government's fiscal responsibility, noting (This Budget is within FRBM limits, the deficit is only 2.98%, and the highest opposition members, however, insisted that funds were not reaching intended beneficiaries.

Tejashwi Yadav accused the government of presenting a "copy-paste budget," claiming, (The schemes left incomplete last year have simply been written again this year). He also challenged the government on law and order, linking increased crime to governance failures. Heated slogans of (Give jobs, give answers) echoed from the Opposition benches.

[4] Bihar Legislative Assembly, Seventeenth Assembly, Fourteenth session, Daily Bulletin, 17 March 2025, https://vidhansabha.bihar.gov.in/pdf/Question/bulletin/17th_14th/17.03.2025.pdf

[5] Bihar Legislative Assembly, Seventeenth Assembly, Fourteenth session, Daily Bulletin, 24 March 2025, https://vidhansabha.bihar.gov.in/pdf/Question/bulletin/17th_14th/24.03.2025.pdf

BUDGET SESSION

Important Debates of the Budget Session

On 27 March 2025, the Bihar Legislative Assembly concluded its Budget Session with the passage of the Appropriation Bill, 2025, and the Bihar Finance Bill, 2025. The day's proceedings were dominated by sharp exchanges between the Treasury benches and the Opposition as final demands for grants were put to vote. Opposition MLAs repeated their charge that the Budget was a (paper budget), with Tejashwi Yadav declaring, (The government has only made promises, but their impact is not visible in villages). He accused the government of recycling old schemes such as the Kanya Utthan Yojana and Student Credit Card Yojana, arguing that beneficiaries still awaited proper disbursement.

Finance Minister Samrat Choudhary countered strongly, reiterating that (this Budget is not only within FRBM limits but is focused on inclusive development). He pointed to historic allocations in education, health, rural roads, and women's empowerment, and stressed that Bihar's fiscal deficit had been contained at 2.98% of GSDP. He described the Opposition's stance as "political posturing" in the face of clear evidence of progress.

Chief Minister Nitish Kumar also addressed the House, underlining that Bihar's governance model had consistently delivered welfare alongside infrastructure growth. He stated, (These are not just announcements, these are concrete implementations—electricity to every household, roads, and women's empowerment have been achieved). He dismissed the Opposition's repeated walkouts and slogan-shouting as attempts to avoid substantive debate.

Despite repeated disruptions, Opposition members shouted (give jobs, give accountability) and even attempted to stall the Finance Bill vote. The Speaker pressed ahead, and the Treasury benches carried both the Appropriation Bill, 2025, and the Bihar Finance Bill, 2025 by voice vote.[6]

[6] Bihar Legislative Assembly, Seventeenth Assembly, Fourteenth session, Daily Bulletin, 27 March 2025, https://vidhansabha.bihar.gov.in/pdf/Question/bulletin/17th_14th/27.03.2025.pdf

BUDGET SESSION

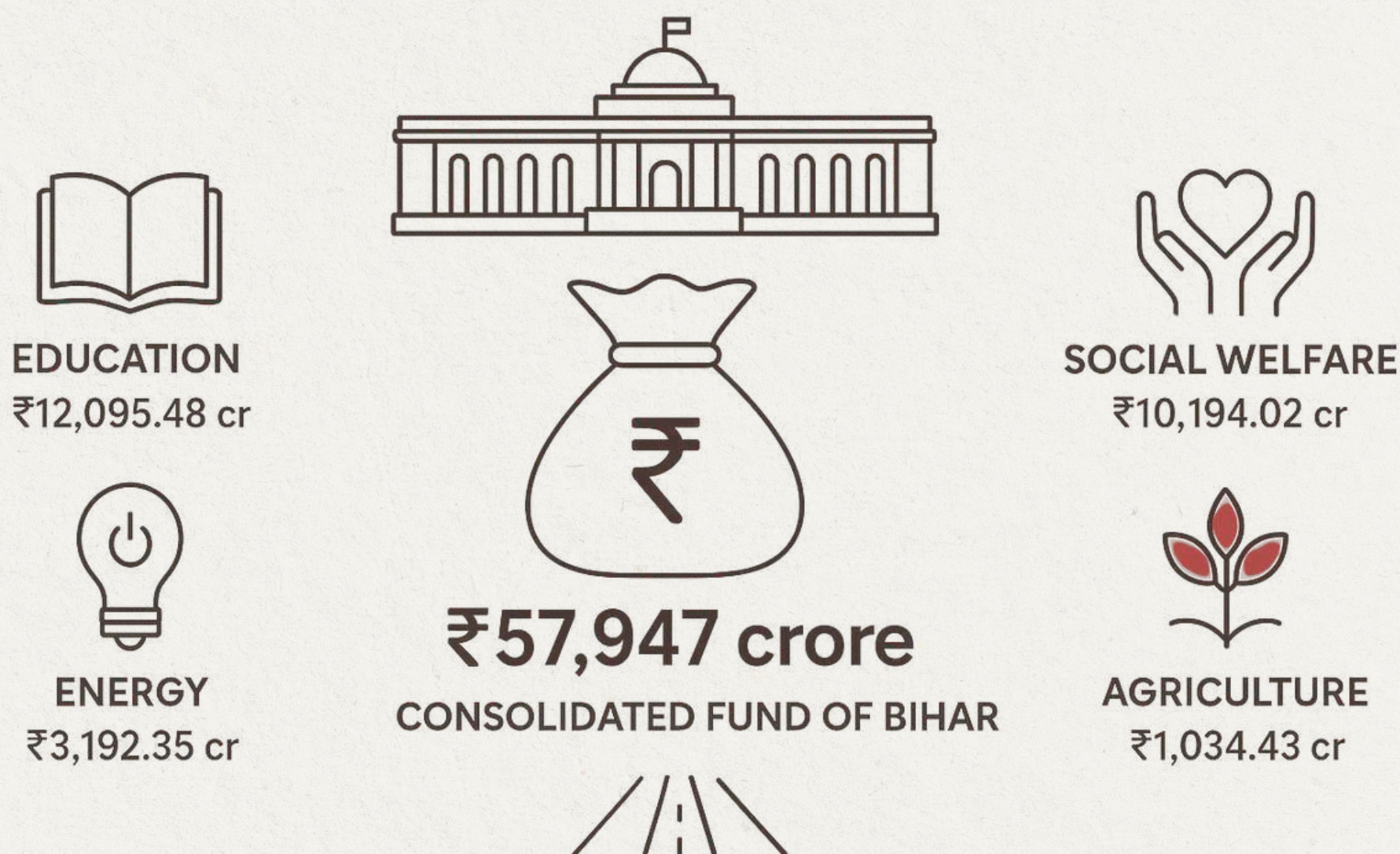
Important Debates of the Session

Appropriation Bill, 2025, and the Bihar Finance Bill, 2025

Appropriation Bill, 2025 (58,000 cr withdrawn)

The Bihar Legislative Assembly passed the Bihar Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 2025, authorizing the Nitish Kumar government to withdraw about ₹57,947 crore from the Consolidated Fund of the State for 2025–26. Passed by voice vote amid Opposition protests, the Bill enables funding for key departments, including Education (₹12,095.48 cr), Social Welfare (₹10,194.02 cr), Energy (₹3,192.35 cr), Rural Works (₹1,807.41 cr), and Agriculture (₹1,034.43 cr). Finance Minister Samrat Choudhary stressed that the allocations balance fiscal discipline with inclusive development, ensuring the state can meet its obligations and implement Budget commitments from 1 April 2025.

APPROPRIATION BILL, 2025 & BIHAR FINANCE BILL, 2025

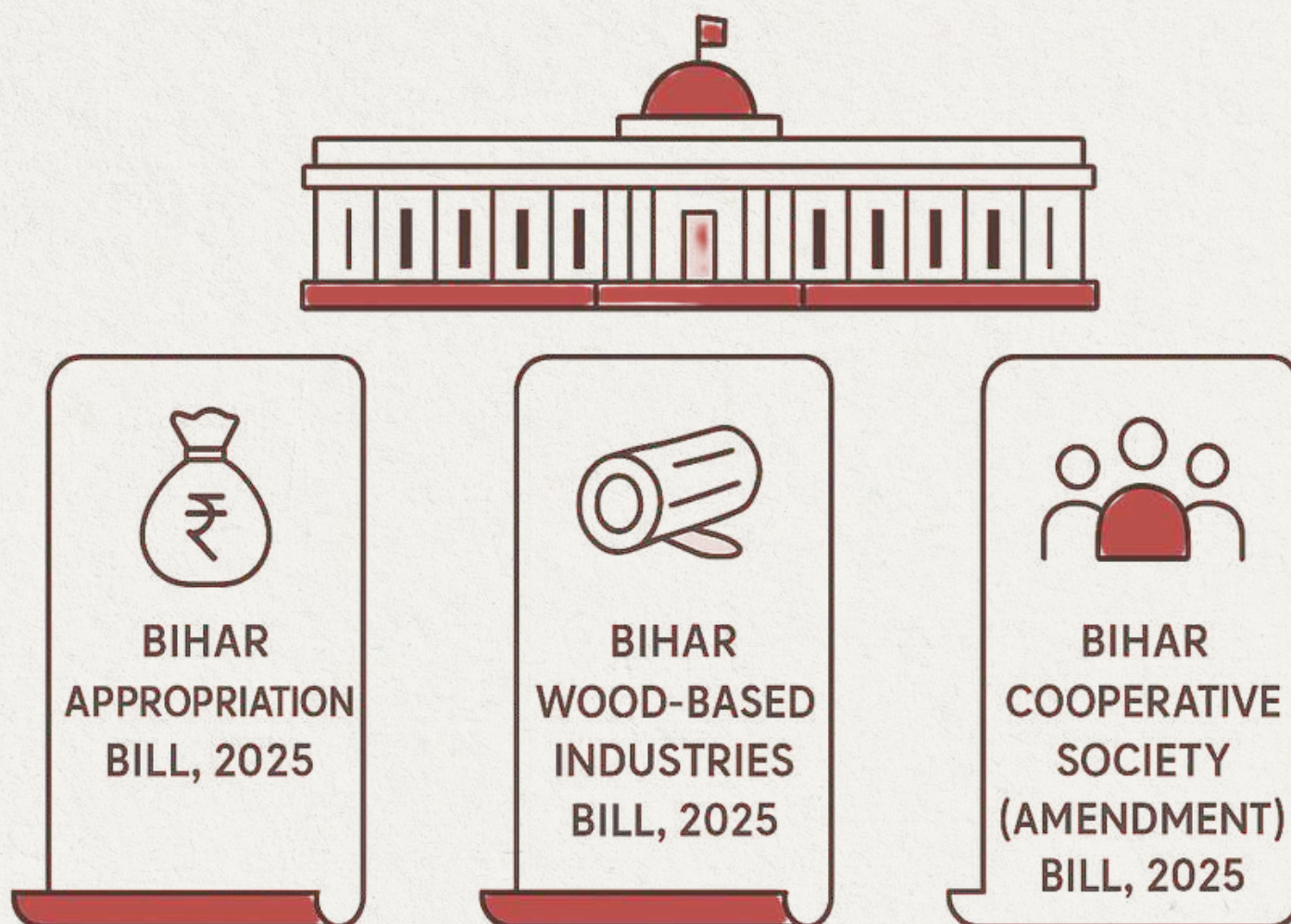


BUDGET SESSION

List of Bills Passed in the Session

List of Bills passed in Budget Session (March, 2025):[1]

1. Bihar Appropriation Bill, 2025
2. Bihar Wood-based Industries Bill, 2025
3. Bihar Cooperative Society (Amendment) Bill, 2025



[1] 'Assembly Passes Amendment Bill to Empower SHGs | Patna News - The Times of India'
<<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/patna/assembly-passes-amendment-bill-to-empower-shgs/articleshow/119488597.cms>> accessed 11 September 2025.

BIHAR APPROPRIATION BILL, 2025

The Bihar Appropriation Bill, 2025, was passed by the Bihar Legislative Assembly during the Budget session in March 2025 to enable the state government to withdraw funds from the Consolidated Fund for the upcoming fiscal year 2025–26. The Bill was approved by voice vote, even as opposition legislators staged a walkout in protest over various policy disagreements. The Bill forms the financial backbone for the state's budget, authorizing expenditures that underpin the administration's policy agenda. Meanwhile, the Assembly also passed a supplementary Appropriation Bill authorizing the release of ₹11,187.14 crore for additional spending in the remaining months of the 2024–25 financial year. This supplementary grant included significant allocations: ₹2,938.4 crore for rural development, ₹1,168.2 crore for education, ₹628.37 crore for urban development and housing, ₹289 crore for the Panchayati Raj sector, and ₹134 crore for the cooperative sector, among other heads.

Later in July 2025, amid a chaotic monsoon session marked by verbal clashes and disruptions, the Assembly approved a first supplementary budget of ₹57,946.25 crore for the fiscal year 2025–26, along with its associated Appropriation Bill. This supplementary fund, comprising ₹36,169.34 crore under annual schemes and ₹21,773.27 crore for establishment and committed expenditures, was passed by voice vote despite heated confrontations between ruling and opposition members and required marshals to intervene.

Relevant readings:

- Bihar Gazette, 2025, Published by the Bihar Government- <https://vidhansabha.bihar.gov.in/pdf/enacted%20bill/gudget2025/194.pdf>
- Bihar Appropriation Bill Passed in Assembly, 2025 (ThePrint Report) – <https://theprint.in/india/bihar-appropriation-bill-passed-in-assembly/2563126/>
- First Supplementary Budget and Appropriation Bill, 2025 (Times of India) – <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/patna/samrat-tables-rs-57946-crore-supplementary-budget/articleshow/122818888.cms>.
- Bihar Budget Analysis 2025 26 (PRS Legislative Research) – https://prsindia.org/files/budget/budget_state/bihar/2025/Bihar_Budget_Analysis_2025-26.pdf

BIHAR WOOD-BASED INDUSTRIES (ESTABLISHMENT AND REGULATION) ACT, 2025

The Bihar Wood-Based Industries (Establishment and Regulation) Act, 2025 (Act No. 4 of 2025) was passed by the Bihar Legislative Assembly and notified on 29 April 2025. The primary aim of this Act is to regulate the establishment, functioning, and licensing of wood-based industries across the state while ensuring sustainable forest management and preventing illegal exploitation of natural resources.

According to the state government, the Act seeks to replace and modernize the earlier Bihar Wood-Based Industries (Regulation) Act, 1990, in view of rapid industrial growth and rising environmental concerns. The new law introduces a comprehensive licensing framework, promotes responsible timber usage, and establishes a State-Level Committee to oversee implementation and policy decisions. However, certain stakeholders, especially small-scale operators, have expressed concerns that the stringent licensing norms and restrictions on timber procurement could increase compliance costs and limit business flexibility. They argue that while environmental safeguards are essential, the Act could disproportionately affect smaller industries that depend on affordable access to timber.

The Act mandates that any person or enterprise intending to set up or operate a sawmill, plywood unit, veneer factory, furniture manufacturing unit, or any other wood-based processing industry must obtain prior approval from the Competent Authority. Industries are also required to source timber only from legal and certified suppliers, with strict penalties imposed for violations.

A key provision of the Act is the establishment of a State-Level Committee comprising representatives from the Forest Department, Environment & Climate Change Department, Industry Department, Bihar State Industrial Development Authority (BSIDC), and other experts. This committee is empowered to assess timber availability, approve or reject license applications, monitor compliance, and recommend policy reforms.

Furthermore, the Act imposes environmental safeguards by linking industrial licensing with forest conservation goals. A portion of the revenue generated through licensing and fees will be directed towards afforestation projects and the implementation of state-level forest development schemes.

BIHAR WOOD-BASED INDUSTRIES (ESTABLISHMENT AND REGULATION) ACT, 2025



WOOD-BASED
INDUSTRIES



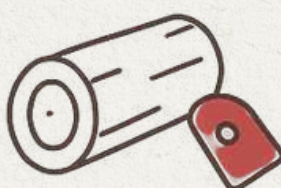
SUSTAINABLE
FOREST MANAGEMENT



LICENSING
FRAMEWORK



STATE-LEVEL
COMMITTEE



CERTIFIED
SUPPLIERS ONLY



REVENUE LINKED
TO AFFORESTATION

Relevant readings:

- 1.Bihar Gazette, 2025, published by the Bihar state Government,
Bihar Wood-Based Industries (Establishment and Regulation) Act, 2025
- 2.Assembly Passes Bihar Wood-Based Industries Bill, 2025 (UNI India) –
<https://www.uniindia.com/news/east/assembly-bihar-bill/3422683.html>.
- 3.Bihar Wood-Based Industries (Establishment and Regulation) Bill, 2025 Passed Amid RJD Protest (HT Syndication) – <https://www.htsyndication.com/ht-patna/article/wood-industry%2C-co-op-bills-passed-amid-rjd-s-green-protest/88977289>
- 4.Bihar Wood-Based Industries Investment Promotion Policy, 2020 (Bihar Forest Department) –
<https://forestonline.bihar.gov.in/BWBIIP/Home.aspx>

BIHAR COOPERATIVE SOCIETY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025

The Bihar Cooperative Society (Amendment) Bill, 2025, was introduced in the Bihar Legislative Assembly in March 2025 to reform and modernize the functioning of cooperative societies in the state. The Bill seeks to amend the Bihar Cooperative Societies Act, 1935, with the objective of improving transparency, ensuring accountability, and enhancing the participation of members in the decision-making process of cooperatives. According to the state government, the Bill aims to empower members, strengthen democratic functioning, and improve financial integrity in cooperative institutions, which play a vital role in rural credit, agriculture, and socio-economic development.

The Bill proposes several significant changes, including provisions for direct elections of managing committee members and office bearers, thereby reducing political interference and improving internal democracy. It also mandates stricter financial auditing mechanisms, introducing third-party audits for cooperatives above a certain turnover threshold, and establishes a centralized audit framework under the supervision of the Registrar of Cooperative Societies. In an effort to modernize operations, the Bill encourages the creation of a state-wide digital registry for cooperative societies and mandates online reporting, grievance redressal, and member election monitoring to ensure greater efficiency and transparency.

However, certain provisions have drawn criticism from opposition parties and cooperative unions, who argue that the Bill significantly enhances the powers of the Registrar, thereby increasing government control over cooperatives and undermining their autonomy. Stakeholders contend that cooperatives, by their very nature, are meant to be member-driven and self-regulated, and excessive state oversight could dilute their independence. Additionally, smaller rural cooperatives have raised concerns about the compliance burden arising from new digital and auditing requirements, which they fear could be difficult to implement without adequate financial and technical support.

While the government maintains that the Bill seeks to bring Bihar's cooperative sector in line with modern governance and national cooperative policies,

its successful implementation will depend on striking a balance between effective regulation and cooperative autonomy. If executed efficiently, the Bill has the potential to transform Bihar's cooperative societies into digitally enabled, transparent, and member-driven institutions, but failure to address stakeholder concerns may lead to resistance and operational challenges during enforcement.

BIHAR COOPERATIVE SOCIETY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025



**DEMOCRATIC
PARTICIPATION
& DIRECT ELECTIONS**



**FINANCIAL AUDITING
& ACCOUNTABILITY**



**DIGITAL COOP-
REGISTRY**



**COMPLIANCE
BURDEN ON SMALLER
COOPERATIVES**



**TRANSPARENCY
& GOVERNANCE**



**REGULATORY
OVERSIGHT**

Relevant Readings:

[1] Bihar Gazette, 2025, published by the Bihar State government –

https://prsindia.org/files/bills_acts/bills_states/bihar/2025/901of2025BR.pdf

[2]. Assembly Passes Bihar Cooperative Society (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (UNI India) –

<https://www.uniindia.com/news/east/assembly-bihar-bill/3422683.html>

[3] Wood-Base Industry and Co-op Bills Passed Amid Opposition Boycott (HT Syndication / Hindustan Times Content Services) – <https://www.htsyndication.com/ht-patna/article/wood-industry%2C-co-op-bills-passed-amid-rjd-s-green--protest/88977289>

MONSOON SESSION

Report on the Proceedings of the 17th Bihar Legislative Assembly (Fifteenth Session)

The Monsoon Session of the Seventeenth Bihar Legislative Assembly (Fifteenth Session), held from July 21 to July 25, 2025, was notable for its extensive legislative agenda, repeated disruptions from the Opposition, and several pointed, if at times curtailed, debates upon issues of public and institutional concern.[1]

The inaugural sitting on 21 July 2025 was formally initiated with the national anthem, followed by introductory remarks from the Honourable Speaker, Shri Nand Kishore Yadav. Routine but constitutionally significant business took place, including the nomination of five presiding members for the duration of the session and the constitution of a Business Advisory Committee, composed of the Speaker, Chief Minister, Deputy Chief Ministers, key ministers, and the Leader of the Opposition.[2]

Subsequently, critical documents, such as the Bihar Hindu Religious Trust (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, and Governor's assents to four bills, including the Appropriation and Cooperative Societies Amendment Bills, were laid before the House. The session also opened with somber undertones as tributes were paid to seven former public figures, marked by a minute of silence—a testament to the House's regard for its traditions and departed members. The Finance Minister, Shri Samrat Choudhary, also introduced the First Supplementary Demands for Grants, laying the basis for later financial scrutiny and debate.[3]

The second day, on 22 July 2025, was characterized by persistent interjections from Opposition members, notably during question hour, which led to repeated entreaties from the Chair to maintain decorum and allow legislative proceedings.

[1] Bihar Legislative Assembly, Seventeenth Assembly, Fifteenth Session, Daily Bulletin, 22 July 2025, https://vidhansabha.bihar.gov.in/pdf/Question/bulletin/17th_15th/22.07.2025.pdf

[2] Bihar Legislative Assembly, Seventeenth Assembly, Fifteenth Session, Daily Bulletin, 21 July 2025, https://vidhansabha.bihar.gov.in/pdf/Question/bulletin/17th_15th/21.07.2025.pdf

[3] Bihar Legislative Assembly, Seventeenth Assembly, Fifteenth Session, Daily Bulletin, 21 July 2025, https://vidhansabha.bihar.gov.in/pdf/Question/bulletin/17th_15th/21.07.2025.pdf

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The assembly managed to reply to modest number of short notice and starred questions, but with 120 starred questions remaining unaddressed due to disorderly conduct. [4]

This period of legislative business nonetheless saw the introduction, consideration, and passage of several vital government bills, each addressing targeted sectors of governance including religious trust administration, state GST, municipal law, land survey and settlement, conversion of agricultural land, and underground pipeline rights. Notably, the House witnessed minimal substantive debate as Opposition members abstained from formally moving motions for referenda, reference to select committees, or amendments, thereby tacitly facilitating the relatively unopposed passage of these legislative measures. The incident underscored the disruptive impasse pervading the House during this session, despite the Chair's repeated encouragement of constructive participation. In addition to the legislative business, the House tabled two recruitment rules relating to the state's aviation training and organizations. The persistent commotion ultimately compelled the Chair to adjourn the House till the following day.[5]

Proceedings on 23 July 2025 began with a deeply felt statement by the Speaker, who addressed the unfortunate scenes of the prior day, emphasizing the sanctity, traditions, and responsibilities of the Assembly. The Speaker articulated that while robust opposition is integral to democracy, its expression, if it degenerates into violence or unseemly disruption, constitutes a betrayal of constitutional values. The casualties suffered by Assembly staff members during the disruptions were highlighted, and a collective resolve was called for—urging members to restore dignity to the institution.[6]

The Leader of the Opposition, Shri Tejashwi Prasad Yadav, and the Chief Minister presented their respective positions,

[4] Bihar Legislative Assembly, Seventeenth Assembly, Fifteenth Session, Daily Bulletin, 22 July 2025, https://vidhansabha.bihar.gov.in/pdf/Question/bulletin/17th_15th/22.07.2025.pdf

[5] Bihar Legislative Assembly, Seventeenth Assembly, Fifteenth Session, Daily Bulletin, 22 July 2025, https://vidhansabha.bihar.gov.in/pdf/Question/bulletin/17th_15th/22.07.2025.pdf

[6] Bihar Legislative Assembly, Seventeenth Assembly, Fifteenth Session, Daily Bulletin, 23 July 2025, https://vidhansabha.bihar.gov.in/pdf/Question/bulletin/17th_15th/23.07.2025.pdf

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yet ensuing sessions again devolved into protest, prompting further adjournments. Nonetheless, when the House reconvened after lunch, a succession of major bills were introduced and passed, namely: the Bihar Agriculture University (Amendment) Bill, Bihar Animal Breeding Regulation Bill, Jananayak Karpoori Thakur Skill University Bill, Bihar Platform-Based Gig Workers (Registration, Social Security and Welfare) Bill, Bihar Shops.

Establishments (Regulation of Employment and Service Conditions) Bill, and Bihar Factories (Amendment) Bill. In each instance, standard opportunities for debate—motions for principle discussion, referenda, committee references, and amendments—were not exercised by Opposition members, many of whom abstained from participation or staged a walkout. In addition to the legislative business, the House was presented with an impressive array of reports and documents covering language cadres, vital statistics, legal aid, health services, food security, infrastructure, and more, reflecting the breadth of the legislative and oversight functions performed. Sixty formal applications submitted by members were acknowledged as forwarded to relevant departments.[7]

The fourth day, on 24 July 2025, featured a focused and substantive debate upon the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the state's electoral roll. The Leader of the Opposition forcefully raised the issue of potential disenfranchisement, urging assurances that no eligible citizen of Bihar would be omitted from the electoral roll. Multiple legislators from across the spectrum echoed these concerns, affirming the paramount importance of inclusive democracy. In response, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Shri Vijay Kumar Chaudhary presented the government's position, affirming a shared commitment to ensuring the integrity of the electoral process and urging cooperation with state authorities for the successful execution of the revision. The Deputy Chief Minister supplemented these assurances.[8]

[7] Bihar Legislative Assembly, Seventeenth Assembly, Fifteenth Session, Daily Bulletin, 23 July 2025, https://vidhansabha.bihar.gov.in/pdf/Question/bulletin/17th_15th/23.07.2025.pdf

[8] Bihar Legislative Assembly, Seventeenth Assembly, Fifteenth Session, Daily Bulletin, 24 July 2025, https://vidhansabha.bihar.gov.in/pdf/Question/bulletin/17th_15th/24.07.2025.pdf

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The House also undertook significant financial deliberation, debating the First Supplementary Grants for the Social Welfare Department for FY 2025-26. A cut motion was introduced by Shri Ajay Kumar Singh, with opposition parties participating in the debate; however, the atmosphere degenerated into further commotion during the addresses of key opposition leaders.

Consequently, the Speaker addressed the Assembly in the afternoon, issuing a clear and formal call for restraint, decorum, and mutual respect, emphasizing that only dignified conduct and reasoned dissent sustain the legitimacy and credibility of democratic institutions. The House moved on to pass the Bihar Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, and additional grants were approved. under the guillotine process. Fifty-four new member proposals were also submitted to government departments.[9]

On the final day, 25 July 2025, disruptions continued, with question hour being significantly affected by opposition protests, leading to adjournments both before and after the luncheon interval. Several government notifications, statutory rules, and committee reports regarding taxation, health, technical education, and tourism were formally tabled. Sixty fresh petitions were presented in the House. Non-governmental resolutions and listed attention notices were referred to relevant committees as per the established process. The Speaker issued a formal notification regarding the disposition of such matters.[10]

The session concluded with a valedictory address from the Speaker, reflecting on the legislative, administrative, and moral accomplishments and challenges of the entire term. In his reflection, Speaker acknowledged the passage of thirteen government bills during the session, noted the Assembly's dynamic record of debates and interventions, and invoked the perpetual responsibilities of legislators as custodians of the people's trust.

[9] Bihar Legislative Assembly, Seventeenth Assembly, Fifteenth Session, Daily Bulletin, 24 July 2025, https://vidhansabha.bihar.gov.in/pdf/Question/bulletin/17th_15th/24.07.2025.pdf

[10] Bihar Legislative Assembly, Seventeenth Assembly, Fifteenth Session, Daily Bulletin, 25 July 2025, https://vidhansabha.bihar.gov.in/pdf/Question/bulletin/17th_15th/25.07.2025.pdf

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He further expressed gratitude towards members, officials, and staff, and closed the session with messages of reconciliation and resolve, affirming that the Assembly's conduct remains indelibly recorded in history and shapes the future governance of Bihar. The proceedings were formally brought to a close with the singing of the Bihar Geet and an adjournment sine die.

In sum, while the session was replete with legislative achievement in terms of bills passed and government business transacted, it was equally marked by recurrent disorder, curtailed debate, and an acute consciousness, articulated through the Speaker's interventions of the foundational values of discipline, reasoned debate, and institutional dignity in upholding democratic governance. The content of discussions traversed legislative, procedural, electoral, and financial domains, reflective of the complex and multifaceted responsibilities incumbent upon the state's legislative assembly.

Monsoon Session – July 2025

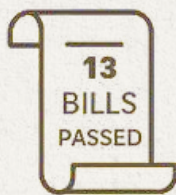
Seventeenth Bihar Legislative Assembly



Opening



Tributes

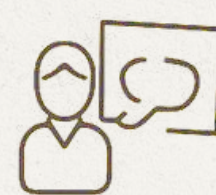


Legislative Activity

Agriculture
Gig workers
Factories
Religious trust
Land survey



Opposition
Disruptions



Committees
& Reports



Debates

Ruling party
vs Opposition



Electoral
Roll Debate



Committees
& Reports



Closing

Valedictory &
Adjournment sine die

MONSOON SESSION

List of bills passed in the Session

List of Bills passed in Monsoon Session (July 2025):[1]

1. Bihar Municipality (Amendment) Bill, 2025
2. Bihar Special Survey and Settlement (Amendment) Bill, 2025
3. Bihar Agriculture Land (Development of Land for Non-agricultural Purposes) (Amendment) Bill, 2025
4. Bihar Underground Pipeline (Amendment) Bill, 2025
5. Bihar Goods and Services Tax (First Amendment) Bill, 2025
6. Bihar Platform-Based Gig Workers Bill, 2025
7. Bihar Shop Establishment Bill, 2025
8. Factory Bill, 2025
9. Jananayak Karpuri Thakur Skill University Bill, 2025
10. Bihar Agriculture University Bill, 2025
11. Bihar Hindu Religious Trust (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (converted to Act)

Bills Passed – Monsoon Session, July 2025



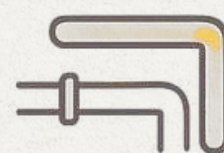
Bihar Municipality
(Amendment)
Bill, 2025



Bihar Special Survey
& Settlement
(Amendment) Bill, 2025



Bihar Agriculture
Land (Amendment)
Bill, 2025



Bihar Underground
Pipeline (Amendment)
Bill, 2025



Bihar GST
(First Amendment)
Bill, 2025



Bihar GST (First
Amendment)
Bill, 2025



Bihar Platform-Based
Gig Workers Bill,
2025



Bihar Shop
Establishment
Bill, 2025



Jananayak Karpuri
Thakur Skill University
Bill, 2025



Bihar Agriculture
University Bill,
2025

[1] 'Bihar Assembly Passes Several Bills amid Opposition Walkout | Latest News India'
<<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/bihar-assembly-passes-several-bills-amid-opposition-walkout-101753282571526.html>> accessed 11 September 2025.

MONSOON SESSION

Major Decisions

BIHAR MUNICIPALITY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025

The Bihar Municipality (Amendment) Bill, 2025 was passed by the Bihar Legislative Assembly in July 2025 during the monsoon session, with the stated objective of enhancing transparency in municipal operations and expanding administrative autonomy for municipal chief councillors and deputy councillors. According to official reports, the Bill mandates that each municipal body must publish the proceedings of every meeting within 15 days, a task assigned to the mayor or the presiding officer. The legislation further empowers individuals dissatisfied with any order issued by the Chief Municipal Officer or any authorized government official to file an appeal before the District Judge of the relevant jurisdiction within a 30-day window. The decision of the District Judge in such matters is deemed final and binding on all parties.

While the government framed the Bill as a step toward accountability and streamlined local governance, it has not been without controversy. Civic leaders, particularly mayors, councillors, and Members of Empowered Standing Committees, have expressed strong resistance, arguing that the Bill exacerbates state interference in civic administration. Earlier amendments under the 2024 Bill already removed no-confidence motions against mayors and shifted key powers to administrative officers, drawing criticism for eroding the autonomy of elected bodies. Although those 2024 provisions are now technically superseded, many stakeholders believe that the 2025 Amendment continues the trend of curbing local self-governance.

Relevant Readings:

1. Five Key Bills Passed in Bihar Assembly Including Municipality Amendment, 2025 (The Week / Times of India via PTI) – <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/patna/assembly-passes-5-bills-sita-temple-ordinance/articleshow/122840868.cms>
2. Assembly passes 5 bills, Sita temple ordinance (News article summarizing assembly session) <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/patna/assembly-passes-5-bills-sita-temple-ordinance/articleshow/122840868.cms>

BIHAR SPECIAL SURVEY AND SETTLEMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025

The Bihar Special Survey and Settlement (Amendment) Bill, 2025, was approved by the Bihar Legislative Assembly during the July 2025 monsoon session, in a batch of key reforms alongside bills on municipal governance and land conversion. This amendment seeks to extend the survey and settlement framework, originally applied in rural areas, to revenue villages within urban jurisdictions, enabling the state to modernize land records across urban landscapes. The move represents an administrative pivot to bring urban land under structured cadastral scrutiny and ensure parity of record-keeping across all terrains.

Critics, however, question the timing of this amendment. Some view the measure as politically motivated, suggesting its alignment with the upcoming assembly elections could serve to provide legal legitimacy to previously made adjustments, particularly those based on oral agreements. Indeed, the government had already set a precedent by legally recognizing these verbal modifications in survey records through the earlier 2025 amendment rule. While proponents argue that this step fosters greater transparency and clarity by formalizing land-related understandings, detractors caution that it may open doors for manipulation with oral or informal changes potentially altering the ground truth in land ownership, especially in rapidly urbanizing areas.

Relevant Readings:

1. Bihar gazette, 2025, published by Bihar State government-
[https://dlrs.bihar.gov.in/\(X\(1\)S\(n3hlw00ouxtzonhyjyb5helr\)\)/attachments/Letter/500.pdf](https://dlrs.bihar.gov.in/(X(1)S(n3hlw00ouxtzonhyjyb5helr))/attachments/Letter/500.pdf)
2. Assembly passes five key bills, including Special Survey and Settlement (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (The Week / Times of India via PTI) – <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/patna/assembly-passes-5-bills-sita-temple-ordinance/articleshow/122840868.cms>.
3. Bihar Assembly Approves Key Reforms on Land Use, Including Special Survey and Settlement (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (The Daily Jagran) – <https://www.thedailyjagran.com/bihar/bihar-assembly-approves-key-reforms-on-land-use-tax-and-hindu-trust-in-30-minute-session-details-10254802>.

BIHAR AGRICULTURE UNIVERSITY BILL, 2025

The Bihar Agriculture University Bill, 2025, was introduced in the Bihar Legislative Assembly with the objective of strengthening higher education and research in agriculture while ensuring greater transparency, efficiency, and accountability in the functioning of the Bihar Agriculture University, Sabour (Bhagalpur). Agriculture forms the backbone of Bihar's economy, employing nearly two-thirds of its workforce, but persistent challenges such as faculty shortages, irregular recruitment, and a lack of cutting-edge research have limited the sector's growth. The Bill seeks to address these concerns by instituting merit-based recruitment processes, improving academic standards, enhancing farmer outreach, and fostering innovation in agricultural practices to ensure food security and rural prosperity.

A key highlight of the Bill is the introduction of transparent, merit-driven faculty recruitment. All teaching positions, including professors, associate professors, and assistant professors, will now be filled through the Bihar Public Service Commission (BPSC) to eliminate irregularities in appointments and bring credibility to the selection process. The Bill further emphasizes a research-driven approach to agricultural education, promoting advancements in areas such as crop innovation, sustainable farming, biotechnology, and climate-resilient practices. University departments will be required to collaborate with agricultural research institutes and extension centres, ensuring that innovations benefit local farmers directly.

To enhance accountability, the Bill mandates periodic performance evaluations for faculty, linking appointments and promotions to measurable research and teaching outputs in line with national benchmarks. At the same time, while recruitment processes are centralized through BPSC, the University retains autonomy in academic affairs, including the freedom to design curricula, prioritize research, and build collaborations with both national and international institutes.

Finally, the Bill places significant emphasis on farmer outreach, aiming to bridge the gap between agricultural research and field implementation.

MONSOON SESSION

Major Decisions

It proposes the establishment of new extension centres across Bihar to ensure that laboratory innovations reach farming communities efficiently. By linking higher education with on-ground agricultural development, the Bill seeks to empower farmers with modern techniques, strengthen food security, and contribute to rural economic growth.

If implemented effectively, the Bihar Agriculture University Bill, 2025, has the potential to transform agricultural education and research in the state, creating a model for innovation-driven, farmer-focused development.

Bihar Agriculture University Bill – 2025



Higher education
& research



Merit-based
recruitment
via BPSC



Biotechnology
& research
innovation



Crop innovation
& Sustainable
farming



Climate-resilient
agriculture



Farmer outreach
& extension
centres



Collaboration with
national & internatio-
nal instit.



Collaboration with
national & international
institutes



Performance
evaluation &
accountability

Relevant Readings:

1. Bihar Budget Highlights, published by the Bihar state Government- budget.bihar.gov.in/Uploads/Budget_Highlights_2025-26.pdf
2. Bihar Assembly passes several bills, including the Agriculture University Amendment Bill, 2025 (The Week / Times of India via PTI) – <https://www.theweek.in/wire-updates/national/2025/07/23/ces34-bh-assembly-bills.html>.
3. Bihar Agriculture University (Amendment) Bill-2025' ensures recruitment through BPSC (MoneyControl) - <https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/india/bihar-assembly-passes-several-bills-amid-opposition-walkout-13315952.html>.

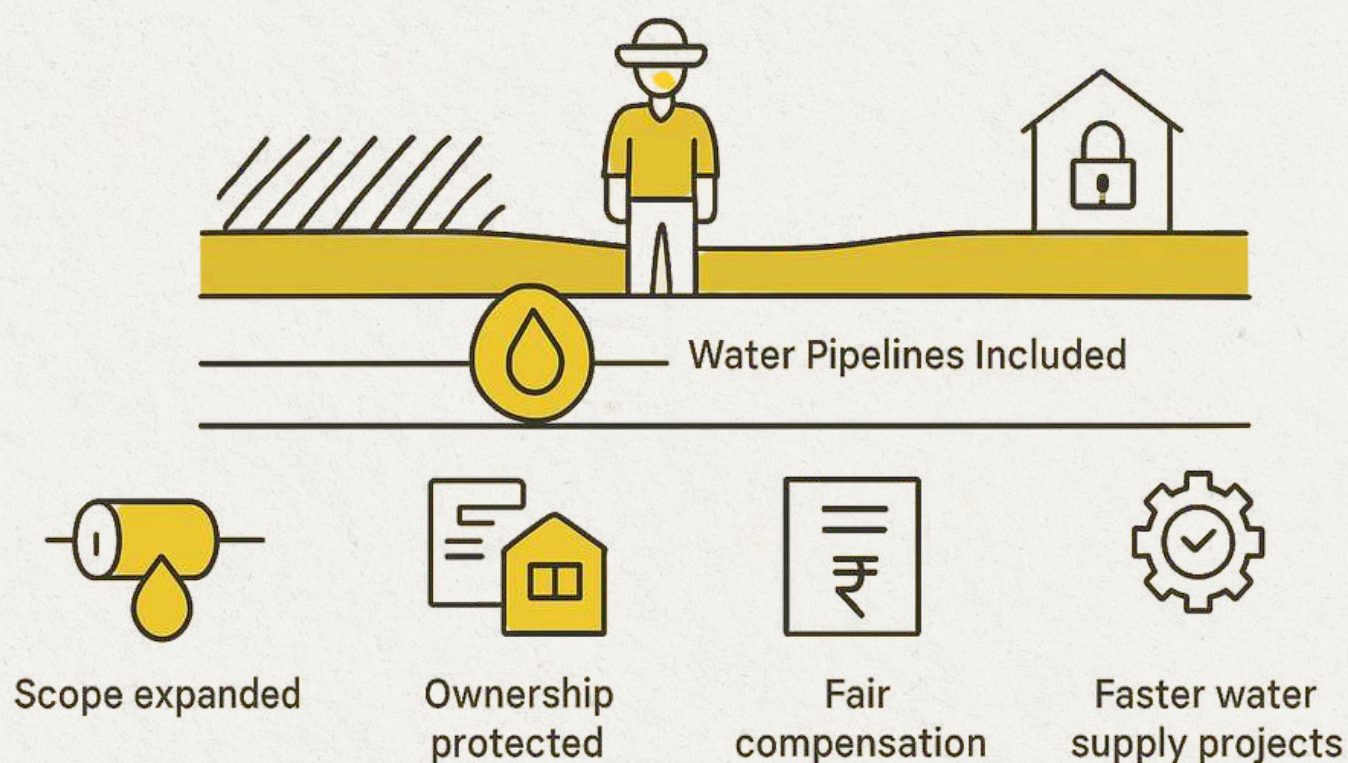
MONSOON SESSION

Major Decisions

BIHAR UNDERGROUND PIPELINE (ACQUISITION OF USER RIGHTS IN LAND) AMENDMENT BILL, 2025

The Bihar Underground Pipeline (Acquisition of User Rights in Land) Amendment Bill, 2025, was passed by the Bihar Legislative Assembly with the aim of streamlining the legal framework governing the laying of underground pipelines across the state. The Bill amends the existing legislation to specifically include water pipelines within its ambit, ensuring uniformity with provisions already applicable to gas, petroleum, and other utility pipelines. By providing explicit legal backing for the acquisition of user rights in land, without requiring full ownership transfer, the amendment seeks to remove legal and administrative hurdles in expanding Bihar's water distribution infrastructure.

A key objective of the Bill is to minimize land disputes by clarifying the rights and responsibilities of both landowners and the government when underground pipelines are laid beneath private or public land. It lays down provisions for fair compensation mechanisms, ensuring that property owners are adequately compensated for the user rights acquired while retaining their ownership over the land. Furthermore, the Bill empowers the state government to expedite water pipeline projects, which are crucial for strengthening urban and rural drinking water supply networks under schemes like Har Ghar Jal and other infrastructure development initiatives.



MONSOON SESSION

Major Decisions

By balancing public interest with the protection of landowners' rights, the amendment provides a transparent and predictable process for acquiring user rights, thereby reducing conflicts and litigation. This legislative reform is expected to accelerate the implementation of large-scale underground water pipeline projects and improve Bihar's water distribution network, ensuring more efficient and reliable access to drinking water across the state.



Relevant Readings:

1. Bihar Gazette, 2025, published by Bihar State Government- Bihar Underground Pipelines (Acquisition of Right of User in Land) Act, 2011
2. Bihar Assembly Approves Key Reforms on Land Use, Tax, and Hindu Trust in 30-Minute Session (The Daily Jagran) – <https://www.thedailyjagran.com/bihar/bihar-assembly-approves-key-reforms-on-land-use-tax-and-hindu-trust-in-30-minute-session-details-10254802>
3. Assembly Passes 5 Bills, Sita Temple Ordinance (Times of India via PTI) – <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/patna/assembly-passes-5-bills-sita-temple-ordinance/articleshow/122840868.cms>

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