DISTRICT PROFILE
DARBHANGA
Darbhanga district is one of the thirty-eight districts of Bihar.

Darbhanga was accorded the status of a district on January 1, 1875 after it was carved out of old Tirhut district. In 1976 two districts namely Madhubani and Samastipur were carved out of erstwhile Darbhanga district.

Darbhanga district falls under Darbhanga division and is also its headquarters since October 30, 1973. Darbhanga district is situated in Mithilanchal in north Bihar and it is also its unofficial capital.

Darbhanga is known as the cultural capital of Bihar as its rural households are repositories of a rich tradition of folk art such as Mithila paintings, Sujni craft, Sikki-Mauni craft, etc.

Darbhanga district is bounded by the districts of Madhubani, Samastipur, Saharsa, Sitamarhi and Muzaffarpur.

The important rivers flowing through Darbhanga district are Kamla, Burhi Gandak, Baghmati, little Bagmati, Kosi, Kareh and Tiljuga.

Darbhanga city comprises of twin towns of Darbhanga and Laheriasarai.

**INTRODUCTION**

**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

The history of Darbhanga dates back to the epic. It is among the oldest cities of India.

According to the Vedas, the Videhas under the guidance of Agni God, first migrated from the banks of river Saraswati in Punjab to river Sadanira/Gandak and called their land Mithila. Videhas were ruled by king Janak, father of Sita. Legends speak of learned men patronized by Janak, prominent among them were Yagyavalkya, who codified the Hindu law in his Yagyavalkya Smriti and Gautam, who had various valuable philosophical treatises to his credit. King Janak was himself a great philosopher and his ideas have been enshrined in the Upanishads.

The name Darbhanga is the mutated form of "Daruwanga" i.e. it is a combination of words "Dwar" and "Banga" meaning "Gateway of Bengali". There is phonetic similarities between Bangla and Maithili languages, particularly the verbs of both end with "Chhe" sound.

Darbhanga is the seat of the Maharaja of Darbhanga. Impressed by the erudite Mahesh Thakur, Emperor Akbar had conferred the estate upon Mahesh Thakur who founded the Darbhanga Raj. During Akbar's regime, 100,000 mango trees were planted at a place now known as Lakhi Bagh.

The Maharaja of Darbhanga was granted the title Maharaja by East India Company. The British assumed control of Darbhanga in 1765 and under them Darbhanga Raj estate was the largest and richest of the great zamindari estates. The Maharaja of Darbhanga was actually a zamindar entitled to use the title Maharaja, besides the British title of Knight Commander of Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire. Darbhanga Raj owned no less than 5,570 sq. km with a net yearly rental of 30 lakhs. The capital of Darbhanga Raj was originally in Madhubani which later shifted to Darbhanga town. Darbhanga Raj controlled most of Mithila until after independence when zamindari was abolished.

The Maharajas of Darbhanga Raj were progressive and liberal minded statesman, their philanthropy won them the recognition as head of the orthodox Hindu community. Hindus began to flock to this town since the beginning of 19th century. Buildings of Calcutta University and Dalhousie Square were built by them. The Maharaja Sir Kameshwar Singh was an integral part of the Constituent Assembly of India and was instrumental in campaigning for retention of privy purses and land rights for rulers.
Darbhanga town is the district headquarters of Darbhanga district.

Darbhanga district comprises of 3 sub-divisions, namely Darbhanga Sadar, Benipur and Biraul and 18 blocks.

- Baheri
- Hayaghat
- Hanuman Nagar
- Darbhanga
- Bahadurpur
- Singhwara
- Jale
- Keoti
- Tardih
- Manigachhi
- Alinagar
- Benipur
- Ghanshyampur
- Kiratpur
- Kuseshwarasthan
- Kuseshwarasthan (E)
- Biraual
- Gaura Bauram

Total no. of Panchayats in Darbhanga district: 329.

Total no. of villages in Darbhanga district: 1269.

Agriculture is the primary occupation of the people of Darbhanga.

Darbhanga district is devoid of forests. The trees found in the district are Sisam, Khair, palmyra and Khajur. Mango, jackfruit, Pipal and tamarind are found near village settlements. The district also has tracts of grasslands.

Darbhanga town is noted for its trade in fish, mango and Makhana.

The main industries of Darbhanga district are paper mills, sugar mills and handloom.

**ECONOMIC PROFILE**

- Per Capita Gross State Domestic Product
- Per Capita Gross District Domestic Product

**Source:** Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Govt. of Bihar
### GEOGRAPHIC

| Coordinates | Latitude: 25°53' to 26° 27' North  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Longitude: 85°45 to 86° 25 East</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Temperature     | 43° C (Max.)  
|     | 9° C (Min.)  |
| Average rainfall | 1143 mm  |
| Area            | 2297 sq. km  |
| Height above sea level | 52 meters |

### DEMOGRAPHIC

| Population | 3921971  |
| Population density | 1101 per sq. km |
| Population growth | 19%  |
| Sex ratio | 910 per 1000 male  |
| Literacy rate | 44%  |
| Languages spoken | Maithili, Hindi and Urdu |

### INDUSTRIAL

| Registered industrial units | 3714  |
| Registered medium & large units | Nil  |
| No. of industrial areas | 03  |
| Types of industries | Agro based, cotton textile, wood & wooden based furniture, mineral based, metal based, electrical machinery, repairing & servicing and ready made garments based etc. |

Source: MSME – DI Muzaffarpur, official website of district
Darbhanga has an agrarian economy.

Darbhanga has huge potential for agro-based industries.

Darbhanga has potential for electronic-based industry.

There is potential for development of an eco-tourist centre.

The main industries of Darbhanga district are paper mills, sugar mills and handloom.

Laheriasarai is famous for jewellery making.

**Investment (Rs. Lakh)**

- Agro-based
- Cotton textiles
- Jute & jute-based
- Readymade garments & embroidery
- Wood & wooden-based furniture
- Paper & paper products
- Leather-based
- Chemicals/Plastics & Petro-based
- Metals based (Non-Metals)
- Engineering units
- Electrical machinery and transport equipment
- Repairs & servicing
- Others

*Source: MSME – DI Muzaffarpur*

**INDUSTRIAL PROFILE**

There are three industrial areas situated at Bela, Donar, and Dharampur in Darbhanga district.

The main industries of Darbhanga district are paper mills, sugar mills and handloom.

Two small-scale industries, 426 tiny industries and 181 artisan-based industries are registered in Darbhanga district.

Ashok paper mill at Hayaghat, sick for the last 18 years, has been restarted in 2000. Two sugar mills in Darbhanga at Raiyam and Sakri are sick.

The district is famous for mango and Makhana production.
INDUSTRIES AT A GLANCE

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registered industrial units</td>
<td>3714</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total industrial units</td>
<td>3714</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered medium &amp; large units</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated avg. no. of daily workers employed in small scale industries</td>
<td>1700</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment in large and medium industries</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of industrial areas</td>
<td>03</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Darbhanga Industrial Area Development Authority with its office at Bela promotes small/tiny industries mainly of iron & steelworks, printing, utensils, furniture, hosiery, washing powder, Masala, etc.
- Sujni craft is popular in the form of bedspreads and wall hanging. Sikki-Mauni craft is articles made by the women by coiling, wiring, stitching and dying a variety of golden coloured long grass. Mithila paintings are of mythological and religious events done on paper and cloth with primary colours of natural origin. Line drawings filled in with bright and contrast colours adorn walls of houses and are regularly changed during celebrations and ceremonies. Also popular are bamboo craft, Lah bangle craft and wood inlay craft.
- Major Makhana producing clusters identified are at Darbhanga Sadar, Manigachi, Benipur, Beraul, Keoti, Alinagar, Baheri and Singhwara. Each cluster is spread over a radius of approximately 15–20 km. There are no Makhana processing and packaging units in the clusters.

MAJOR INDUSTRIAL AREA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Particular</th>
<th>Bela</th>
<th>Donar</th>
<th>Dharampur</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Land acquired (in hectare)</td>
<td>4.101</td>
<td>19.58</td>
<td>2.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land developed (in hectare)</td>
<td>4.101</td>
<td>19.58</td>
<td>2.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of allotted plots</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of units in production</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: MSME – Di Muzaffarpur
## Existing Micro & Small Enterprises and Artisan Units

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Industry</th>
<th>No. of Units</th>
<th>Investment (Rs. Lakh)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agro based</td>
<td>1285</td>
<td>6497.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soda water</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cotton textile</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>90.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woolen, silk &amp; artificial thread based clothes.</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jute &amp; jute based</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>144.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ready-made garments &amp; embroidery</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>450.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood/wooden based furniture</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>915.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper &amp; paper products</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>45.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leather based</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>92.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemical/chemical based</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>399.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rubber, plastic &amp; petro based</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>116.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mineral based</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>660.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metal based (Steel Fab.)</td>
<td>244</td>
<td>761.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering units</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>624.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrical machinery and transport equipment</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>549.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repairing &amp; servicing</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>330.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>688</td>
<td>806.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>3714</strong></td>
<td><strong>12744</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: MSME – DI Muzaffarpur
There are three industrial areas.
Total no. of hospitals and health centers: 70.
Total no. of commercial banks and financial institutions: 33.
Educational institutions:
  - No. of primary schools – 1165
  - No. of middle schools – 312
  - No. of secondary and senior secondary schools – 70
  - No. of colleges – 14
  - No. of technical institutes - 1
The district has a vast alluvial plains devoid of hills. The land is very fertile and there are hardly any uncultivated areas. The soil is highly calcareous and a mixture of clay & sand, which makes it suitable for rice and rabbi, crops.

Paddy is the main crop, other crops being cultivated are wheat, maize, pulses, oil seeds, sugarcane and Maruwa.

Darbhanga district is famous for mango and has many mango orchards.

The district is full of Sisoo, Khair, palm, khajur, jackfruit, litchi, pipal, jamun, guava trees etc. Many ponds can be seen full of Makhana and lotus.
## POTENTIAL INDUSTRY

### Service Industry
- Electronic
- Food processing
- Agro based

### Micro & Small Enterprise
- Agro based
- Makhana Industries

### Existing Major Clusters
- Makhana processing cluster

## STEPS TO SETUP MSMEs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Type of assistance</th>
<th>Name and address of agencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Provisional Registration Certificate (EM-1) &amp; Permanent Registration Certificate (EM-II)</td>
<td>District Industries Centre, Darbhanga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Identification of Project Profiles, techno-economic and managerial consultancy services, market survey and economic survey reports.</td>
<td>MSME Development Institute, Goshala Road, Muzaffarpur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Land and Industrial shed</td>
<td>BIADA – Patna, Darbhanga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Financial Assistance</td>
<td>Nationalized Bank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>For raw materials under Govt. Supply</td>
<td>National Small Industries Corporation, Patna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Power/ Electricity</td>
<td>BSEB, Darbhanga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Technical Know–how.</td>
<td>MSME Development Institute, Muzaffarpur/ DIC, Darbhanga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Quality &amp; Standard</td>
<td>Bureau of Indian Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Marketing /Export Assistance</td>
<td>MSME Development Institute, Goshala Road, Ramna, Muzaffarpur / State govt./ Central PSU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

Railway

• Darbhanga lies under the East Central Railway.
• Darbhanga city has two railway stations including the Darbhanga Junction and Laheriasarai.
• Nearest Railway Station is at Darbhanga junction

Road

• NH 57 & NH 105 pass through Darbhanga.
• East-West Corridor Expressway, which connects Porbandar to Silchar passes through Darbhanga.

Airport

• Nearest civilian airport is at Patna.
• Darbhanga aerodrome, the longest runway airport of Bihar, now serving Indian Air Force for flood relief operations.

EDUCATION

- The Maharajas of Darbhanga were traditionally great patrons of art and literature and provided encouragement to the scholars of Maithili and Sanskrit.
- There are many schools and colleges in Darbhanga district.
- There are two universities namely Lalit Narayan Mithila University & Kameshwar Singh Sanskrit University. A number of buildings and library of Dharbhanga Raj are in the use of both universities. Kameshwar Singh Sanskrit University is the largest university in the world on the basis of intake of students in different streams. There is also an off campus of Maulana Azad National Urdu University.
- Some colleges are listed below:
  - Darbhanga Medical College and Hospital, Industrial Training Institute, MRM Ayurvedic College, Darbhanga College of Engineering, Chandradhari Mithila College, Women's College, Teachers' Training College, etc.
HERITAGE & TOURISM

Major Tourist Sites in Darbhanga District

- The Darbhanga Raj area is a well developed and beautifully laid-out complex of palaces namely fort of Darbhanga Raj having a 200 ft high wall, Nargauna palace, Anandbagh Bhawan, Bela palace, etc., temples, offices, parks, gardens and ponds built by successive Maharajas.

- **Shyama Temple:** This grand temple of Goddess Kali built in 1933, is one of the many temples situated in the picturesque and peerless campus of Lalit Narayan Mithila University. It was originally the private graveyard of Darbhanga Raj royal family and temples were built in the graveyard. The statue of Goddess Kali is built of stones imported from France.

- **Ahilya Asthan** is a famous historical temple in Ahilya Gram to commemorate the event narrated in the Ramayan of how a stone turned into a woman by the touch of Lord Ram’s feet. The curse of Gautam Rishi had turned his wife Ahalya into a stone.

- **Brahmpur village** derives its name from the occurrence narrated in the Puranic tradition when Lord Brahma appeared before Gautam Rishi at this place after the chastity of his wife Ahilya was violated by Lord Indra and Chandrama. The village has a Gautam Kund and a temple of Gautam Rishi. It is believed that God Brahma himself created the tank by piercing the earth with seven arrows, so that Gautam Rishi does not have to travel a long distance for ablution in the holy Ganges.

- **Kusheshwar-asthan** is an important religious place noted for the temple of Lord Shiva dating back to the period of epics. The water logged fourteen villages of Kuseshwarasthan block spread over 8000 acres have been declared as Kuseshwarasthan Bird Sanctuary due to their ecological, faunal, floral, geomorphological and natural importance. It is the winter home of 15 rare and endangered species of migratory birds such as Dalmatian pelican, Indian darter, bar-headed goose, white winged wood duck, marbled teal, Baers Pochad, Siberian Crane, Indian Skimmer, Oriental Goosander, etc., that come from eight countries such as Nepal, Tibet, Bhutan, Afghanistan, China, Pakistan, Mongolia and Siberia to swarm the vast water bodies of Kusheshwar-asthan.

- Chandradhari Museum and Maharaja Laxmiswar Singh Museum contain rare collection of invaluable objects made of gold, silver, ivory, wood, stone, metal, glass, textile, miniature paintings, mother of pearls, etc.
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Govt. of Bihar
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RCS Path, Patna, Bihar 800 001.
Tel : +91 612 2532695
Fax : +91 612 2532695
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