

ILFI BULLETIN



Mr Nitish Kumar, *Hon'ble Chief Minister, Bihar*

ILFI pays glowing tributes to the visionary leadership and statesmanship of Mr Nitish Kumar for bringing about a total transformation in Bihar and for his people-centric projects.



Mr Sushil Kumar Modi, *Deputy Chief Minister, Bihar*

Global Bihar Summit 2012 was a clarion call to all stakeholders about the investment opportunities in Bihar. The state is on a new trail of development, prosperity and equitable growth.



Lighting of the lamp to mark the beginning of the Summit seen from (L to R) Mr Nitish Kumar, Mr Baburam Bhattarai & Mr Sushil Kumar Modi.

Nepal PM Inaugurates "Changing Bihar"

Mr. Baburam Bhattarai, Prime Minister of Nepal inaugurated the second global meet on "Changing Bihar" on Friday 17th February 2012 in Patna, in the presence of Bihar Chief Minister Mr Nitish Kumar, Mr Sushil Kumar Modi, Deputy CM, dignitaries over 25 countries, hundreds of NRIs and invited guests.

The Nepal Prime Minister was accompanied by a 17 member delegation. The main objective of the Summit was to establish Bihar as a brand.

The Bihar Foundation, along with Patna-based Asian Development Research Institute (ADRI) and New Delhi-based Institute for Human Development (IHD), organized the Summit.



Dr Mahesh Y Reddy
Director General

Message from ILFI

ILFI is committed to development. We strongly believe in a federal setup, initiatives for development should come primarily from the state leadership. As we have been promoting development initiatives of other states in a more realistic manner, we thought that it is befitting to have an exclusive roundup of the Global Bihar Summit'2012.

So as to disseminate it widely in India and abroad, we are grateful to the top Bihar political leadership for giving us this opportunity and is looking forward to play a proactive role in further catalyzing the development process of Bihar.

Planning Commission Deputy Chairman Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Commission member Abhijeet Sen, Infosys former chief N.R. Narayana Murthy, IT major Wipro Technologies chairman Azim Premji, Aditya Birla group chairman Kumar Manglam Birla, Reserve Bank of India Governor D.Subba Rao, Securities and Exchange Board of India chairman U.K. Sinha, economist Lord Meghnad Desai, lyricist Javed Akhtar, Bollywood actor Sharmila Tagore, and filmmaker Prakash Jha attended the meet.

Bihar's speedy and far-reaching development would become smoother if the state was accorded a special category status by the Centre and its perennial flood crisis was resolved with Nepal's cooperation, said chief minister Nitish Kumar at the Global Summit.

Mr Kumar said that the state had achieved rapid progress to become an attractive investment destination.

Mr Bhattarai showered praise on Mr Kumar and his NDA government, saying Bihar had become "a role-model for development with economic and social inclusion".

Mr Kumar said Nepal and Bihar should get together to develop a joint system to prevent the losses from floods caused almost every year by rivers flowing down from Nepal to Bihar. He referred to Bihar's growing GDP and the his government's efforts to improve the state's human resources capital.



Mr Nitish Kumar and Mr Bhattarai in conversation at the Inaugural (seen from L to R)



Mr Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Dy Chairman, Planning Commission and Mr Nitish Kumar, Hon'ble CM, Bihar (seen from L to R)

Montek satisfied with Bihar Growth Prospects

The Planning Commission Deputy Chairman Montek Singh Ahluwalia lauded the high growth rate of Bihar but pointed out that its per capita growth was still not encouraging.

Bihar would take at least 10 years to double and another over a decade to reach the national average, he added. If the current high GDP growth continued for 10-15 years, Bihar will be a prosperous state. He was interacting at a special plenary at the 'Global Summit on Changing Bihar' and expressed satisfaction with the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna in the state.

Mr Ahluwalia also suggested focusing on industrial clusters and encouraging PPP model.

The RBI governor D Subbarao also echoed the same view when asked about the low credit deposit ratio in the state, High remittance from outside results in high deposit while bankers say there is no demand for credit in Bihar, he added. He, however, said that he held meeting with RBI officials here and discussed ways to improve the ratio.



Mr D Subbarao, RBI Governor



Mr Nitish Kumar, Hon'ble CM, Bihar addressing the delegates

Global Bihar Summit 2012: Received Accolades

The Government of Bihar received accolades from leading intellectuals, businessmen and policy makers for transforming the state from a lawless place to investment-friendly state with inclusive policy.

Participating in the second plenary session of the Global Bihar Summit-2012, Professor Abhijeet Sen, Member, Planning Commission of India, Professor Lord Meghnad Desai, Emeritus Professor, London School of Economics, Mr. Kumar Mangalam Birla, Chairman Aditya Birla Group and Professor Yoginder K. Alagh together discussed the 'achievements, opportunities and challenges for transforming Bihar'.

Earlier in the sessions, Prof. Alakh Narayan Sharma, Director, Institute for Human Development, presented the Background Paper of the Summit and the official of Bihar Government made a presentation on 'achievement and challenges during last six years'.

Six Parallel Thematic Workshops were organized on different topics including 'Overcoming the constraints to faster agricultural growth', 'Devising an appropriate strategy for urban development', 'Building Industrial Capabilities: Infrastructure, finance, skills and entrepreneurship', 'Developing Bihar as an attractive tourist destination', 'Raising and managing resources on stronger Bihar' and 'Expanding knowledge and Research for Development'.



**Professor Lord Nicholas Stern, Professor,
London School of Economics & Political Science**

Climate Change

Renowned British economist Nicolas Stern said climate change and poverty posed two major challenges before the world. "Global warming, climate change and poverty had emerged as two critical and defining problems of the world and its economy, and neither of the problems should be taken lightly," he said at the Global Summit on Changing Bihar. The vagaries of climate change were affecting the entire world and would lead to relocation of billions of people, which would cause conflict over food and water, Stern said. Observing that all countries have been collectively negligent in managing global warming and climate change, he said that none of us can postpone plans to deal with it. Explaining the urgency to act now, the British economist, who is also an expert on environmental issues, said global warming can even lead to loss of water.

The leading personalities who participated in these workshops included Mr. Navin Kumar, Chief Secretary, Bihar, Mr. C.K. Mishra, Principal Secretary, Department of Industry, Govt. of Bihar, Dr. P.K. Joshi, Director (Asia), International Food Policy Research Institute, Dr. Mangla Rai, Advisor on Agriculture to the Chief Minister of Bihar, Senior Agricultural Scientist Dr. Anjani Kumar, Mr. Rajeshwar Mishra, Director, Metallon Holdings Ltd., Beijing, Dr. Sudhanshu Rai, Professor, Copenhagen Business School, Dr. Meenu Tiwari from University of North Carolina, Mr. Pratya Amrit, Secretary, Department of Roads, Govt. of Bihar, Mr. Anil Sharma, CMD, Amrapali Group and Mr. Deepak Kumar, Principal Secretary, Dept. of Tourism, Govt. of Bihar among others.

About 1,500-odd delegates from India and abroad had participated in the Summit, out of which about 150 were distinguished academicians, practitioners, subject experts from various fields, industrialists and entrepreneurs.

Biz honchos discuss Bihar growth

A panel of top honchos discussed the possible sectors which could boost the process of industrialization in order to enhance the all-round growth of Bihar during a discussion on "Accelerating growth of development and services in Bihar" at the first session of the final day of the Global Summit on Changing Bihar on Sunday.

While Infosys head K V Kamath stressed on agri-based industries and Securities Exchange Board of India chairman (SEBI) U K Sinha emphasized on the need for tapping youth force and setting up industries in public-private partnership (PPP) mode, Cobra Beer Ltd chairman Karan Billimoria talked about eight 'Ps' which are essential for investments. Planning Commission member Abhijit Sen was moderator of the discussion.

Cobra Beer Ltd chief Karan Billimoria spoke about eight 'Ps' - product, price, peace, promotion, finance (which he spelt as 'phinanace'), passion, and most importantly 'people' for investment in a state. That Bihar is growing is also evident that Cobra India has invested in the state, he said. "The Bihari diaspora is all around the world. I am also a Bihari as my father was an ADC to the country's first President Rajendra Prasad and later he served in 5th battalion of Bihar Regimental Centre before leaving for the UK", he said.

Billimoria compared Nitish with former British prime minister Margaret Thatcher who had bailed out the country from severe financial morass. "In the same way, Nitish is striving to steer the beleaguered Bihar to developmental path," he said. Dipak Mazumdar of University of Toronto also spoke on the occasion.

Bihar moots global advisory council

Upbeat over the success of three-day 'Global Summit on Changing Bihar', the state government is seriously contemplating to constitute a Global Advisory Council. The purpose of the council, deputy chief minister Sushil Kumar Modi said, would be to invite experts of different fields and discuss the state's problems coming in the way of development. Since organizing global summit on regular intervals has its own constraints, the council would organize meets of experts at a lower scale to advise the state government on how it could move forward.

Modi said that suggestions and recommendations in areas such as governance and institutions, rural development and agriculture, industrialization, urbanization, state action for infrastructure, power, women and development, education, health and knowledge-building, given by scores of participants from across the world and different parts of India who attended the global summit, have been compiled and would be given to the departments concerned for follow-up action.

In order to create a platform for the Bihar diaspora in different parts of the world to invest in the state, Bihar Foundation would open its units in those countries and would also organize Bihar Diwas once in a year, Modi said. This apart, he said, a directory of Biharis living abroad would also be brought out.



Mr N K Singh
MP (Rajya Sabha) &
Former Member,
Planning Commission

Summit to help refresh governance

The three-day 'Global Summit on Changing Bihar', which concluded on Sunday, is likely to give fillip to the process of ideation for taking forward the Bihar's development strategy and making course corrections. The conference, attended by over 1,500-odd delegates, including participants from 25 countries, was inaugurated by Nepal PM, Baburam Bhattarai. It covered a wide variety of subjects with the participants discussing issues of economic and social growth, finance, education, health, tourism, women, media, film and, above all, governance. "It was gratifying that almost all the panellists and participants were unanimous in recognizing the decisive positive change that has improved expectations about the future of Bihar," said former bureaucrat and ex-state Planning Board vice-chairman N K Singh.

Summits are about introspection over success achieved and challenges ahead. "The interaction at this event between academics and policymakers is a pointer to the fact that the national intelligentsia is proactively driven for the development of Bihar," said Shaibal Gupta, member-secretary of Asian Development Research Institute, one of the organizers of the summit.

Partnership through networking was one of the objectives of the summit, said Alakh Narayan Sharma, chairman of Delhi-based Institute of Human Development, which was co-organizer of the event. This has to be a continuous affair to ensure exchange of ideas, he said and added the same was the motive behind the conference in 2007.

Bihar's growth story to continue: Modi

Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Kumar Modi on Sunday said that the state's economic growth story would continue and the fruits of development would reach out to the people in less period of time than envisioned.

The state government was not only working overtime to ensure high growth rate over a long period of time, but also to ensure that the development indeed translates into prosperity of the people, he said at the valedictory function of the three-day Global Summit on Changing Bihar. Modi's statement was an apparent rejoinder to some economists who had questioned the double digit growth rate in Bihar on the ground that the poverty rate in the state remained high and the benefits of development have not helped raise per capita income of the people.

Bihar asks Mauritius to set up medical college

The Nitish Kumar government has offered the Mauritius government a proposal to set up a medical college hospital at Mairwa in Siwan district, according to state Health minister Ashwani Kumar Choubey. Choubey said that he had handed over a former letter in this regard to Mauritius Art and Culture minister Mookhesswar Choonee during the three-day Global Bihar summit on changing Bihar.



Mr Sushil Kumar Modi,
Deputy Chief Minister, Bihar

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