



ASSOCIATION OF MULTIMODAL TRANSPORT OPERATORS OF INDIA

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Govt will extend every support to increase Indian investments in Europe: MoS External Affairs



The Minister of State for External Affairs, Mr M. J. Akbar, has said that the government is committed to extending every support to Indian industry's focused efforts to increase investments in European countries.

In his keynote address at the 4th India-Europe 29 Business Forum, organised in New Delhi recently by FICCI with the support of the Ministry of External Affairs, Mr Akbar said that India is

Maritime women to benefit from new leadership course

Maritime subjects are set to feature in a new leadership in the public sector course being developed by the training arm of the UN system—the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). This was decided at a UNITAR meeting at IMO Headquarters, London last week, where a task force, including IMO, was set up to develop the course.

The training will be launched in Marrakech, Morocco (June 23, 2018) with a view to delivering the training to women officials attending the next regional meeting of the network for women of maritime authorities in Latin America later this year.

This initiative is part of IMO's ongoing efforts to support the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal on achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls,

Shipping projected to see a significant digital leap

Vastly improved maritime connectivity, the advance of cyber-physical systems and 'digital' twins will dominate the digital side of shipping in the coming decade, as vessels increasingly resemble floating computers.

Before 2025, many ships, systems and components will be linked to the Internet, making them accessible from almost any location. Maritime connectivity will advance significantly, and will dramatically affect how the industry manages information.

Digital copies of real vessels—dubbed 'digital twins'—will start to be used in earnest by the industry to explore and enhance layouts, design specifications, simulation models, data analytics, and so on, said an analysis by DNV.

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Cabinet approves double taxation avoidance agreement between India & Iran

The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister, Mr Narendra Modi, has approved an agreement for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to taxes on income between India and Iran.

The agreement will stimulate flow of investment, technology and personnel from India to Iran and *vice versa*, and will prevent double taxation. It will provide for exchange of information between the two contracting parties as per latest international standards. It will thus improve transparency in tax matters and will help curb tax evasion and tax avoidance, explained a release.

The proposed agreement also meets treaty-related minimum standards under G-20 OECD Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) Project, in which India participated on an equal footing, the release added.

Eight new National Waterways being developed

The Union government has commenced work on the development of eight new National Waterways, Parliament has been told. Their details and operational status are as follows:

Declared Stretch of NW	Status
1. River Barak (NW-16): Bhanga - Lakhimpur Stretch of 121 km	Under Phase-1, the stretch between Silchar to Bhanga (71 km) has been taken up for development. Waterway is operational with limited infrastructure facility.
2. River Gandak (NW-37): Bhaisalotan Barrage near Triveni Ghat to confluence with Ganga river at Hajipur (296 km) in Bihar and UP.	Development works have commenced from Ganga confluence to Bagaha Bridge (250 km approx.) stretch of NW-37 under Phase-1.
Waterways in Goa 3. NW-27-Cumberjua - confluence with Zuari to confluence with Mandovi river (17 km) 4. NW 68 - Mandovi - Usgaon Bridge to Arabian Sea (41 km) 5. NW 111 - Zuari - Sanvordem Bridge to Marmugao Port (50 km).	Development works for expansion/setting up of floating jetties and upgradation/installation of navigational aids are underway. NWs of Goa are operational.
6. Alappuzha - Kottayam - Athirampuzha Canal (NW-9): Boat Jetty, Alappuzha to Athirampuzha (38 km) in Kerala.	Development work in the Alappuzha-Kottayam stretch has commenced under Phase-1 for cargo movement. Waterway is already operational for ferry services.
7. River Rupnarayan (NW-86): Confluence of Dwarkeshwar and Silai rivers (Pratappur) to confluence with Hooghly river (Geonkhali) (72 km) in West Bengal.	Approximately 34 km between Geonkhali to Kolaghat stretch has been taken up for development under Phase-I.
8. Sunderbans Waterways (NW-97): Namkhana to Athara Banki Khal & 13 connected rivers (654 km) in West Bengal.	Phase-I development work of this waterway from Namkhana to Athara Banki Khal (172 km) has been taken up. Waterway is already operational under Indo-Bangladesh Protocol (IBP) route.

Humor

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