

CURRENT AFFAIRS= 03/04-11-2020

URBAN MOBILITY INDIA (UMI) CONFERENCE



The 13th Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference is being organized by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs on 9th November 2020. The day-long Conference will be held on-line through Video Conference/Webinar.

About:

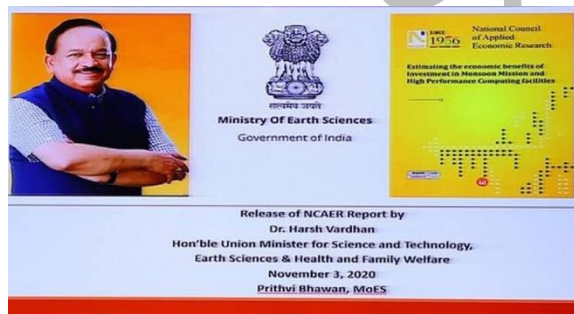
The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India issued the National Urban Transport Policy, 2006 (NUTP).

As part of the NUTP enunciations, the Ministry has taken the initiative to organize an annual international Conference-cum-Exhibition on Urban Mobility India popularly known as UMI.

- The primary objective of the conference is to disseminate information to the cities, whose officials attend the conference to help them keep up-to-date with latest and best urban transport practices globally.
- The main theme of this year's event is "Emerging Trends in Urban Mobility" with focus on innovative measures taken at national and international level to address the challenges posed by Covid-19 pandemic to provide accessible and convenient transport to the people.

NATIONAL MONSOON MISSION (NMM)

Union Minister of Science and Technology released the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) Report on "Estimating the economic benefits of Investment in Monsoon Mission and High Performance Computing (HPC) Facilities".



Salient Aspects of the report:

A total of Rs. 1000 crores has been invested in setting up National Monsoon Mission(NMM) and High performance Computing (HPC) facilities by Government of India.

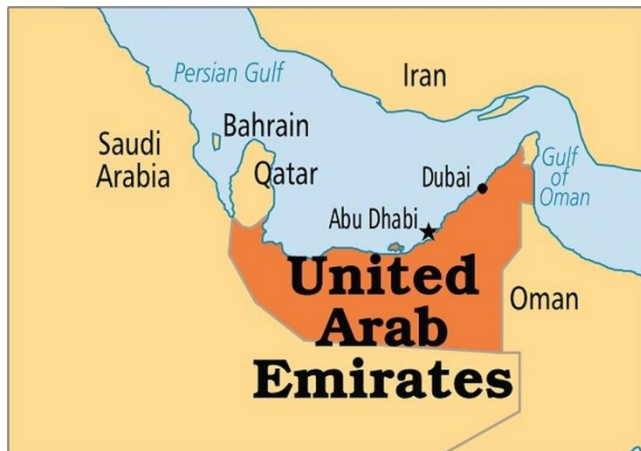
76% of the livestock owners are using weather information for taking decisions on modification of shelter; vaccination against seasonal disease; and fodder management. 82% of fishermen reported

using Ocean State Forecast (OSF) advisories every time before venturing into sea.

- The total annual economic benefits to the 1.07 Crore Below Poverty Line (BPL) agricultural households works out to be Rs. 13,331 Crores and incremental benefit over the next five years is estimated to be about Rs. 48,056 Crores for the farming community.
- Annual income gained by 53 Lakh BPL fisher households is estimated to be Rs. 663 Crores and the present value of benefits accruing to fisher-folk works out to be Rs. 2,391 Crores over a period of 5 years.

- With an initial investment of Rs. 1,000 Crores, NMM and HPC facilities result in a 50-fold increase in its economic benefits.

INDIA-UAE HIGH LEVEL JOINT TASK FORCE ON INVESTMENTS



The eighth meeting of the India-UAE High Level Joint Task Force on Investments (“the Joint Task Force”) was hosted by India in virtual format.

About:

The meeting was co-chaired by Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce & Industry, Government of India and Sheikh Hamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Member of the Executive Council of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.

The Joint Task Force was created in 2012 as a crucial forum for further deepening

the already strong economic ties between the UAE and India.

- The mechanism has assumed greater importance as the two countries entrench the **Comprehensive Strategic Partnership Agreement signed in January 2017**.
- Both sides reviewed the existing **UAE special desk (‘UAE Plus’)** and the **Fast Track Mechanism** created in 2018 to facilitate investments and to resolve any challenges experienced by UAE investors in India.

PILOT SCHEME ON FORTIFICATION OF RICE & ITS DISTRIBUTION THROUGH PDS



To initiate the process of taking the country towards nutritional security, Department of Food & Public Distribution (DFPD) has been running a “Centrally Sponsored Pilot Scheme on Fortification of Rice & its distribution through Public Distribution System”.

About:

The Pilot Scheme has been approved for a period of three years beginning 2019-2020 with a total budget outlay of Rs.174.6 Crore.

- Fifteen State Governments have identified their respective districts (1 district per state) for implementing the Pilot Scheme.
- Already 5 states of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Chhattisgarh have started the distribution of fortified rice in their respective identified districts.

Recent developments:

- In this connection, the Union Minister for Food & Consumer Affairs in his review meeting held on 31.10.2020, laid the emphasis on scaling up of the distribution of fortified rice in the country.
- The FCI has been asked to come up with a comprehensive plan for procurement and distribution of fortified rice in all the Districts of the country under Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)

& Mid-Day Meal (MDM) Scheme from 2021-2022.



- Special focus would be placed on supplying fortified rice to the 112 specially identified Aspirational Districts of the country.

TN KRISHNAN



Prime Minister Narendra Modi has expressed grief over the passing away of noted violinist TN Krishnan.

About:

Trippunithura Narayanaier Krishnan (1928 – 2020) was a Carnatic music violinist.

Along with Lalgudi Jayaraman and M. S. Gopalakrishnan he was considered part of the violin-trinity of Carnatic music.

Awards:

- He was awarded the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 1974 and was a recipient of the Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship from the academy in 2006.
- He was awarded the Madras Music Academy's Sangeetha Kalanidhi in 1980.
- He was also the recipient of the Padma Bhushan in 1992, and earlier, the Padma Shri in 1973.

MALLAKHAMB

In the 70th episode of Mann ki Baat last week, Prime Minister Narendra Modi mentioned the USA where an ancient Indian form of sports — Mallakhamb — is drawing in a steady stream of players, thanks to the efforts of a couple named Chinmay Patankar and Pradnya Patankar.



About:

Mallakhamb is one of the few games that is played against gravity. It functions on a synergy of mind and body, employing every muscle in a way that enables a person to develop speed, stamina and better health.

- The name derives from the pole used by wrestlers for practising their skills though, today, Mallakhamb has developed an identity that is separate from wrestling or kushti.
- The word malla means a wrestler or an athlete in Sanskrit and can also indicate a verb, such as strong or good. Khamb or kham, in spoken Marathi, means a pole. Therefore, Mallakhamb has come to be known as wrestling against a pole.
- Nevertheless, there are two other Mallakhamb styles such as 'rope mallakhamb' and 'hanging mallakhamb'.