

Govt streamlines rules for PhD aspirants

B K Mishra | TNN

For students aspiring to pursue a PhD in Bihar's universities, governor's secretariat has issued a set of directions aimed at making admissions more regular, transparent and time-bound. The recent order issued from Lok Bhavan follows recommendations made by a committee of four vice-chancellors convened recently by the chancellor's secretariat.

The most important message for PhD aspirants is that universities have been directed to follow the PhD Ordinance and Regulations, 2026 strictly. Students who have already qualified the PhD Admission Test (PAT) and whose admission process has been undertaken will also have to be registered according to the applicable regulations.

Students waiting for opportunities from earlier admission cycles also have a reason to watch university notifications closely. Universities have been asked to advertise pending PhD admissions for the 2024, 2025 and 2026 cycles at the earliest, with the objective of clearing the existing backlog and regularising the admission process.

Another important provision concerns UGC-NET qualification. Admission will follow the eligibility provisions under the 2026 PhD regulations,

including rules relating to NET qualification and its weightage. The order specifies that candidates qualifying NET in a particular year will be considered for the corresponding admission cycle. For example, admission for the 2024 session would consider candidates who qualified NET in 2024.

For students, this makes keeping track of the year of NET qualification, admission cycles and university notifications of particular importance. The directions also seek to prevent prolonged uncertainty. Universities have also been asked to complete PhD admissions in a time-bound manner and conduct future admissions regularly. At the same time, admission will be linked to research capacity. In any admission cycle, universities may fill not more than one-third of vacant seats, while up to two-thirds of vacant intake/seats may be filled up to the 2026 session.

For aspiring researchers, the practical lesson is simple: Check official university notifications regularly, keep NET/PAT documents ready, verify the applicable regulations and apply against the correct academic cycle.

BRIGHT BIHAR EDUCATION IS POWER

Scholars aspiring to pursue PhD may soon see more regular admission cycles, with the governor's secretariat directing institutions to strictly follow the 2026 PhD regulations. Varsities have been asked to clear admissions while ensuring that NET qualification determines eligibility

AI opens up diverse career opportunities for students

Sanjay Kumar

Artificial intelligence (AI) is no longer confined to research laboratories or science fiction alone. It has become part of everyday life through ChatGPT, AI-powered search, recommendation systems, medical applications, digital payments, financial technologies, smart manufacturing and autonomous machines.

But ChatGPT is only one visible part of a much larger transformation—and for students, that transformation is creating a wide range of career opportunities.

One major pathway is machine learning and AI engineering. Students of computer science, mathematics, statistics and engineering can pursue careers as AI and machine-learning engineers, data scientists, software developers and AI researchers.

Data is another rapidly expanding field. Businesses, govts and research institutions generate enormous volumes of digital information, creating demand for data analysts, data scientists, data engineers and business-intelligence professionals. Programming, statistics, data visualisation and analytical thinking are increasingly valuable across industries.

AI is also creating specialised opportunities in computer vision, natural-language processing, generative AI, robotics and cybersecurity. These technologies

are being applied to medical imaging, agriculture, manufacturing, translation, speech recognition, software development, autonomous vehicles, logistics and threat detection.

Physics students also can combine AI with astronomy, climate science or computational physics. Biology students can enter bioinformatics, genomics and computational biology.

Economics and commerce students can explore financial analytics, risk modelling and AI-driven business intelligence, while social science students can use AI for surveys, text analysis and computational research.

Another emerging area is responsible AI. Organisations increasingly need professionals who understand privacy, cybersecurity, bias, transparency, ethics and the social consequences of automated decision-making. The future will need not only people who build AI systems but also those who evaluate and govern them.

For undergraduate students, the journey can begin with programming, statistics, data analysis and basic machine learning, followed by projects, competitions and internships. Postgraduates can specialise in deep learning, robotics, computer vision, generative AI or AI for scientific research.

(The writer is an assistant professor of physics with Patna University)

EXAM ALERT



● **Railway RRB Technician Exam, 2026**, (Computer-based test for both Technician Grade I Signal and Grade III posts to be conducted by Railway Recruitment Board)

► **EXAM DATES** | Oct 6 to 9, 2026

● **IBPS Clerk Prelims Exam, 2026**

► **VACANCIES** | 11,663

► **EXAM DATES** | Oct 10 and 11, 2026

● **Combined Graduate Level (CGL) Exam, 2026**, Tier-I (CBE) conducted by Staff Selection Commission

► **EXAM SCHEDULE** | Sept 30 to Oct 30, 2026

SPEAK OUT

SEND YOUR ENTRIES BY OCT 10 | toibrightbihar@rediffmail.com

Students of colleges and universities are invited to mail their opinion on this topic in not more than 250 words along with a recent passport size photograph in JPG format at toibrightbihar@rediffmail.com latest by Oct 10, 2026

GUIDELINES

The student must clearly mention his or her name, class, course and the institution he/she is enrolled in. Selected entries will be published

STUDENT VOICES

TOPIC | "SHOULD UNIFORMS BE MANDATORY IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS?"

'TOO MANY RESTRICTIONS CAN TAKE FREEDOM AWAY'



—Nishat Shahi

Freedom gives creativity a chance to grow. Too many restrictions can take that freedom away. Schools are not only places to study; they are where students discover themselves, build confidence and learn to make choices. Uniforms may create discipline, but discipline does not always come from clothes. Students should have some freedom to choose appropriate clothes while learning responsibility and independence

'COMMERCIALISATION OF UNIFORMS IS A CONCERN'



—Vivek Raj

With the advent of colonial education, Western ideas of individualism, utilitarianism and nationalism spread. Macaulay's 1835 plan influenced clothing, lifestyle, and values. Uniforms foster unity and non-discrimination, but costly uniforms burden poor families. Their commercialisation is worrying. Schools must prioritise skills, nutrition, and discipline over materialistic identity

'SCHOOL UNIFORMS PROMOTE EQUALITY AND CONFIDENCE'



—Shivam Kumar Singh

Despite diverse regional, religious, financial and social backgrounds, uniforms unite students and promote equality, boosting confidence for low-income families. However, institutions must ensure uniforms are affordable and comfortable, reflecting unity in diversity

'WE MAY DRESS ALIKE, BUT NEVER THINK ALIKE'



—Nitish Kumar

Uniforms are not merely a matter of dress; they are connected with equality, discipline, institutional identity and individual expression. A common uniform can reduce visible economic differences, create a sense of belonging and reduce pressure to wear expensive clothes. However, uniforms should be affordable, comfortable and suitable for the local climate. We may dress alike, but never think alike

'UNIFORMS MUST BE MANDATORY'



—Archita Holy

As a child, I thought uniforms were just about conduct, but now I see their true necessity. They build discipline, reduce wardrobing distractions, and promotes unity. Therefore, mandatory school uniforms are essential

'STUDENTS MUST FOLLOW RULES OF SCHOOLS, COLLEGES'



—Prache Pragya

Educational institutions impart academic knowledge as well as ethical values such as equality. Schools and colleges have rules that students must follow. Mandatory uniforms can help build equality and maintain uniformity

'SCHOOL UNIFORMS ARE GREAT EQUALISERS'



—Mohd Munzir Alam

Uniforms should be mandatory in educational institutions because they promote equality among students. Children from different financial, social and cultural backgrounds come to the same school, but everyone should be treated equally

THIS WEEK'S TOPIC

'SHOULD STUDENTS HAVE A GREATER VOICE IN UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE?'

Vijayadashami fest begins with traditional rituals

K Kamlesh | TNN

Buxar: Buxar's historic 21-day Vijayadashami festival began with religious fervour at Kila Maidan on Sunday evening, with Vedic chants, Ganesh Puja and traditional rituals marking the opening of the celebrations.

The festival, a pre-Independence tradition spanning more than a century, is being organised with a mix of religious and cultural programmes. A large number of devotees and spectators gathered at Kila Maidan for the inaugural ceremony and the subsequent staging of 'Narad Moh Leela' by artists from Vrindavan. The festival was inaugurated by Mahant Rajgopalacharya 'Tyagi Ji' Maharaj, Peethadishwar of Lakshmi Narayan Temple.

Student secures admission in DU with 30 mins to spare

K Kamlesh | TNN

Buxar: With just 30 minutes left before the deadline, Buxar student Sonam uploaded the documents that secured her admission to Delhi University's (DU) Shivaji College, averting the loss of an academic year over a missing government certificate.

Sonam had approached the District Hub for Empowerment of Women (DHEW) office in August after failing to obtain her non-creamy layer (NCL) certificate in time. Her application was rejected the next morning over discrepancies in the administrative blocks mentioned in her parents' documents.

The DHEW team contacted DU's admission

The DHEW team coordinated with the CO office for urgent processing

cell, which said her admission could be processed if her father's income certificate was submitted by the deadline. The team facilitated an online application and coordinated with the Circle Officer's (CO) office for urgent processing.

The certificate was issued around 4pm. Sonam was informed and uploaded the documents at around 4.30pm, half an hour before the deadline.

She is now attending classes at Shivaji College.

Marathon held to promote wildlife conservation

K Kamlesh | TNN

Buxar: A 6-km 'Wild Marathon' was organised on Monday as part of Wildlife Week 2026 to promote wildlife conservation, environmental awareness and public participation. The event was jointly organised by Rajgir Zoo Safari and Nalanda Forest Division, drawing around 170 youths, students, nature enthusiasts and residents from various districts.

The marathon was flagged off from Son Bhandar Nature Safari Gate by the director of Rajgir Zoo Safari. Participants completed the 6-km route and finished at Buddha Gate of Nature Safari. The event aimed to spread awareness about the importance of wildlife, forests and biodiversity.

With witty slogans, SI aspirants protest over exam cancellation

Faryal.Rumi@timesofindia.com

Patna: "Ek Sutta, Do Chai, BPSSC Hai-Hai" and "2 Kachori, Ek Samosa, BPSSC Ka Kya Bhavosa", with these tongue-in-cheek slogans, Bihar Police sub-inspector aspirants took to the roads of Patna on Monday, protesting the cancellation of the mains examination for 1,799 posts.

Carrying the Tricolour, banners and posters, hundreds of aspirants marched from Gandhi Maidan towards CM's residence, demanding withdrawal of the cancellation and resumption of the recruitment process. The march, which followed days of protests at Gardani-bagh, was stopped by police at JP Golambar.

The situation turned tense as some protesters repeatedly tried to cross the barricades. A policeman was seen using a cane to control the



Bihar Police sub-inspector aspirants during a protest in Patna on Monday

crowd, prompting protesters to push against the barricades. They later moved towards Dak Bungalow crossing, where police erected another layer of barricading, including barbed wire and metal shields. Police and RAF personnel were deployed as officials tried to contain the crowd.

The protesters continued raising slogans and demanded a meeting with CM Sam-

rat Choudhary. "We would have been wearing the same uniform as them in a month, but the govt has taken everything away from us. We prepared for the physical test in the scorching heat during June, July, Aug and Sept, but all our hard work has now been wasted," said aspirant Anshu. The preliminary examination was held in Jan and the mains on May 27. BPSSC

cancelled the mains on Sept 23, citing "unavoidable reasons". A fresh date is yet to be announced.

Aspirants Nidhi Kumari and Raunak Kumar said the cancellation had come after they had cleared earlier stages and demanded that the recruitment process be resumed and physical-test dates announced.

A five-member delegation was also formed to present the protesters' grievances. Student representative Saurabh Rana alleged the delegation was being taken to BPSSC office instead of CM's Secretariat, prompting its members to get off the vehicle.

ASP (Law and Order-I) Krishna Murari Prasad said, "Earlier, we had sent a five-member delegation to the BPSSC office, but it did not go. In the evening, we sent them to the CM Secretariat to put forth their demands."

38 held in liquor raid after attack on police team

Faryal.Rumi@timesofindia.com

Patna: Police arrested 38 people and seized a country-made pistol and three live cartridges during a large-scale raid on an illegal liquor network in Bahrawa Chak village under Pipra police station under Pimpun subdivision in Patna district on Sunday night.

The operation followed an attack on a police team that had gone to the village three days earlier on information about illegal liquor manufacturing. Police said liquor traders attacked the team, injuring three policemen and forcing them to retreat.

Masaurhi DSP-I Raghav Dayal said police from four police stations conducted the fresh operation in the village and areas along the Pimpun river. About 1,000 litres of readymade mahua was recovered, while more than 10,000 litres of half-made liquor and liquor-making material were destroyed on the spot.

Boring Road: Where every cup of 'chai' comes with a story

Kaveri Mishra

Patna: At Boring Road Chauraha, it is not just the aroma of freshly brewed tea that draws crowds. It is the stories behind the steaming cups. From 'Mohabbat Wali Chai' to 'Street Chaiwala', quirky identities have turned ordinary tea stalls into popular hangouts, giving Patna's food scene a flavour of its own.

Once known for its up-market shops, boutiques and eateries, Boring Road was a favourite shopping destination long before malls became popular. Today, its roadside tea stalls are drawing attention again, with catchy names, affordable tea and stories that particularly appeal to youngsters.

For Sandeep Kumar, popularly known as 'Bewafa Chaiwala', heartbreak became the inspiration for his business. Among the first to set up a tea cart on Boring Road, he started the stall after a breakup in 2019, hoping to create a place where people



Youngsters enjoy tea at a stall on Boring Canal Road in Patna on Monday

nursing broken hearts could find company over a cup of tea. The idea caught on. His popularity grew to the extent that he was invited to the reality show 'Sa Re Ga Ma Pa'. Even his pricing follows the theme: those nursing heartbreak pay Rs 15 a cup, while people in love pay Rs 20.

Then there is Tareh Srivastava, the 'Dubai Return Chaiwala'. After returning from Dubai in late 2022, where he worked as a storekeeper and took up other odd jobs, Tareh started his tea business in 2023. The name has helped him attract a steady stream of youngsters. His kulhad chai costs Rs

15, while tea in edible cups is priced at Rs 25. He also serves tea for Rs 5 to rickshaw pullers and those unable to afford the costlier options.

Vikash Aryan, better known as 'Actor Chaiwala', is a former television actor who has also won a startup competition, he moved from Mumbai to Patna and entered the tea business in 2023. "Tea is essential to starting any conversation among Biharis," he says. His stall draws students and tea lovers in the evenings, while brass cookware adds to its appeal.

During peak season, the three earn between Rs 30,000 and Rs 60,000 a month.

बैंक ऑफ़ इंडिया
Bank of India

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF
IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

Zonal office, 2nd Floor, Yamuna Complex, Mithanpura Chowk, Muzaffarpur (Bihar)-842002

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable/movable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable/movable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the **constructive/Symbolic possession** of which has been taken by the Authorized officer of Bank of India (Secured creditor), will be sold on "**As is where is**", "**As is what is**" and "**Whatever there is**" on the date mentioned below, for recovery of dues as mentioned hereunder to Bank of India from the below mentioned Borrowers(s) & Guarantor (s). The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit are also mentioned hereunder:

Name of the Borrower & Guarantor/s
01. Branch : Paigambarpur Kolhua Branch, Name of Borrower & Guarantor : M/s Raj Marble Prop. Mr. Rakesh Kumar S/o Jay Mangal Bhagat (Borrower & Mortgagor) Guarantor - Mr. Ajay Kumar Kushwaha S/o Jay Mangal Bhagat Outstanding Amount : Rs. 30.83 Lakh with interest + other Expenses., Date of Demand Notice Section 13(2) :- 31.12.2025. Date of Possession Notice Section.13(4)- 30.04.2026 Description of the property: All that part and parcel of the property consisting of EQM of Property (Open Land and Boundary) is in the name of Mr Rakesh Kumar S/o- Jay Mangal Bhagat Situated at Mauza-Sadapur, PS- Kanti, Anchal- Kanti, Khata NO.- 101, Khesra NO.-2955, Thana no.-392, Sale Deed No.- 4005 dated 11.06.2018 & Sale Deed No.- 9371 dated 18.12.2018, Area-4 Decimal, Boundary-North-Nij Lekhyakari, South-Ajay Kumar Kushwaha & Satiyabham Devi, East-Ajay Kushwaha, Gaffar, West-15th Kachchi Road Reserve Price : Rs. 30.60 Lakh, Earnest Money to be deposited : Rs. 3.06 Lakh
02. Branch : Motilal Branch, Name of Borrower & Guarantor : M/s Neebha Synthetics Prop. Neebha Devi, at G C Lane Dhoiba Gali, Olha Market, Saraiyaganj, Muzaffarpur, Guarantor- Mr. Nawal Singh, Outstanding Amount : Rs. 9.65,188.48 Lakh with interest + other Expenses., Date of Demand Notice Section 13(2) :- 31.08.2024, Date of Possession Notice Section.13(4)-15.11.2024 Description of the property: Property in the name of Guarantor Mr. Nawal Singh S/o Mr. Chadeshwar Singh, Situated at Mauza- Pupri urf Noorpur, P.S.- Kudhani, Anchal- Kudhani (Turki), Dist.- Muzaffarpur, Thana No. 301, Khata no. 83, Khesra no. 1581 & 1582, Sale deed no.-7985 dated 23.05.2018, Area- 2.25 decimal Boundary: North- PCC Road, South-Kuwar Singh, East-Kailesh Sah, West-Nij Vendor Reserve Price : Rs. 5.61,000/-, Earnest Money to be deposited : Rs. 56,100/-
03. Branch : Basudepur Darbhanga Branch, Name of Borrower & Guarantor : Shri Kailesh Mahtha & Smt. Rani Kumari at Faizullah Khan, Moulaganj, Darbhanga Outstanding Amount : Rs. 13.15/- Lakh with interest + other Expenses., Date of Demand Notice Section 13(2) :- 20.05.2025, Date of Possession Notice Section.13(4)-21.08.2025 Description of the property: Registered Mortgage of Land and Building in the name of Kailesh Mahtha, Situated at Faizullah Khan (Maulaganj) PS- Laheriasarai, Anchal- Darbhanga, Dist.- Darbhanga, Registered Mortgage Deed No.- 10594, dated 08.07.2015, Khata No.-00, Khesra No.- 20725, Thana No.- 759, Area- 10 Dhur, Boundary: North-Niz Seller, South-PCC Road, East-Md. Ashraf, West-Md. Binda Reserve Price : Rs. 43.41 Lakh, Earnest Money to be deposited : Rs. 4.34 Lakh

TERMS & CONDITIONS:-
1. Date, Time of E-auction : 27.10.2026, 11.00AM to 5.00 PM. Followed by three extensions of 10 minutes
2. Last date & time of submission of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) : 26.10.2026 till 5.00 P.M.,
3. Inspection Date & Time of the property : 26.10.2026 till 5.00PM
4. Please Contact for more Information :- Zonal Office, Muzaffarpur, Mob. - 7980162782
5. 15 days sale notice to Borrowers/Guarantors has already been sent/ to be sent by Regd. Post at their last known address. In case they do not receive the said notice then this E-auction sale Notice may be treated as substituted mode of Service.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Bank of India, Secured creditor website i.e. <https://baanknet.com>

Place: Muzaffarpur
Date: 05.10.2026

Authorized Officer
Bank of India