

**Speech of H.E. Shri Ram Nath Kovind,
Governor of Bihar
at Bihar Chamber of Commerce, Patna
on 09.09.2016 at 11:30 AM**

His Excellency Shri Md. Hamid Ansari ji, Hon'ble Vice President of India, Shri Nitish Kumar ji, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Bihar, Shri Tejaswi Prasad Yadav ji, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar, Shri O.P. Shah ji, President, Bihar Chamber of Commerce & Industries, Shri M.N. Bareria ji, Vice President, Shri Shashi Mohan ji, Secretary General, Shri O.P. Tibrewal ji, Vice President, Shri Ramesh Gandhi ji, Hony. Treasurer, other officials and members of BCCI, globally renowned industrialists and businessmen, media representatives, ladies & gentlemen.

First of all I express my gratitude to all the officials & members of BCCI for inviting me to the 90th Anniversary Celebration of the Bihar Chamber of Commerce & Industries.

The Bihar Chamber of Commerce & Industries through 90 years of its journey has acted as a strong bridge between the government and the business/trade community by liaising the demands of one and concessions by the other. The Chamber has never chosen to remain merely as a forum of criticism relating to government actions and policies. On the other hand, it has supplemented the government policies and action that were conducive to the economic growth of Bihar. The Chamber maintains that as a corporate body of the society it has a deep sense of responsibility towards the welfare of entire society. As such, they were not content to be merely spokesmen for traders and

businessmen, rather they carried the social ethos of national goals to fructification; they were not oblivious of the changes in the mood of the nation. Their history of nine decades speaks of this.

The Chamber has also rendered material and moral support to the needy in a big way in times of natural disasters and calamities. Whenever Bihar is affected by floods, the Chamber also participates in providing necessary relief to the affected people. As the State is prone to devastating floods, the Chamber has undertaken relief work for long periods, sometimes for months.

On the front of socio-economic concerns, it has worked for eradication of untouchability and other social evils, and for promotion of literacy and for creation of employment avenues.

The achievements of Bihar Chamber of Commerce & Industries have been widely appreciated and its endeavors have been appreciated by many dignitaries from time to time. They have blessed the Chamber with their kind visits on different occasions.

In recognition of the services rendered by the Chamber, the Government of India, had also released a Commemorative Postage Stamp in the year 2002.

On 8th February, 2015, Bihar Chamber of Commerce & Industries established a free “Skill Development Training Centre” in the Chamber's premises. Till date, this Centre has imparted quality Skill Development Training to more than 1000 trainees.

The Chambers is a dynamic service organization playing a developmental role at various levels of industry and commerce of Bihar, in particular, and the country, in general. Hence it works towards making the businessman's voice heard and ensure that their views are taken into account in shaping the State's economic policies.

It is praiseworthy that the Chamber as a part of its social responsibility has conducted Entrepreneurship Development Programme as well as risen to the occasion by providing relief in times of natural calamities e.g. flood, drought and earthquake.

I believe that Bihar Chamber of Commerce & Industries will also voice well at its command to the needs of trade and industry to build an economically strong Bihar.

Once again I congratulate all the officials and members of BCCI and extend my best wishes for the grand success of this event & glorious future of the organization.

Thank you all. Jai Hind !

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