Syrian government forces recapture 600 square km of territory in Idlib campaign

China’s coronavirus deaths surpass SARS country plans halting return to work

Arab-Inter-Parliamentary Union rejects Trump’s ‘deal of century’

Iran self-sufficient in producing military jets
Iranself-suﬃcient in producing military jets: Air Force commander

Iran is self-suﬃcient in producing military jets: Air Force commander

Pakistan PM treasures ties with Iran: ambassador

Experts able to overhaul ﬁre models of helicopters: defense minister

New missile, modern propellants used for space rocket: weaponry

Political

POLITICAL TEHRAN — The Aerospace Force of Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC), in a ceremony on Sunday, unveiled its new products, including the surface-to-surface Qiam 500 missile and a new generation of propellants for missiles and rocket engines.

The ceremony was attended by IRGC Chief Major General Hossein Salami as well as IRGC Aerospace Force Commander Brigadier General Amir Ali Hajizadeh according to Sepid News.

A news website said the Aerospace Force managed to unveil its new surface to surface missile with composite body capable of flying 500 kilometers and 100 kilometers further in terms of range in comparison to Fatollah.

The final range of Raad 500 missile is 500 km.

The IRGC also unveiled the high altitude space rocket engine with thrust vectoring nozzle which is considered as the new generation for the space rockets and rocket engines.

Hajizadeh explained that thrust vectoring nozzle has been manufactured by connecting composite body with a vertical vector nozzle, which will help the engine with solid fuel in space.

‘Bringing in to new defense policies: Salami’

Amir Hatami said that the keynote, General Salami pointed to the Sunday remarks of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Khamenei, saying, “Being strong in the heat of new defense policies of the Islamic Republic.”

“Our real war is producing and manufacturing for space, rocket and anti-shield missiles has been materialized,” the commander of IRGC Aerospace Force said at the ceremony.

“We, in the Guards Aerospace Force, have an agreement with the country’s scientists and experts on which the achievements in defense sectors should be economically cost-eﬀective; accordingly, for this, we have used the base technical ﬁeld as well as cost eﬀective productions,” Hajizadeh went on to say.

In his remarks on Sunday, Ayatollah Khamenei said to prevent a war against itself, Iran must increase its military power, noting that being militarily vulnerable would prompt the enemy to take action against the country.

In order to prevent war and in order to put an end to threats we must become powerful,” Ayatollah Khamenei told a number of Air Force oﬃcers on the occasion of Air Force Day.

The Leader went on to say, “We are not seeking to threaten any country or nation, rather we are after protecting the country’s security and preventing threats.”

As well as determining the country’s defense and military capacities and turning threats into opportunities are the third reasons for the successes of the Air Force.

“In addition to repairing and maintaining of aircraﬀt, the Air Force has successfully planned and manufactured ﬁghter jets in spite of the U.S. sanctions,” the Leader stated.

Grand ayatollahs call for mass participation in Bahman 22 rallies

POLITICAL TEHRAN — A number of Iranian grand clerics have called for people’s mass participation in Bahman 22 rallies (Feb. 11) which marks the 41st anniversary of the Islamic Revolution.

Grand Ayatollah Mohsen Hamadani said that the people’s mass participation in the rallies will show national unity in the face of enemies.

He noted that people will show their support for the revo-
nation by participating in rallies, like the previous years.

The top Iran political advisor who also urged the people to attend the rallies.

Arsalan Athar, a member of the Assembly of Experts, oﬀered all the people to pay attention to the plans of the enemies.

Grand Ayatollah Mohammad Ali Gorgani said that the people will also show their support for the revolution and recognize the group as a “viable” alternative.

President Hassan Rouhani, Majlis Speaker Ali Larijani and Justice Chief Gholamhossein Mohseni Ejehei are attending the opening of the Supreme Council of Economic Coordination on Saturday that participates in the rally.

President Rouhani called the “national unity and integrity” against the United States’ economic war.

Iran is celebrating the 41st anniversary of its revolution as the United States continued its illegal sanctions against the Islamic Republic.

Donald Trump has acknowledged that the hardline sanctions and threats against the Islamic Republic.

At a Paris gathering in July 27, John Bolton, who served as national security adviser, announced the list of the Mujahedin Khalq MEK, that the Trump administration is ready to embrace the goal of immediate regime change in Iran and recognize the group as a “stable” alternative.

“The outcome of the policy review should be to determine that the Ayatollah Khomeini’s 1979 revolution will not last until its 40th birthday,” Bolton said.

Iranian civilians in the capital Tehran on February 11, 2020

President Rouhani, who is likely to win a second 4-year term in a February 21 vote and Iran’s Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei who is in his last term as the country’s highest authority, have called for people’s mass participation in the rallies which mark the 41st anniversary of the Islamic Revolution.

Grand Ayatollah Nasser Makarem Shirazi said that the mass participation of people in the rallies will show the people’s will to continue the achievements of the Islamic Revolution.

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Iran is celebrating the 41st anniversary of its revolution as the United States continued its illegal sanctions against the Islamic Republic.

Over the past year, the United States has continued to intensify its economic pressures on Iran and has imposed sanctions against the country’s central bank, the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC), and Iran's government officials.

The sanctions have targeted the country’s oil and gas sector, its financial institutions, and its access to international banking systems.

The sanctions have also affected Iran’s ability to purchase essential goods and services, including food, medicine, and technology.

Iran has responded by increasing its reliance on domestic production and by developing new technology and innovation.

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Russia has made most efforts to preserve nuclear deal: diplomat

TEHRAN – Russian Ambassador to Iran Mikhail Ulyanov has said that Russia has made most efforts to preserve the 2015 nuclear deal, officially known as the JCPOA.

In an interview with IRNA published on Saturday, Ulyanov criticized Europe for being in favor of keeping the JCPOA. “Europe says it supports the JCPOA, but is passive in practice,” he said.

Ulyanov, who has served as Russia’s envoy to the NPT since 2011, said that Europe must ensure Iran’s benefits from the JCPOA deal if it wants to see the deal survive.

“If we want the Iranian nuclear deal to survive, we need to ensure that Iran benefits if it returns to compliance,” he wrote in an article in The Project Syndicate published on Saturday.

Ulyanov was notified in January by Paris, London and Washington to use diplomatic efforts to prevent the JCPOA from being scrapped.

In the meeting with Borrell in Tehran on Feb. 3, President Rouhani criticized the EU for failing to honor its commitments after the U.S. quit the deal and reimposed sanctions on Iran.

However, Rouhani, “The Islamic Republic of Iran is still ready to cooperate with the European Union for resuming negotiations, and at any time that the other side (EU) fulfills its obligations, Iran will also return to its commitments.”

In May 2021, Iran started to reduce its commitments to the JCPOA at bi-monthly intervals in response to the obeisance of the part by the U.S. coupled with the European Union’s inability to shield Iran’s economy from sanctions.

In the early hours of January 8, the IRGC attacked the U.S. airbase of Ain al-Assad in Anbar province in Iraq in response to a threat of assassination and if they threaten our commanders with assassination and if they implement their threat, Iran’s Force commanders will be safe,” Major General Salami said.

Responding to the remarks, IRGC Chief Hossein Salami warned the U.S. and Israel that none of their military capabilities would be safe while their commanders operate in the region.

“Israel’s leadership has been severely,” Sanders told CNN, noting that he won’t be present for any further events in the primary.

According to the report, after the 9/11 attacks, about $4.1 billion was spent on Iraq, $4.2 billion on the war in Afghanistan and $4.4 billion on the war in the Middle East. “The report states that if post-9/11 wars had not been waged the U.S. would have been able to eliminate terrorism for about $344 billion the total funds spent would have been spent,” Sanders said.

Some experts consider the ideological orientation of U.S. covering up for the Islamic Republic for the continued war in Iraq. From this point of view, Washington is trying to repair some of the shifts it has made in recent years. But it is a step in the right direction.

In such a situation, Washington’s leaders the Islamic Republic as their most important ideological opponent, the implementation of its policies.

Iran’s failure to join FWF will cause problems

Djalali also said that Iran will suffer financial losses in the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

Opposition to join the FATF grow after the U.S. quit the nuclear deal and introduced sanctions against Iran.

“If we want to stay in the FATF, otherwise it will cause problems,” he added.

Iran is at the forefront of the fight against drug trafficking, the minister said. Over 1,200 leaked to facilitate markets in Europe and Pakistan Arab states.

The drugs originate from neighboring Azerbaijan. Over 200,000,000 kilograms of hashish, 12 kg of heroin, 4 kg of crystal and 1 kg of other psychotropic drugs.

Two cur and some ammunitions were also treated during the funeral.

Over 1,200 tons of narcotics seized in Sistan-Balochestan

DAEstände and the healthcare cost of service members amount to about $100 billion per year.

According to the report, the cost of the war in Iraq in 2011, with 27 member countries and a population of 40 million people, was set at $175 billion.

In these circumstances, the Iraq War has obviously no outcome for the U.S. and the Islamic Republic.

In such a situation, the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq amphibious in 2017, and it sent a large amphibious landing force.

Brigadier General Mohammad Ghanbari said on Saturday.

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TEHRAN – E-Commerce Development Center of Iran has officially launched a system for recording businesses’ compliance with e-commerce businesses in the country, the chairman of the center announced in a press conference held at the place of the Ministry of Information, Industry, Mining and Trade on Sunday.

Elaborating on the goals of the mentioned system, the chairman of IRICA said: “The main purpose of this system is to provide the customers with a profile of the electronic businesses for evaluating them. According to this system, there are more than 30,000 Iranian e-commerce businesses with which at least 15 billion rials ($961.8 million) were traded at TSE.

The official pointed to the evaluating of the e-commerce businesses and establishing trust for the customers as the first step toward the development of electronic commerce in the country, saying that the center started working on the project in the middle of the Iranian calendar year of 1396 (ended on March 20, 2019) and, after reviewing the data of the previous year, published the results of the first six months of the past year.

He further emphasized that IRICA attaches high significance to trade with EAEU and offers all the facilities to the importers of commodities to this union’s territory.

Annual agricultural production anticipated to rise 6% tons

Iran-EAEU trade surpasses $1b since implementing FTA

‘Participation in regional treaties a major key for trade development’

In Iran, the development of railway has been among the top-priority plans of the governments in recent years. The country’s Sixth Five-Year National Development Plan (2019-2024) has envisaged that the railway network for at least 30 percent of cargo transportation and 20 percent of passenger transport in Iran—such a trend will reach the limit of 85 billion rials ($4.5 billion) of investment.

According to the official, Iran is currently recording a 180-million-people market (about 8.2% of the world’s population) in the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), which the government has been waiting for unloading at the country’s ports, Orounaqi said: “About 19 vessels have been waiting for unloading at the country’s ports, and the EAEU deal has been signed on May 17, 2018 and officially came into force on October 27, 2019. Iran is a very important market in the region because of its membership with this country is of high significance for the EAEU members (Russia, Belarus, Armenia, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan).

The trade agreement between Iran and this union has laid the ground for the expansion of trade ties between the two sides. Iran’s signing the agreement with the bloc has increased the country’s exports to the EAEU member states significantly, which is turning into the point for the Islamic Republic of Iran to boost its export under the trade union’s terms of the agreement.

The interim agreement enabling for the development of trade ties between Iran and EAEU has been signed in November 2016 by the representatives of both countries. Under this agreement, Iran and EAEU will be able to further develop commercial ties and consultations between the two sides, and also in terms of value compared to the same period of time in the previous year. The official noted that in addition to the mentioned figures, Iran’s current tendency is an 11 billion tons of goods are going through temporary customs in this country, about three million tons of which is in Isfahan Khomeini.

Several vessels which have been waiting for unloading at the country’s ports, Orounaqi said: “About 10 vessels carrying essential goods are unloading at Isfahan Khomeini, Anzali and Amirkabir ports, while as we are noting at the harbor to unload their cargoes.”

As Iran’s foreign trade increased, the government has been providing new facilities for importers of basic goods to make them able to clear their commodities in the shortest possible time.

In August 2019, Iran’s Finance and Economic Affairs Minister Farhad, in a statement as a directive addressed to the head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Exporters and Importers Organization (IRICA), obliged the customs administration to take measures for facilitating customs processes. The directive set a deadline for IRICA to take the necessary measures within two weeks.

The directive was in line with improving foreign trade conditions for enterprises and promoting foreign trade.

In October in 2019, IRICA announced that the time of customs operations has decreased 48 percent for the imports and 33 percent for the exports in the country.

The official pointed to the lack of necessary infrastructure as the most important problem that the private sector is facing while trying to benefit from this agreement, adding that: “The long stoppage of trucks in the border, lack of reliable rail transportation, the lack of trucks with cold storages for transporting agricultural products are the most important challenges we face.”

Yousef Rahbari, policy making and setting regulations are two pillars of the e-commerce sector for which platforms/lines have been approved already.
Iranian companies ink deal for establishing polyethylene plant

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**At least one cargo bound for China, the world’s second-largest LNG importer, has diverted and is heading towards Singapore storage tanks, several sources told Reuters. These other vessels bound for China have reduced speed, one of them said.**

**Major suppliers of CNOOC**

At least two major suppliers to CNOOC told Reuters that the first had requested that its cargo deliveries be delayed. A CNOOC executive described a commitment to CNOOC by a major LNG supplier as “a threat” to the deals and could lead to higher prices. The executive also warned that any turning down of cargoes did not necessarily mean that China would be able to tap demand from utility companies, but overall consumption levels may struggle to accommodate the increase in supply. The companies have been present through their general trading companies, but overall consumption levels may struggle to accommodate the increase in supply. The companies have been present through their general trading companies, but overall consumption levels may struggle to accommodate the increase in supply. The companies have been present through their general trading companies, but overall consumption levels may struggle to accommodate the increase in supply. The companies have been present through their general trading companies, but overall consumption levels may struggle to accommodate the increase in supply.

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**Free-falling LNG prices wreak havoc on trade amid coronavirus fears**

**Managing Director of Iran’s Petrochemical Research and Technology Company (RTPC) signed deals with the CEO of Tabriz Petrochemical Company in Tehran on Saturday.**

**Record low for liquefied natural gas (LNG) is rolling the global gas market, evoking alarm among traders to find alternative locations for cargoes with Chinese buyers rejecting shipments amid the coronavirus crisis.**

**Asian spot prices for LNG have already tumbled to $3 per million British thermal units (mmBtu), less than a quarter of what they were at the same time last year. At least one cargo bound for India has already traded below $5/mmBtu, down 30 cents per mmBtu from the previous day.**

**Concerns that Chinese companies could be left with large amounts of LNG because of the impact of the coronavirus outbreak have slowed oil and gas majors from reopened oil and gas fields.**

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**Iranian companies ink deal for establishing polyethylene plant**

**This has been transmitted to the directors of Innovation, Industry, Tourism and Commerce, Francisco Martín, and Rural Development, Live-Stock, Families, Food and Environment, Guillermo Blanco, to the director of the company, Agustín Valcérlex, and to the head of business of Ebroval Renovables, Roberto de la Cueva, who attended the meeting they held this Thursday and which the Executive representatives of the Sierra del Escudo Cantabria, wind farm resources, reported.**

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**Wind energy in Cantabria, wind farm of the Sierra del Escudo**

**The government of Cantabria supports the creation of the wind power firm that the Ryeoxenergia Company intends to install in the Sierra del Escudo with the aim of generating green energy.**

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**Oman mulls green hydrogen and utility scale solar for Sohar Port**

Sohar Port and Free Zone (SPFZ) said it is offering developers the opportunity to invest in utility scale solar farms that will generate competitively priced electricity for various industrial and petrochemical plants operating within the port. Equally promising is the opportunity for investors to produce green hydrogen, which can be used by industries that currently depend on volatile natural gas as a source of hydrogen for their operations.

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**Could this be the decade of green hydrogen?**

**The pressure on the energy industry to curb carbon emissions with growing global demand has drawn attention to alternatives to fossil fuels.**

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**Global spending on energy**

While the $75 billion investments needed to make green hydrogen competitive looks huge, it is just a fraction of annual global spending on energy, accounting for less than 5 percent of that, Pittinger and Chang say. A recent analysis by Wood Mackenzie showed that green hydrogen costs could reach parity by 2025 in Australia, Germany, and Japan based on $35 per megawatt-hour for renewables.

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Introduction:
The below report represents highlights of activities and performance of Industrial Development and Renovation Organization of Iran (IDRO) in nine months of the current year in 1398 (from March 21 to Dec. 22).

In the current year, IDRO, to realize strategies of the Ministry of Industry, Mine and Trade, has focused on realizing the domestic production and the movement of domestic manufacturing.

In addition, IDRO has fulfilled its mission for the industrial development of the country, IDRO has focused on training able and competent manpower and has managed to take a giant stride in realizing economic objectives of the country.

- Movement of Domestic Manufacturing of Product

Exacerbation of US sanctions on Iran, senior officials of the country such as officials at the Ministry of Industries, Mine and Trade caused the country to rely on the domestic capabilities for the removal of requirements of industries. US imposition of sanctions on Iran prompted knowledge-based firms to take effective steps in this regard.

Accordingly, in line with the movement of domestic manufacturing, the first domestic production exhibition was held in Tehran in July 2019 with the aim of introducing and identifying requirements of industries of the country in the field of car and its accessories, minerals, home appliances, marine industries, oil, gas, petrochemicals and telecommunications.

The effective and strong presence of IDRO in a Technology Exhibition entitled “RINOTEX-2019” was in line with promoting the movement of domestic production. Organizing specialized panels for deepening domestic manufacturing, signing and sealing MoUs unilaterally and multilaterally, supplying 3,200 products as required by industries for domestication, signing a number of 202 MoUs between companies participating in the exhibition, organizing specialized panels in the presence of experts, signing and sealing 11 agreement letters between companies attending in pavilion of IDRO and other companies participating in the technological exhibition are of the salient strategies of this strategy.

- Situation of Investment Projects

Thanks to its inner nature, Industrial Development and Renovation Organization (IDRO) has various projects at hand in different fields, ranging from 25 investment projects, two plan management projects, one general contracting project, 6 production boom projects and 40 projects at the feasibility studies’ stage.

The rials value of total investment projects of IDRO stands at 175,000 billion rials while the rate of cost spent for these projects since the beginning of the current year up to the end of Iranian month of Azar at 22,530,000 billion rials.

- Plan Management Projects

During nine-month period, IDRO (Industrial Development and Renovation Organization) (IDRO) has been active in two projects as the project manager and commissioner including supply of 2,000 metro wagons at entrepreneurship of Municipalities and Rural Aids Organization of the country and also expansion project of export-oriented industries in Jask coastal areas up to Gwadar with entrepreneurship of Plan and Budget Organization (PBO).

- Supply of 650 Wagons

Finalization of contract for the supply of 650 wagons, amounting to €782 million, as a part of plan for the supply of 2,000 wagons for metro, is of the projects which has been followed up by this organization.

Following up for the removal of problems and setting up Technical-Commercial Committee are of the salient measures of the organization during the nine-month period.

- Expansion Project of Export-Oriented Industries in Jask Coastal Areas to Gwadar

The measures carried out according of the allocated credits stand at 1,547 billion rials which was led to the start of construction operation and creation of 16 projects with the total investment of 2,548 billion rials and generating employment for 774 people in the provinces of Sistan and Baluchestan and Hormozgan.

Total investment of projects introduced in following up. Totally, 2,296 billion rials, requested facilities rate from the operating bank (591 billion rials) and credits needed for subsidy of facilities (608 billion rials) which 409 direct employments will be generated primarily.

- General Contracting Projects

Project for the development of Phase 14 of South Pars Gas Field

In this field, IDRO is composed of consortia from eight companies in the development project of Phase 14 of South Pars Gas Field. This project has generated employment for 4,300 people and the amount of contract stands at $5.249 million with about 87 percent. In this project, the third gas project “SPDx1B” with 2,400 tons was transported and installed in July 2019 in its location at 105 km of coastal part of Kangan. With commissioning these 500 million feet cubit, equal 14 million cubic meter/day is transferred through a 32-inch pipeline to the land part and then is transferred to the Phase 12 with the completion of pipeline in Phase 14 of the refinery.

- Renovating Heavy Public Transportation Fleet

Given the problems caused by the international sanctions and dire need of car manufacturing companies to supply parts from overseas, this plan is moving ahead slowly. Therefore, follow ups by IDRO (Industrial Development and Renovation Organization) in the reported period as well as presenting practical strategies for overcoming sanctions, the executive process has been accelerated and it is hoped that the speed of substitution of dilapidated heavy commercial vehicles will increase.

- Plan to Support Development of Rail Transport Fleet

Increasing the rail transport share of cargo from nine percent to 30 percent as well as rail transport share from total transportation of passengers from 10 to 20 percent has been cited as the main aim behind implementation of the plan.

- Implementation of Industrial Projects 1 Less Developed Areas

A number of 35 large and mid-sized projects have been defined with the aim of identifying the salient advantages of investment in less developed and disadvantaged areas of the country in line with the plan entitled “Land Preparation for the Industrial Development”.

In this regard, 170,000 billion rials worth of investment has been made in these project which will generate 5,000 employments for job-seeking people.
Factbox: China’s fight against novel coronavirus outbreak

BEIJING — China has stepped up efforts to curb the spread of the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV). Here are the latest developments:

 Authorities on Sunday started to disinfect the city of Wuhan twice a day to beef up efforts in containing the outbreak of the novel strain of coronavirus. Wuhan is the epicenter of the virus outbreak in central China’s Hubei Province.

 More medical teams are arriving in virus-hit Wuhan to help battle the epidemic.

 On Saturday night, 260 medical workers came to Wuhan from the Third Xiangya Hospital of Central South University, bringing new medical equipment and supplies. A charter plane of Xiamen Airlines in virus-hit Wuhan to help battle the outbreak of the novel strain of coronavirus pneumonia Saturday night. (Photo: Xinhua/Xiao Jinjin)

 The overall confirmed cases on Central China’s Hubei, the capital of central China’s Hubei Province, Feb. 8, 2020. The makeshift hospital is 694 less compared with the confirmed cases reported in the previous day.

 The mortality rate of the virus in Hubei stood at 2.88 percent, with the city of Tianmen and Wuhan having the highest death rates at 5.08 percent and 4.00 percent, respectively.

 The newly-built Leishenshan Hospital in Wuhan, the second in the city replicating Beijing’s SARS treatment model, received on Saturday the first batch of patients infected with the virus. The two makeshift hospitals — Leishenshan (Thunder God Mountain) and Huoshenshan (Fire God Mountain), together can accommodate 2,600 beds.

 China released an application guide to solicit research and development projects or test kits for the novel coronavirus. The on-site quick testing equipment and reagents should be able to identify confirmed patients among suspected patients within 1.5 hours to help prevent and control the epidemic. Research institutes, universities and enterprises can submit applications to the Ministry of Science and Technology from Feb. 8 to 15. (Source: Xinhua.net)
The letter regarding SeaWorld’s plans to “no longer demon- 
strates surfing’ trainer tricks at all
SeaWorld to end ‘dolphin surfing’ trainer tricks at all parks

Since the release of the explosive 2013 documentary Blackfish, SeaWorld has ended their orca breeding program, ceased all whale and dolphin breeding in their parks, and has made other changes to their animal welfare policies and performance more about education and less about entertainment.

The most recent of these changes is SeaWorld’s decision to cut ‘dolphin surfing’ tricks performed by the park’s trainer during the dolphins. Dolphin surfing is a term used for tricks that involve a dolphin swimming through the water on its back by placing their fins on the back or sides of two swimming dolphins.

According to the Los Angeles Times, “the decision to move away from such displays comes amid growing concerns over the welfare of dolphins and that the park plans to phase out tricks that involve two dolphins swimming together in the next few months,” reports the Los Angeles Times.

SeaWorld issued a statement on February 10, 2020, saying that the change had been approved after a shareholder vote regarding dolphin surfing, along with other measures the group has taken against the practice, the animal welfare organization is claiming responsibility for the end of dolphin surfing at SeaWorld.

(Source: MSN)

The letter regarding SeaWorld’s plans to “no longer demonstrate ‘surfing’ (on dolphins) at any of its locations” states that SeaWorld trainers have already ceased riding on the back of dolphins and that the park plans to phase out tricks that include trainers riding through the water on dolphins.

The letter further states that SeaWorld is making other changes to their animal encounters to make the performances more about education and less about entertainment.

The letter also notes that SeaWorld has already ceased riding on the back of dolphins by placing their fins on the backs or sides of two swimming dolphins.

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(Source: MSN)
Preticipation rate rises by 22% in a water year

Botsawana has sold licences to shoot dead dozens of elephants for tens of thousands of pounds each, in what experts are warning could be a "global conservation disaster".

The country’s annual off-hunt for 60 of the huge mammals for a total of 25.7m Batswana pula – £1.8m or $2.4m – was announced last month.

Conservationists have told the country’s leaders they risk hunting elephant extinction.

And African organisations that wanted to bid at the auction and put the money towards local community projects instead of shooting animals were reportedly being excluded from the bidding.

A statement issued soon after the decision last year by Mokgwatsi Masisi to end Botswana’s five-year ban on elephant hunting.

The government has issued a quota for the killing of 272 elephants during this year’s hunting season, from April to September.

A week at Windsor’s auction to shoot 10 others – to shoot others to fail to meet the reserve price of 2 million each.

For example: "We do not have any freedom of choice.

"A global conservation disaster": Fury as Botswana sells 60 elephant shoot permits to trophy-hunters

Last year, Botswana was looking at a 30 percent rise in a water year.

According to the latest statistics, approximately 135,000 hectares of land in Batswana province have been burnt in recent days, IREIA quoted Mohamed Qubanli as saying on Sunday.

He went on to say that 30 percent of homes in 135,000 hectares of Batswana province had no serious damage to the trees.

Approximating all the forces who made efforts to control the fire, Botswana has distributed its efforts in various cities, including Kwekwe, Tsholotsho, Kabiabikabika and some others.

Gilan, as the province of Iran’s greenest land, has 565,000 hectares of forest and 24,000 hectares of grassland.

Wildfire extinguished in northern forests

The four endangered mountain gorillas, including three adult females, have been killed in an apparent lightning strike at a Ugandan national park, a conservation group has said.

A post-mortem examination has been performed on the four, including a male infant, who died on 3 February in Mgahinga National Park in south-west Uganda.

“Based on the gross lesions from the post-mortem… the tentative cause of death for all four individuals is likely to be electrocution by lightning,” the Greater Virunga Transboundary Collaboration said in a statement on Saturday.

Tourists and eco-tourism are promised from the hunting industry.

For example: "We do not have any freedom of choice.

Iran breaks U.S. monopoly on aviation navigation charts

Iranian researchers have succeeded in producing aviation navigation charts, known as Inflight AIP (Aeronautical Information Publication), which was monopolized by the United States, IRNA news agency reported on Sunday.

Prepared by Iran’s Army, the Inflight AIP was unveiled in Tehran with Air Force Commander Brigadier General Aziz Nasirzadeh and Air Secretary for Science and Technology Sourennata Sartari in attendance.

Digital aeronautical charts, including instrument flight rules (IFR) and visual flight rules (VFR), is a high-quality knowledge-based product which was solely produced by Jeppesen Company and was not available for Iranian airlines due to U.S. sanctions.
Bahrain summons, detains another Shia cleric as crackdown persists

Bahraini authorities have summoned and arrested an- other Shia Muslim cleric, this time, after he issued a fatwa against Al-Khalifa dynasty ahead of his Wednesday trial. Arabic-language and independent Manama Post on- line reported that the cleric named Sheikh Mohammed Al-Reish was detained after he announced an anti-government fatwa against the Al-Khalifa dynasty. Al-Reish, who is a senior cleric in the country's Shia community, was recorded stating that he is a “martyr” and that he “will sacrifice his life for his cause.” He also claimed that the Al-Khalifa dynasty is an "infiltrator" or an accident. He further added that the Al-Khalifa dynasty should be responsible for the deaths of thousands of those who have been killed since 2011. The cleric was arrested on Wednesday morning, a day after he was recorded on a fatwa, denouncing the Al-Khalifa dynasty and calling for the establishment of a new government. The cleric was arrested on charges of "inciting violence and sedition," and is expected to be charged with terrorism in the coming days.

Arab Inter-Parliamentary Union rejects Trump’s ‘deal of century’

On January 28, Trump unveiled his so-called “deal of the century” to the Palestinians, which many have described as a “slap in the face” to their cause. Palestinian leaders, who have been critical of the plan, immediately denounced it as a “farce.” They said it would not help bring peace to the region and that it was a “US-Palestine deal” that was being imposed on them by a “US-shepherd.” The US has already stated that it is prepared to move its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem in early 2018, which is expected to bring further violence to the region.

Qatar may become first Persian Gulf Arab state to operate submarines

Qatar is reportedly planning to lease submarines from Italy and turn it into the first Persian Gulf Arab country to operate military submarines, according to reports in the region. The Americans have been working with Qatar to upgrade its naval capabilities since the country signed a deal with the US in 2017. The country is looking to acquire a medium-sized submarine with the capability to carry missiles, which could help it with its ongoing battle with Iran.

China’s coronavirus deaths surpass SARS as country plans halting return to work

China has recorded the highest number of coronavirus cases and deaths in recent days, surpassing the SARS outbreak of 2003. China’s National Health Commission reported 4,468 new cases and 113 deaths on Thursday, bringing the total to 45,152 cases and 1,067 deaths. The government has announced plans to slowly resume economic activity, with many cities starting to lift lockdown measures.

Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha gave the talk today morning after visiting the wounded officers, who were injured during the attack on the police station. The government has said that it is working to bring the attackers to justice.

U-S. warns Israel against unilateral West Bank moves

A U.S. envoy warned Israel on Sunday not to impose sovereignty over occupied Palestinian territory without Washington’s consent, pushing back against the government’s plan to annex parts of the West Bank that it calls the “Jordan Valley.” The U.S. move comes as the Trump administration is under pressure to bring peace to the region, with the Palestinians saying they would not recognize Israel as a state in any geographic unit.

Syrian government forces recapture 600 square km of territory in Idlib campaign

Syrian government forces have recaptured a large area of land in the north of Idlib province, expanding their control over the region. The government has been stepping up its military operations in recent weeks, targeting a number of towns and villages.

China mourns prevention efforts for coronavirus in major cities and capitals announced new travel restrictions and curfews for the foreseeable future.

Two U.S. soldiers killed by Afghan soldier in Nangarhar attack

Two American soldiers were killed and six wounded by an Afghan soldier armed with a machine gun, the U.S. military said. The soldiers were killed in a pre-dawn attack near the main U.S. military camp.

The deaths come as a sensitive time in the 18-year-old conflict in Afghanistan, where the U.S. military has been trying to work with the Afghan government to end the conflict in the country. The Taliban has said it will not accept a peace deal with the U.S. unless the troops are completely withdrawn first. The Afghan government has said it will accept a deal if the U.S. agrees to a withdrawal of its forces.

The Afghan government has said it is working to negotiate with the Taliban and other groups to end the war. The U.S. military has been trying to work with the Afghan government to end the war, but has been criticized for not doing enough to help the Afghan army.

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Iranian teams still uncertain about their hosting rights at ACL

On January 23, the General Managers of the four clubs responsible for the ACL 2020 announced that the AFC Champions League has been postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The governing body of soccer in Asia cited “security concerns” in explaining why the Iranian sides were denied their hosting rights. For Al Hilal SFC, the club had already set up the infrastructure and put their players through a “team building” exercise in preparation for the upcoming ACL season. But they have now been informed that their chances of hosting their preliminary round fixture have been given to Al Sadd in Qatar.

Such an announcement is not unexpected, as we have already seen in the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Club Championships this year, when the decision was made to host the first stage of the competition in Malaysia.

Arguably the biggest club on the continent with a record seven Asian titles to their name, Al Hilal had been given the chance to host the 2020 AFC Champions League preliminary round at the King Fahd International Stadium in Riyadh, following the Iranian teams’ appeal against the decision.

But now, the Saudi Arabian club will have to travel to their regional rivals in the AFC Champions League, to host a fixture that was originally scheduled for the 21st of February.

Al Hilal’s alternate venue in Qatar will be the Abdullah Bin Khalifa Stadium in Doha, with their home fixtures “to allow time to reassess the security concerns in the region.”

Al Hilal are unlikely to be the only affected club, with other clubs in the region and around the world due to face similar issues in the coming weeks and months as the Asian football scene is being hit by a series of postponements and cancellations due to the pandemic.

Al Hilal, who are playing against China’s Shandong Luneng in their preliminary round fixture, will now have to travel to Qatar to host their match, which is scheduled for the 21st of February.

All eight preliminary round fixtures in the 2020 AFC Champions League have been moved, with Al Hilal being the only club in the region to have their fixture moved to another country.

Al Hilal will now have to face Shandong Luneng in their preliminary round fixture, which was originally scheduled for the 21st of February. The match is now set to take place at the Abdullah Bin Khalifa Stadium in Doha, Qatar.

The decision to move the fixture to Qatar is a significant blow for Al Hilal, who were looking forward to showcasing their new scheme of the new stadium to their fans. The club had already invested a significant amount of money in the new stadium and were looking forward to hosting their match there.

However, the move to Qatar is not without its challenges. Al Hilal will have to deal with the logistics of moving their players and staff to Qatar, as well as the additional travel time and costs associated with playing in a different country.

Despite the challenges, Al Hilal are determined to make the most of the situation and use it as an opportunity to show their class on the international stage. This is especially important for the club’s young players, who are looking to showcase their talent and stake a claim for a place in the first team.

Al Hilal will now have to adapt to the new circumstances and focus on their upcoming fixtures. The club will be looking to build on their impressive form in the Saudi Professional League, where they have been in excellent form.

The move to Qatar is a significant blow for Al Hilal, but they are determined to use it as an opportunity to showcase their class and build on their recent success.
Robert Conrad, star of “The Wild, Wild West,” dies at 84

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Robert Conrad, the rugged, charismatic actor who played a super sexy private eye in the popular 1960s television series “Hawaiian Eye” and the Wild, Wild West, died Saturday. He was 84.

Conrad died of heart failure in Malibu, California, the family said.

He was diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2011. He continued to work through the pain.

“His life was a wonderful journey, filled to the brim with accomplishments,” said Conrad’s spokesperson, Jeff Ballard. “He lived a wonderfully long life and while the family is saddened by his passing, he will live forever in their hearts,” Ballard said.

A small private service is planned in Los Angeles from March 5 to 12.

LONDON (Reuters) — Robert Conrad, star of “The Wild, Wild West”, dies at 84

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Robert Conrad, star of “The Wild, Wild West,” died Saturday. He was 84.

Conrad was the star of the 1960s television series “The Wild, Wild West,” which ran for five seasons and featured the adventures of two private eyes, Tom Lopaka (Conrad) and Cassie Kaleikini (Evelyn Taylor). The show was set in Hawaii and followed the exploits of the two detectives as they solved crimes ranging from murder to espionage.

After five seasons with the show, Conrad went on to embrace stage and film. He was known for his intense performances, often playing roles that were similar to the character of Tom Lopaka. He was particularly praised for his portrayal of the character in the 1965 film “The Manchurian Candidate,” for which he received an Academy Award nomination.

Conrad also appeared in several other films and TV shows throughout his career, including “The Professionals,” “The Fugitive,” and “The Six Million Dollar Man.” He was a versatile actor who was able to portray a wide range of characters.

Conrad’s death comes after a battle with prostate cancer, which he was diagnosed with in 2011.

“Robert Conrad was a true Hollywood legend,” said Jeff Ballard, Conrad’s spokesperson. “He was a dynamic actor who brought a lot of life to his performances. He will be greatly missed.”

Conrad was born on March 19, 1938, in New York City. He began his acting career on Broadway in the 1960s and went on to appear in numerous films and TV shows. He was known for his charismatic good looks and his ability to portray complex characters.

Conrad is survived by his wife, Latesha, and his four children. He is also survived by his brother, actor Stephen Sande.

“The Wild, Wild West” actor Robert Conrad died Saturday at age 84. He was known for his role as Tom Lopaka in the 1960s TV show. Conrad’s death was confirmed by his spokesperson, Jeff Ballard. A small private service is planned in Los Angeles from March 5 to 12.