



# Destination BIHAR

INDIA'S NEXT IT HUB IN THE MAKING

ADVERTORIAL

The state is set to emerge as a most sought-after IT, ITeS & ESDM hub for tech giants and startups alike, with the IT Conclave and the ensuing launch of the final draft of Bihar IT/ ITeS & ESDM Policy in September

## SKILLED WORKFORCE

Bihar currently has 85 technical colleges, 25 management schools, 13 medical colleges and 17 State universities. There are more than 16,000 students currently enrolled in engineering colleges and more than 1.10 lakh students enrolled in industrial training institutes. At least 60,000 youth are trained under Kusthal Yuva Programme.

The availability of this vast pool of skilled manpower will give an advantage to potential investors, who can dip into this pool for their industry's workforce. In addition to this, the State government has an extensive skilling ecosystem with special focus on the IT, ITeS and ESDM sector with programmes such as Recruit-Train-Deploy scheme which engages reputed organisations with captive requirements, reputed national and international placement agencies to train and deploy candidates in the industry.

## Opportunities in IT/I TeS & ESDM beckon investors

The Bihar government unveiled its plans for investment opportunities in IT, ITeS and ESDM sector to potential investors at an Industry Consultation organised by its Department of IT in association with KPMG and CII at Bengaluru recently. It was part of a larger series of investor engagement roadshows in major IT hubs of India, which would culminate in an IT Conclave in Patna on September 14. The final draft of Bihar's IT/ ITeS and ESDM Policy would also be unveiled on the occasion.

The event at Bengaluru saw IT secretary Rahul Singh addressing senior industry captains of IT, ITeS and ESDM. The participants included senior executives and entrepreneurs from the city, who were also having experience of setting up offices in other states. This allowed them to give interesting insights and observations to the Bihar government, which the IT secretary was keen to understand and deliberate over.

The state government has taken a consultative approach in preparing its IT policy, Singh said, adding that the government wants the IT industry to become an equal stakeholder in its journey towards making Bihar an investment destination.

One of the participants, while giving an example of another state govern-



ment's incentives for the IT sector, explained the need to create an eco-system where there are investors ready to fund, investors ready to buy, and experts ready to give advice. This creates a vibrant and positive eco-system for any industry that is setting up its facility in the new environment, opined the participant.

Bihar has been ranked among 'Aspiring Leaders' in EoDB as per World Bank 2016 evaluation, with more than 75 percent implementation status. The

Bihar government is ready with exclusive policies for emerging technologies, Singh told the participating industrialists. "We seek your inputs and understand your expectations," he added.

Singh also spoke of the state government's decision to set up an IT Park at Bihta, 20 km away from Patna, but close to the international airport. Around 25 acres have been earmarked for the IT Park which will offer all facilities such as seamless internet connectivity and uninterrupted power supply. There are also

plans to set up a 100-acre IT City at Rajgir, which shall be developed in three phases. The other projects include a high-rise IT Tower, to be developed in PPP mode, in the state capital, and Bismaun Towers for startups.

Bihar Government is mulling the inclusion of attractive incentives and provisions to propel the state into the league of major IT, ITeS & ESDM hotspots. The proposed incentives include anchor unit subsidy, training and recruitment assistance, and special provisions for startups. Other incentives targeting fiscal support, infrastructure augmentation and regulatory reforms are also under consideration.

Kumud Shama, an entrepreneur in the ITeS sector in the city, said that the need of the hour is to create a good environment for the industry as this will result in people going back to their home state if the environment is conducive for growth. Pradeep Mishra, another participant, added that good connectivity, infrastructure and ease of doing business are essential for any industry to flourish.

### IT/ ITeS and ESDM policy to create localised employment



Secretary, Department of IT, Government of Bihar, Rahul Singh, said that while he was most hopeful about the ESDM sector and its ability to create localised employment opportunities, the state government's goal is to attract small and medium IT players as well as startups, through the unveiling of Bihar IT/ ITeS and ESDM Policy.

An improved eco-system, plug-and-play, trained manpower and a supportive government are what an aspiring investor looks for, said Rahul

Singh. To enable this environment, the Bihar government is planning to offer targeted incentives, financial services, spaces and subsidy to its investors in the IT/ ITeS and ESDM sector.

"Connectivity and good infrastructure are the key factors that attract investments. The IT Park at Bihta in Patna is not only located in close proximity to the international airport, it is also in the vicinity of IT Patna and NIT Patna," said Rahul Singh.

## ADVANTAGE BIHAR

Bihar is one of the fastest growing state economies of the country with a projected CAGR of 13.40 percent during the 12th Five-Year Plan (2012-17).

To further boost the economy, a slew of infrastructural, economic and business climate reforms are currently being undertaken for fostering investments. With policies that are industry friendly and curated towards creating transparent governance, the state government has created an enabling environment for investments in Bihar, with a special focus on IT & ITeS sector.

Some of the other factors making Bihar a preferred investment destination include:



10 lakhs students are being trained in IT, ITeS and behavioral skills between 2016-20

It is strategically located to serve consumption markets of north and east India



It has a huge advantage in terms of labour arbitrage and low attrition

71 percent growth in investment projects under implementation between 2011-12 and 2016-17



104 percent growth in passenger air traffic between 2011-12 and 2016-17

120 percent growth in power availability between 2011-12 and 2016-17



61 percent growth in total road length between 2009-10 and 2014-15



\*Source: Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy, Bihar Skill Development Mission, Bihar Economic Survey 2016-17, Central Statistics Office, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, and Finance Department, Government of Bihar.

निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्रों में दिनांक—12.09.2017 को प्रकाशन हेतु ज्ञापांक—6621 दिनांक—11.09.2017 द्वारा निर्गमादेश ।

TOI, PATNA+DELHI+BANGLORE+HYDERABAD+KOLKATA  
E T, MUMBAI

