



MONTHLY INFORMATION DIGEST

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
OF THE FAR EAST**

02/2021



EASTERN ECONOMIC FORUM EVENTS

9 February 2021, TASS

Russia expects to hold international forums in 2021

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Alexander Pankin spoke about plans concerning large international forums in 2021. "As for leading business forums this year, we are cautiously optimistic. We do hope that our sanitary and epidemiological situation will give us a chance to hold the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum, the Eastern Economic Forum in Vladivostok, and the Russian Energy Week in 2021," said Mr. Pankin.

At the same time, Deputy Minister noted that some of these events can be partially or fully held online.

tass.ru/politika/10658021

INTERNATIONAL ARCTIC FORUM EVENTS

3 February 2021, Lenta.ru

International Arctic Forum agenda discussed in Moscow

At a meeting with Advisor to the President of the Russian Federation Anton Kobayakov, Governor of Murmansk Region Andrey Chibis presented discussion initiatives for this year's planned 'Arctic: Territory of Dialogue' International Arctic Forum, as well as for the Russian Federation's chairmanship in the Arctic Council.

"It is important to continue developing region's investment attractiveness abroad. As a promotion tool it is necessary to restore one of the backbone industries in the country, namely the congress and exhibition industry. It provides an opportunity to demonstrate our potential to a wide range of both Russian and foreign partners. I am confident that soon it will be possible to defeat the pandemic and return to regular business activities," said Mr. Chibis.

lenta.ru/pressrelease/2021/02/03/forum

STATE POLICY IN THE FAR EAST AND THE ARCTIC

17 February 2021, Gazeta.ru

The first meeting of the Organizing Committee for preparing and supporting the Russian Federation's chairmanship of the Arctic Council in 2021-2023 was held

Issues pertaining to the preparation for the Russian Federation's Chairmanship in the Arctic Council in 2021–2023 and the concept of the Russian Federation Chairmanship in the Arctic Council were on the agenda of the first meeting of the Organizing Committee. The meeting was held under the leadership of the Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation – Plenipotentiary Representative of the President of the Russian Federation in the Far Eastern Federal District Yuri Trutnev.

The meeting focused on discussing comprehensive measures for the development of Arctic territories, environmental safety, transport support, and protection of indigenous minorities of the North. Particular attention was paid to developing a roadmap of measures aimed at increasing the effectiveness of Russian participation in the activities of the Arctic Council.

"The development of the Northern Sea Route, science and technology, environmental protection, defense and security issues, and the development of Arctic deposits – this is an incomplete list of areas Russian specialists are working in. It is possible and necessary to develop international cooperation in all these areas and involve our foreign partners: scientists, experts, representatives of business and public organizations," Mr. Trutnev said.

gazeta.ru/gazeta/adv/13482086.shtml



10 February 2021, TASS

The Government of the Russian Federation simplified checkpoint inspection procedures in the Arctic zone

The passage of goods and transport through checkpoints in the Arctic zone will be accelerated by assigning the power to carry out inspections to the customs authorities. The appropriate decree was signed by Mikhail Mishustin. It is expected that this measure will reduce the costs for entrepreneurs and make doing business in the Arctic region more comfortable.

The decision concerns different types of inspections: sanitary, veterinary, and phytosanitary. Previously such checks were carried out by Rospotrebnadzor and Rosselkhozadzor. A similar mechanism was previously tested in the Free Port of Vladivostok and proved very efficient.

tass.ru/ekonomika/10664451

6 February 2021, TASS

New ministry for professional education and employment to appear in Primorye

The Ministry of Professional Education and Employment will deal with the training of personnel for secondary education institutions, press service of the regional government reports.

The authorities expect that the new ministry will allow more effective training of personnel for the needs of the real sector of the regional economy. It is also expected to become a link between business and the education system.

The agency is formed from the two structural divisions of the existing ministries of Primorye: Ministry of Education and Ministry of Labour and Social Policy. Staff from both units will be transferred to the new structure.

tass.ru/obschestvo/10639031

2 February 2021, TASS

Discounted airfare programme expanded to cover all Far East residents

Mikhail Mishustin signed a decree extending the subsidized air transportation programme to all residents of the Far East. From now on, passengers of all categories registered as the Far Eastern Federal District residents will be able to purchase tickets for flights that are subsidized by the state. The list includes 21 routes.

Previously, under the programme of subsidized flights to the Far East, Kaliningrad and Simferopol, only citizens of Russia under 23 years old, men over 60 years old and women over 55, disabled people and members of large families could purchase a discounted ticket in economy class.

tass.ru/ekonomika/10600689

ECONOMY OF THE FAR EAST AND THE ARCTIC

22 February 2020, Rossiyskaya Gazeta

Kamchatka to host 'Far East: The Winter of Discoveries' Forum

The Forum will start on 24 February in the Kamchatka territory as part of the Beringia 2021 winter festival. Members of the government, business and expert community representatives will discuss the development of the hospitality industry in the territory and in the Far East in general. Key topics will include MICE-tourism, the investment potential of Kamchatka, as well issues of sustainable tourism.

rg.ru/2021/02/22/reg-dfo/na-kamchatke-projdet-delovoj-forum-dalnij-vostok-zima-otkrytij



17 February 2020, Interfax

Primorye became the most efficient territory in Russia in terms of livestock farming

Production growth in livestock farming in Primorsky Territory in 2020 compared to 2019 was 23.9%, the highest figure not only in the Far East (growth of 1.9%), but also in the Russian Federation as a whole (growth of 2%). The news is reported by the press service of the regional government with reference to Rosstat data.

As previously reported, almost RUB 4 billion are provided for agricultural development in Primorye in 2021. The state support will make it possible to meet the targets and reduce the cost of production.

interfax-russia.ru/far-east/news/primorskiy-kray-dostig-v-2020-godu-samogo-vysokogo-v-strane-indeksa-proizvodstva-v-sfere-zhivotnovodstva-pravitelstvo-regiona

15 February 2020, Kommersant

Ministry of Energy in talks with Ministry of Finance to subsidize fuel transportation to the Far East consumers

The point of the subsidy is to significantly reduce transport disparity in the region, which affects final wholesale prices.

"We expect that the proposed solution will significantly increase the number of oil refineries that ship to the region, create competition between them, and form stable fuel stocks in Zabaikalye for the summer period for all, including independent gas station networks," said Alexander Osipov, Governor of Zabaikalye Territory.

kommersant.ru/doc/4692594

11 February 2020, Izvestya

New town might appear on Sakhalin

Yury Trutnev, Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation – Plenipotentiary Representative of the President of the Russian Federation in the Far Eastern Federal District, announced plans to build a new town on Sakhalin, which will be connected to the port of Korsakov.

"There are additional resources in the region, which we have decided to allocate towards improving the quality of life in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk. Additionally, we are considering building a town that will be built properly from the start," said Yuri Trutnev. Work is underway on the master plan of the new settlement.

iz.ru/1123274/2021-02-11/trutnev-zaiavil-o-planakh-postroit-na-sakhaline-novy-i-gorod

NEW MECHANISMS FOR THE FAR EAST DEVELOPMENT: SUCCESS STORIES

11 February 2021, Kommersant

St. Petersburg and Yakutia to join forces in Arctic vegetation research

The developments are conducted as part of the 'North: The Territory of Sustainable Development' scientific and educational centre. The laboratory is planned to be established by the end of the year. It will conduct research on bioactive substances of the polar region plants.

A separate branch of joint work will focus on elaboration of the doublet storages for the national collection of cultivated plants. One of the plans includes repurposing the existing mines in the Arctic.

kommersant.ru/doc/4684046

4 February 2021, Lenta.ru



Arctic residents' liability protecting indigenous peoples comes into force

The standard approved by the Ministry of the Russian Federation for the Development of the Far East and the Arctic establishes a list of principles for relations with the indigenous peoples of the North, Siberia, and the Far East of the Russian Federation and is aimed at lobbying their interests.

Now, according to the new code of conduct, resident companies are recommended to: assist in the development of small-numbered peoples, improve their quality of life and preserve their habitat; take into account the opinion of indigenous minorities when developing natural resources in their areas of residence and economic activity; cooperate in improving the social and economic situation; and minimize the negative impact of their activities.

lenta.ru/news/2021/02/05/standart/

The Roscongress Foundation is a socially oriented non-financial development institution and a major organizer of international conventions; exhibitions; and business, public, sporting, and cultural events. It was established in pursuance of a decision by the President of the Russian Federation.

The Foundation was established in 2007 with the aim of facilitating the development of Russia's economic potential, promoting its national interests, and strengthening the country's image. One of the roles of the Foundation is to comprehensively evaluate, analyse, and cover issues on the Russian and global economic agendas. It also offers administrative services, provides promotional support for business projects and attracting investment, and helps foster social entrepreneurship and charitable initiatives.

Each year, the Foundation's events draw participants from 208 countries and territories, with more than 15,000 media representatives working on-site at Roscongress' various venues. The Foundation benefits from analytical and professional expertise provided by 5000 people working in Russia and abroad. In addition, it works in close cooperation with 133 economic partners; industrialists' and entrepreneurs' unions; and financial, trade, and business associations from 70 countries worldwide.
roscongress.org

ORGANIZER OF THE EASTERN ECONOMIC FORUM AND THE INTERNATIONAL ARCTIC FORUM