

**Speech by Ambassador Nagma M. Mallick at the Event: Celebrating  
Bihar Divas  
28<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

Distinguished members of the Indian diaspora, respected guests, and our esteemed guest, Pankaj Tripathi,

Namaskar and a very warm welcome to all of you on the joyous occasion of Bihar Day here at the Embassy of India in Japan.

Today's celebration is not just about commemorating the formation of Bihar, but about honoring a legacy that lives strongly within each one of you—our Non-Resident Indians. Bihar, the land of Gautama Buddha and Mahavira, and home to the ancient seat of learning Nalanda University, has always stood for knowledge, resilience, and global engagement. In many ways, you—our diaspora—are the modern torchbearers of that global legacy.

Friends,

The story of Bihar is also a story of migration, aspiration, and achievement. From the villages and towns of Bihar to global centers like Japan, diaspora from Bihar have carried with them a spirit of determination and adaptability. Your journey mirrors the journey of our distinguished guest, Shri Pankaj Tripathi, whose rise from humble beginnings to national and global recognition reflects the strength of rooted identity combined with global outlook. Presence of Shri Pankaj Tripathi among us today makes this celebration even more special. Hailing from a small village in Bihar, he has carved a unique space for himself in Indian cinema through sheer talent, discipline, and authenticity. Known for his powerful performances in films and series such as Gangs of Wasseypur and Mirzapur, he represents the triumph of substance over glamour. What truly sets him apart is his humility and deep connection to his roots—values that resonate strongly with every Indian living abroad. His journey is a reminder that no matter how far we travel, our identity and values remain our greatest strength.

Friends,

Today, I wish to speak directly to you—not just as members of the diaspora, but as vital partners in India's growth story.

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The Government of India, under the leadership of Hon'ble Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, has placed special emphasis on strengthening engagement with Non-Resident Indians in the recent Union Budget. Let me highlight a few key features especially relevant for NRIs:

First, ease of investment for NRIs has been further enhanced. Regulatory simplifications and streamlined compliance mechanisms now make it easier for you to invest in India's growth sectors—whether in startups, infrastructure, or capital markets. Bihar itself is emerging as a promising destination, with improvements in connectivity, industry, and governance.

Second, facilitation of remittances and digital finance has been strengthened. India's digital public infrastructure—especially UPI and digital banking—has transformed the way NRIs can send money home, manage assets, and remain financially connected with India seamlessly.

Third, taxation clarity for NRIs continues to improve. The government is working towards reducing ambiguities and ensuring a more transparent and predictable tax environment, which is crucial for those maintaining financial ties across borders.

Fourth, opportunities for knowledge and skill partnerships are expanding. India's focus on becoming a global hub for innovation, AI, and advanced manufacturing opens doors for NRIs to contribute not just financially, but intellectually—through collaborations, mentorship, and institutional partnerships.

Fifth, the budget emphasizes inclusive and regional development, with significant investments in rural infrastructure, education, and employment generation. For many of you with roots in Bihar, this presents a meaningful opportunity to reconnect and contribute to the development of your home state.

Dear friends,

You are not just residents of another country—you are India's extended identity abroad. You are cultural ambassadors, economic partners, and bridges of friendship between India and Japan. Your success strengthens India's image globally, and your connection to your roots strengthens India's soul.

As we celebrate Bihar Day today, let us reaffirm our shared commitment—to preserve our heritage, to contribute to India's progress, and to inspire future

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generations to remain connected to their roots, no matter where they are in the world.

I once again thank all of you for being here, and I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Shri Pankaj Tripathi for joining us and inspiring us with his journey. Let us continue to celebrate Bihar, celebrate India, and celebrate the extraordinary spirit of our diaspora.

Jai Hind.

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