

# New bridge to link Patna-Samastipur, bring N-S Bihar closer

**B**ihar will soon have a spanking new bridge to link north and south Bihar, with a four lane bridge, 5.57 km long started in June 2011, expected to be completed this year. The bridge starting at Bakhtiarpur in Patna, would link Samastipur directly and cut short the distance by a hefty 60 kms between these two points. However, the major benefit would be that Jharkhand and north Bihar would be linked and the distance to Mithilanchal, Champaran's, Tirhut and Kosi would be shortened. This would also help de-clog the Mokamah and Patna-Hajipur artery's and Ganga crossing and make for half the

traffic to bypass Patna. The distance between Jharkhand and Nepal and even the north east would be significantly reduced and this bridge together with the others, would help Bihar chief minister Nitish Kumar to realise his dream of travel from any point to Patna within six hours, a reality. Presently, the Mokamah bridge, as well as the Gandhi Setu bridge are in dilapidated condition and repairs are being carried out. In fact, the Bakhtiarpur bridge would also help lessen traffic on the besieged Vikramshila Setu in Bhagalpur and help to bring Bihar closer, while connecting the golden quadrilateral and the east-west corridor



■ **Tajpur-Bakhtiyarpur bridge: Improving connectivity.**

