

Iran Warns Persian Gulf Countries About Security Ties with Israel

▶ Page 3

Report

Western arms firms enjoying huge profits from Ukraine crisis

According to the United Nations, around 14 million people have fled their homes in Ukraine. Nearly seven million have left for neighboring countries, including Russia, with another eight million who are considered internally displaced people.

As Ukrainian civilians suffer, Western arms companies and U.S. weapons manufacturers in particular are expected to be the biggest beneficiaries of the fighting.

The crisis in Ukraine has seen Western governments send the country different types of military equipment worth billions of dollars.

The fear is that in most cases, the taxpayer will have to pay for these weapons and effectively for a conflict that they did not even support.

Many analysts have blamed Washington for failing to respond to security guarantees that Moscow had sent months before the conflict even started: the key element that triggered the fighting and unfolding crisis in Ukraine.

Experts say the United States' reluctance to end the conflict has led to a large amount of profit for its arms manufacturers.

Since the fighting started, NATO countries have pledged more than \$8 billion in military equipment for Ukraine, ▶ Page 5

Interview

Volleyball expert optimistic about volleyball's young generation

By Farrokh Hesabi

TEHRAN – Iran national volleyball team lost to the Netherlands in their second match in the 2022 Volleyball Nations League (VNL) Pool 1 in Brasilia, Brazil, on Friday. It was the first defeat of the young Iranian team in the tournament.

The defeat provoked a lot of discussions about the performance of Behrouz Ataei's side in the VLN.

Behnam Mahmoudi, Iranian volleyball expert, has suggested that the side need more time to become a formidable team in the near future.

"The Iranian volleyball generation has been transformed, and new faces have been added to the team. They need time to coordinate and improve further," said Mahmoudi in his exclusive interview with Tehran Times.

"However, I believe that the change should have taken place gradually in the next three or four years.

"Behrouz Ataei's efforts to make these changes and bring young players are commendable, and he should be supported.

"In addition, you should not forget that the Iranian national volleyball team have several injured players who have missed this tournament or are not eligible to represent Iran, and Ataei has a difficult job of replacing those players with the new ones," he added.

"I emphasize that this team need the support of the volleyball federation, Iranian sports officials, media, ▶ Page 3



Leader meets Maduro, says resistance is only way to break U.S. pressure

TEHRAN — The Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, met with visiting Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro and his top delegation late on Saturday.

In the meeting, Ayatollah Khamenei emphasized the resilience of Iran and Venezuela in the

face of United States' heavy pressure and "hybrid war", and said, "The successful experience of the two countries showed that the only way to face these pressures is to resist."

The Leader also praised the victory of the Venezuelan government and people in the

face of U.S. "hybrid" and "comprehensive war" against Venezuela. He then told Maduro, "Your resistance and the people of Venezuela's resistance is very valuable because it enhances the dignity and worthiness of a nation and a country and its leaders, ▶ Page 2

Iran targets \$5b annual trade with Africa by 2025

TEHRAN – Head of Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) Alireza Peyman-Pak has said the country is taking the necessary steps to increase annual trade exchanges with African countries to \$5 billion by the Iranian calendar year 1404 (begins in March 2025).

Peyman-Pak said the trade with the men-

tioned countries is expected to reach \$2.5 billion by the end of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20, 2023), IRNA reported.

Referring to the preparation of the country's trade development roadmap at the beginning of the work of the 13th administration, the official said: "In this roadmap, major

factors including exports and the share of different sectors is specified, and in the case of Africa, the priorities and targets for trade with different countries and the requirements for reaching these targets are determined." ▶ Page 4

Report

End child labor!

By Faranak Bakhtiari

TEHRAN – June 12 marks the World Day Against Child Labor under the theme "Universal Social Protection to End Child Labor." In Iran, up to 80 percent of working children are foreign nationals.

The 2022 theme of the world day calls for increased investment in social protection systems and schemes to establish solid social protection floors and protect children from child labor.

While significant progress has been made in reducing child labor over the last two decades, progress has slowed over time, and it has even stalled during the period 2016-2020. Today, 160 million children are still engaged in child labor – some as young as 5.

Government social protection systems are essential to fight poverty and vulnerability and eradicate and prevent child labor. Social protection is both a human right ▶ Page 7

Deputy minister sees handicrafts as cultural ambassadors

TEHRAN – Creating handicrafts is a significant way of spreading culture, the new deputy tourism minister for handicrafts Maryam Jalali Dehkordi has said.

"When handicrafts are infused with identity and art, they are no longer featureless productions but they are cultural ambassadors," Jalali Dehkordi said on Friday.

She made the remarks in a meeting held at Tehran's Niavaran Cultural-Historical Com-

plex on the occasion of World Handicrafts Day, ISNA reported.

It is hoped that handicrafts and traditional arts will one day become the heart of economic activity in this country, with the power to enhance the welfare of its citizens, she added.

She also noted that handicrafts must be functional and not just aesthetically pleasing.

"Handicrafts must be practical as well as

decorative if they intend to be used in everyday life," she explained.

Last week, Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts Minister Ezzatollah Zarghami said that many Iranian handicrafts have untapped potential for becoming practical.

"We must incorporate handicrafts into everyday life and make them practical." ▶ Page 6

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Interview

Ex-Lebanese diplomat rules out military clash with Israel over disputed maritime border

By Mohammad Mazhari

TEHRAN – A former Lebanese ambassador to Chile, Poland, and Canada rules out a military clash between Lebanon and Israel over the Karish field in Mediterranean.

"First and foremost, Lebanon needs to jump-start the negotiations for the Karish field with a request to the U.S. to pressure the Israelis to cease drilling until an agreement on the maritime borders is reached," Massoud Maalouf tells the Tehran Times.

"Secondly, Lebanon can enlist the assistance of the UN, the European Union and other international bodies in promoting a resolution to the negotiations," Maalouf said.

The former diplomat advises Lebanon to start drilling in the Karish field.

"Militarily, I do not think that a war between Israel and Lebanon over this maritime border issue is a current consideration nor in the best interest of either country," Maalouf emphasizes.

Following is the text of the interview:

Could you update us about the disputes between Lebanon and Israel over maritime borders and what Lebanon's Mikati calls "encroaching on Lebanon's maritime wealth".

Although the land border between Lebanon and Israel has been delineated ▶ Page 5

Croatian writer Yasmin Dar's novel on Iran "On the Roads of Persia" introduced in Zagreb

TEHRAN – "On the Roads of Persia" ("Putevima Perzije"), a novel by Croatian writer Yasmin Dar on Iran, was introduced on Friday in Zagreb.

Dar, who is also known as Yasmina Mehic, Iranian Ambassador Parviz Esmaeli and dozens of Croatian cultural figures attend a meeting held at the library of the Zagreb municipality to present the novel, the Embassy of Iran announced.

"On the Roads of Persia" was published by the Croatian publishing house Cekape on June 1. Dar has written the novel based on her visit to Iran in 2018. Her visit was focused mainly on Iranian cities such as Tabriz, Isfahan and Shiraz. Accordingly, the novel is somewhat of a travelogue of Iran.

In her short speech at the meeting, Dar called Iran a must-see for everyone and a different country with kind and hospitable people. ▶ Page 8

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Leader meets Maduro, says resistance is only way to break U.S. pressure

From page 1 ► and today the United States' view of Venezuela is different from the past.”

Ayatollah Khamenei also referred to the scientific and technological progresses and creativities of Iran in recent years, saying, “These big steps have been taken in a situation where the heaviest and most unprecedented sanctions and pressures were imposed on the Iranian nation, and the Americans themselves called it ‘maximum pressure.’”

He emphasized that the resistance of the Iranian people finally led to the failure of the policy of maximum pressure in a way that one of the leading political officials of the United States had recently used the term “disgraceful defeat.”

The Leader pointed out that the conclusion that can be drawn from the resistance and success of the two nations of Iran and Venezuela is that the only way to offset pressure is to stand and resist, while cooperation and communication between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Bolivarian government of Venezuela should be stronger and closer than before.

Welcoming the signing of a 20-year cooperation document between Iran and Venezuela, Ayatollah Khamenei said that long-term cooperation requires the pursuit of agreements and their implementation.

Referring to the sincere cooperation between Iran and Venezuela, the Leader noted, “The two countries do not have such close relations with any other country (in the world), and the Islamic Republic of Iran has shown that it takes risks in times of danger

and shakes the hand of its friends.”

The Leader also praised Maduro's anti-Israel stances, saying, “Your recent stances against the Zionist regime were quite correct and highly courageous.”

During the meeting, which was also attended by the Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi, the Venezuelan president thanked Iran for its support to the Venezuelan nation in their tough resistance against Washington's pressure and said, “You came to our aid when Venezuela was in a very difficult condition and no country was helping. You did help us to get out of that situation.”

Explaining the difficult economic situation in Venezuela in recent years, Maduro added, “As you said, the Americans started a gradual and multidimensional war against our country, but we were able to stand up and use the opportunities provided by the sanctions to start a comprehensive confrontation with the American invasion, and now the situation in Venezuela is better than a few years ago.”

Referring to his talks in Tehran and the signing of the 20-year cooperation document, Maduro noted that Tehran and Caracas are outlining a detailed roadmap for cooperation in various fields, “especially in science and technology.”

The Venezuelan president also stressed that his country considers the issue of Palestine a “sacred human issue”, saying, “Because of this belief, the Zionist regime is constantly plotting against Venezuela through Mossad.”

Iran, Venezuela sign 20-year strategic cooperation document

TEHRAN — Iran and Venezuela signed a 20-year strategic partnership at the Saadabad Palace in Tehran on Saturday morning.

The strategic document includes cooperation in the fields of politics, culture, economy, oil and petrochemicals, and tourism.

The document was signed at the presence of President Ebrahim Raisi of Iran and his Venezuelan counterpart Nicolas Maduro.

A 20-year roadmap that outlines Tehran-Caracas relations were also signed by the two presidents.

Raisi says Iran's policy is to build ties with independent countries

After the signing of the strategic cooperation document the two presidents held a joint press conference.

Raisi said Iran's foreign policy has always been focusing on building relationship with independent countries.

“Venezuela has shown exemplary resistance to enemy threats,” Raisi said.

Iran and Venezuela are both subject to U.S. sanctions.

Raisi went on to say that Iran has been the target

Tehran and Caracas: Beginning of the end of U.S. dominance

TEHRAN— Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro visited Tehran on Friday for a two-day visit. The visit marked a milestone in ties between Iran and the Latin American country. During the visit, Iran and Venezuela signed a 20-year strategic partnership. However, the most important of all was the message that the visit sent to the world: That the era of U.S. dominance in the world is over.

Upon his arrival to Tehran, Maduro gave an interview to HispanTV, a Spanish news channel based in Iran. During the interview, the Venezuelan leader said, “It is a century of the decline of hegemonic power (U.S.) and Iran and Venezuela are on the forefront of this process.”

“We are going to have a complete day of work with President Raisi and his cabinet... I've come with a solid team to build this new stage. We're working on a roadmap for cooperation that will be signed tomorrow (Saturday), establishing plans and strategies for the next 20 years of development between Iran and Venezuela,” he continued.

On Saturday, Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi officially welcomed Maduro at Saadabad Palace. The two presidents held a meeting, and then participated in a joint press conference during which they both emphasized that the world is on the verge of witnessing a new order.

“Venezuela has shown exemplary resistance to enemy threats,” Raisi



to reporters, noting that Caracas has passed the “hyperinflation” stage and it is rebuilding its economy.

“Today, the president explained that his country has overcome hyperinflation and economic growth has begun in the country. This is a very good sign and it proves to everyone that resistance works and forces the enemy to retreat,” Raisi pointed out.

Caracas has commended Tehran for all of its assistance in helping Venezuela survive unilateral U.S. sanctions that nearly ruined the Latin American country's oil industry.

In his interview with Hispan TV, Maduro explicitly thanked Iran for sending oil tankers carrying fuel, additives, and thinners, as well as giving Venezuela with critical equipment and technical support to repair their oil refineries.

and it proves to everyone that resistance works and forces the enemy to retreat,” Raisi noted.

He then described the relations between Iran and Venezuela as strategic in various fields, citing the two countries' cooperation in the areas of energy, construction of thermal power plants, repair and overhaul of Venezuelan refineries, as well as export of technical and engineering services as examples. He also mentioned cooperation in fields of economy, agriculture, defense and military.

“This cooperation shows that Tehran and Caracas have many fields and capacities to improve the level of relations with each other.”

The president also described the launch of a direct Tehran-Caracas flight on July 18 as a good step for facilitating travel between the two countries, saying,

“This will further boost economic and trade relations between the two countries and can bring relations between the two nations closer and deeper.”

Maduro praises Iran's progress in agriculture

For his part, Maduro said that the signing of the 20-year cooperation document between the two countries shows a clear vision for the progress of Iran-Venezuela relations.

“We went through tough times from 2017 to 2020, and to overcome this difficult period and to develop cooperation and relations between the two countries, we have decided to use the historical experience of the Islamic Republic of Iran and its capabilities, especially in the technical and technological fields,” the Venezuelan president noted.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

Amir Abdollahian says Tehran will neutralize U.S. sanctions

TEHRAN— Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian said on Friday that he believes Iran and India share great affinities, which can help expand economic cooperation.

Amir Abdollahian made the remarks at a meeting titled “Promising Steps ahead in Developing Trade Opportunities between Iran and India” Hyderabad, south India.

“I am accompanied by the Vice President, Mr. Hassan Kazemi Qomi, and he is in charge of the economic team in the field of global economy,” the foreign minister told the meeting organized by the Federation of Telangana Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI).

He added that during his visit to Delhi, a very important agreement was signed that will have a great impact on activating the capacities of the two countries.

Amir Abdollahian held talks with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi on Wednesday.

“We had very constructive meetings in the friendly country of India and we heard very promising things from Prime Minister Modi, as well as the foreign minister of India in the development of trade between the two countries, especially in the private sector,” the foreign minister told the participants at the meeting.

Emphasizing that there are enormous capacities to accelerate trade and economic relations, Iran's top diplomat said that the existing cultural and civilizational commonalities are valuable capacities to advance economic and trade ties. “The closeness of the two nations throughout history is another opportunity. For centuries, trade has been a great experience and capital.”

Predicating that the oppressive sanctions of the United States against Iran will come to an end, Amir Abdollahian said that most of

the sanctions against Iran were in the field of defense.

“(Yet) in the defense field, we have the strongest and best achievements,” the foreign minister underlined.

Pointing out that other sanctions were focused on preventing Iran's scientific and technological progress, he said that Iran is at the top in the field of science and technology today.

“The new government is determined to implement a sustainable economic program as soon as possible,” the foreign minister elaborated.

He went on to say that Iran will “neutralize the United States' unilateral sanctions, as these sanctions have no place in the global community.”

Amir Abdollahian added that all the businesspeople present in the meeting have a common goal to accelerate trade ties between Iran and India.

“We can bring trade between the two countries to a peak,” he said, adding that trade relations are at their best.

“In other words, the leaders of the two countries have prepared the ground in the best way,” the foreign minister remarked.

Amir Abdollahian then informed the businesspeople and reporters present at the meeting that an economic delegation from Iran's Foreign Ministry and the Central Bank of Iran (CBI) will revisit New Delhi next week.

“My deputy and the team that will come to New Delhi from the Central Bank next week will discuss how to facilitate banking,” he said.

Inviting Indian businessmen and FTCCI members to visit Iran, the foreign minister said, “I request the esteemed FTCCI officials to hold reciprocal trips.”

He added that at least 40% of the economic activities in the Raisi administration have

been assigned to the Foreign Ministry.

Stating that cooperation between different institutions of India and Iran can be formed and strengthened, the foreign minister said that in the Chabahar region, customs exemptions have been included and Iran and India are ready to provide facilities to expedite affairs.

Referring to the use of the capacity of Chabahar port for investment, Iran's top diplomat told Indian businessmen in Hyderabad, “We have agreed with the high-ranking officials of the friendly country of India to provide more opportunities for investment from Chabahar port than before.”

“Of course, India is currently using the capacity of Chabahar port, but the capacity of this economic zone is also of special importance in another dimension. This port has provided a great opportunity for the use of various transit routes from the North to the South and the East to the West,” the foreign minister reiterated.

“Due to the seriousness of the prime minister and the officials of India in the comprehensive development of trade and economic cooperation, next week, the deputy minister of foreign affairs in economic diplomacy will travel to New Delhi. He will be accompanied by various delegations from the industrial, commercial, tourism, and customs sectors. Following the trip of me and my colleagues, the economic team of the Islamic Republic will come to New Delhi,” he once again reiterated.

In conclusion, the foreign minister noted that his colleagues in the Iranian embassy in New Delhi and the country's consulates in Hyderabad and Mumbai are ready to provide any facilities to businessmen and traders and industrialists in the friendly country of India.

Second Announcement



Iran Alumina

ONE STAGE TENDER INTERNATIONAL CALL

FOR PURCHASE OF 10000 MT BAKED ANODE BLOCK

TENDER No.: j/12

DATE: 8th /June/2022

1.Subject.: Iran Alumina Company (IAC) intends to purchase high quality Baked Anode Block, in amount of 10000 MT for using in its Primary Aluminum Reduction Smelter Plant through one stage Tender according to following conditions as mentioned in the relevant Tender documents .:

2.:: Bid Bond Guarantee: 170.000 Euro/or 48.206.700.000 Rials

3.::Tender proposal.: Since the tendering is to be done in one stage ,thus the eligible Bidders should follow and regard the Tender instructions and present and submit all of required justified documents and the mentioned Tender envelopes in one package together.

4.::Closing Date.: The eligible Bidders should submit their Bids/proposal to the central administration office as mentioned below and also in the Tender documents before 16:00 pm ,local time , on the **day 19 th july ,2022 .**

5.:: Opening Date.: **26 th july , 2022 on 10:00 AM.**

6.:: Contact information.: For more details and receiving the relevant Tender documents , the Bidders can refer to the following contact information.

Add.: Km 7 of Sankhast Road, city of Jajarm, Northern Khorasan Province, IRAN, P. O. Box:1135-94415 legal and contractual Affairs .

Tel .: **0098-58-32604467-32604246 - 0098-21-86073184**

Fax.:. **0098-58-32272487 - 0098-21-88833748**

website: **www.iranalumina.ir** E-mail.: **aluminumjajarm@gmail.com**

IRAN ALUMINA CO **en.iranalumina.ir**

Iran warns Persian Gulf countries about security ties with Israel

TEHRAN – A senior Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) commander has issued a stark warning to some neighboring Arab states about giving Israel a foothold in the Persian Gulf.

Commander of the IRGC Navy Force Rear Admiral Ali Reza Tangsiri has reiterated Iran's longstanding concerns about the growing trend of normalization between Israel and some Persian Gulf's Arab states. Speaking during a surprise visit to a strategic island just a hop from the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the Iranian general warned that bringing Israel to the Persian Gulf would result in instability in this strategically important region.

"Today, there is desirable security in the geographical area of the Persian Gulf thanks to cooperation and synergy among the neighboring countries. [But] if someone for any kind of reason brings the wretched, child-murdering, number-one-enemy Zionist regime to this region, he will destabilize, disturb and create insecurity for both himself and this region," General Tangsiri said in a Saturday visit to the Greater Tunb Island.

He added, "We advise our friendly and brotherly neighbors in the Persian Gulf not to establish contact with the Zionist regime [Israel]. Because this will harm security of



the region."

The warning appears to be directed at the UAE and Bahrain as they are the only Persian Gulf states which have normalized diplomatic relations with Israel. It also comes against a backdrop of growing security contacts among Israel, Persian Gulf Arab states, and the United States intended to foster a security alliance vis-à-vis Iran.

On Thursday, Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett paid a surprise visit to the UAE and met with the Arab country's president, Sheikh Mohammad bin Zayed Al Nahyan. In their meeting, Bennett said Israel was looking forward to "working jointly with the UAE to

expand cooperation horizons in the coming period," according to the UAE state news agency WAM. "During the meeting, the UAE president and Israeli prime minister discussed cooperation paths and development opportunities in various investment, economic, and development sectors as well as food security and health fields, and other vital sectors to achieve the future aspirations of the two countries," WAM said.

Simultaneously, Israeli media launched a campaign to portray the visit as aimed at jointly countering Iran. To this end, Israeli media reported that Israel has deployed radar systems to the UAE and Bahrain with the purpose of closely

monitoring Iranian activity.

Also, Western media followed a similar line. The Wall Street Journal reported that a bipartisan bill introduced in Congress on Thursday called for the Pentagon to work with Israel and several Arab states to integrate air defenses to thwart alleged threats from Iran.

This comes at a time when Iran is in the midst of diplomatic talks with Saudi Arabia and possibly the UAE to mend fences and open a new chapter in bilateral relations after years of tensions. Iran and Saudi Arab held five rounds of talks since April 2021 with the last one witnessing a breakthrough in terms of moving the talks to a new level. Iraqi Prime Minister Mustafa al-Kadhimi, who acted as a go-between in the Iran-Saudi talks, has recently said the talks reached an advanced stage.

Meanwhile, Iranian President Ayatollah Seyed Ebrahim Raisi reportedly has a trip to the UAE on his agenda. He has already paid visits to Qatar and Oman and is expected to travel to the UAE. But the growing contact between Israel and the Persian Gulf's Arab states could dampen hopes for any incoming thaw in Iran's relations with its Persian Gulf Arab neighbors. Because Iran has made it clear that it views Israel's presence on its doorstep as a major threat to its security.

Volleyball expert optimistic about volleyball's young generation

From Page 1 ► and volleyball fans. Ataei's has a difficult job ahead and needs more time to work more and more with his side," said the 51-year-old coach.

"We have good players like Amirhossein Esfandiari and Amin Esmaeilinejad in the current team and they could be among the best in Asia. Also, we have great stars in our volleyball and the current players should follow in the footsteps of them.

"The truth is that after Iran's victory in the first game against China, I also said that our team did not play very well. I hope we will achieve the best performance step by step in the League of Nations, and the Iranian team will achieve good results in this tournament," he concluded.

Iran overpower Uzbekistan at Asian Women's U18 Volleyball Championship

TEHRAN – Spectacular performances from Setayesh Hosseini and Paria Hajatmand led Iran to a lop-sided 25-9, 25-15, 25-12 victory over Uzbekistan in their last preliminary encounter to finish third in Pool A of 14th Asian Women's U18 Volleyball Championship at the Nakhon Pathom Sports Center Gymnasium on Saturday.

Both sides will next contest the 5th-8th playoffs in the competition.

The dynamic duo scored respective 19 and 12 points as Iran captured two matches in straight sets in Pool A. The last victory took place on the opening day when the Iranian squad pulled off a straight-set win over Australia in the pool plays, asianvolleyball.net reported.

It was a complete team effort for Iran, which also received tireless contributions from setter Dorsa Fallah, regarded by the coach as the pick of the bunch for the bright future of Iran Volleyball. No Uzbek player reached double digits, as Dilnoza Boymorzaeva led the team with 8 points.

Ahead of the match, both Iran and Uzbekistan had the similar record of 3 points from one win against Australia and two losses, resulting in this crucial match to determine the third and fourth places in Pool A.

Samad Marfavi named Iran U20 football team coach

TEHRAN – Former Esteghlal coach Samad Marfavi has been named as head coach of Iran U20 football team by the federation's technical committee on Saturday.

The 58-year-old coach worked as technical director of Esteghlal last year.

Marfavi must be approved by the members of the board of directors of the Iran Football Federation.

Iran are drawn in Group J of the 2023 AFC U20 Asian Cup qualification along with hosts Kyrgyzstan, the UAE and Brunei.

The competition will be held in Bishkek from Sept. 10 to 18.

Shabanian satisfied with Iran's U18 volleyball team

TEHRAN – Iran coach Mitra Shabanian is satisfied with her girls at the Asian Girls' U18 Volleyball Championship.

Iran has earned two wins against Australia and Uzbekistan so far and lost to Thailand and South Korea in the competition underway at Nakhon Pathom, Thailand.

Iran will play in the 5th-8th playoffs on Sunday.

"We tried to be serious from the very beginning. We took nothing for granted against Uzbekistan. Australian and Uzbek volleyballs were close to our volleyball style, so we could brush them off to complete the preliminary round with two wins against them and two losses to Korea and host Thailand," Shabanian said.

"I think this event is at the top level as I have been in the previous editions and I can see that teams are very determined and well-prepared here," she added.

"I think the level of the competition is very high and South Korea, China and Japan are very strong technically. They play like their senior teams," Shabanian concluded.

Hamed Lak parts ways with Persepolis

TEHRAN – Persepolis football team goalkeeper Hamed Lak canceled his contract with the team on Saturday.

The 31-year-old custodian had one year remaining on his existing contract but parted company with the Reds.

The Persepolis's fans blamed the goalkeeper for his poor performance in the last season.

Persepolis have recently signed Alireza Beiranvand for the 2022-23 Iran professional League (IPL) season.

Lak joined Persepolis in September 2020 and helped the team win an IPL title in his first season.

Iran fall short against Latvia at FIVB Beach Volleyball World C'ships

TEHRAN – Iran's Salemi/Vakili lost to Latvia's Samoilovs/Smedis 2-1 (22-24, 21-15, 15-13) in their second match in the 2022 FIVB Beach Volleyball World Championships on Saturday.

The team had started the campaign with a 2-1 loss against powerhouse Brazil on Friday.

Iran will play Austria in Pool E on Monday.

The men's tournament of the 2022 Beach Volleyball World Championships is being held from June 10 to 19 in Rome, Italy.

Netherlands ease past Iran in VNL 2022

TEHRAN – The Netherlands defeated Iran in straight sets (26-24, 25-21, 25-21) in the 2022 Volleyball Nations League (VNL) Pool 1 in Brasilia, Brazil Friday night.

Abdel-Aziz Nimir topscored for the Netherlands with 20 points. Amin Esmaeilinejad also earned 15 points for Iran.

Iran, who have defeated China 3-1 in their opening match, will play Australia early Sunday.

The 2022 FIVB Volleyball Men's Nations League is the fourth edition of the FIVB Volleyball Men's Nations League, an annual men's international volleyball tournament.

The preliminary round will be held during five weeks between June 7 June and July 10. The final round will be held from July 20 to 24.

Reviving JCPOA still possible: Russian diplomat

TEHRAN – The Russian envoy to the Vienna talks said on Friday that resuscitating the 2015 Iran nuclear is still possible even after the adoption of a censure resolution against Iran at the International Atomic Energy Agency's recent Board of Governors.

"It is too early to say that the situation has completely frozen, and that it has reached a dead end," Mikhail Ulyanov said in remarks to Russia 24, according to Al Alam.

Ulyanov added, "Maybe, we now need to try to revive the talks in some way, all this is not easy, of course, because after the adoption of the resolution, the Iranians will take an extra pause, I think."

The Russian diplomat pointed to the need to work on reviving the negotiation process, noting: "There are still opportunities, and at the same time, the IAEA secretariat and Iran should be encouraged to continue dialogue on the so-called outstanding issues."

On Wednesday, the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency adopted a resolution on what it called Iran's insufficient cooperation with the international organization, claiming that Tehran had not provided sufficient

explanations regarding the finding of traces of nuclear materials at three undeclared sites. Iran strongly rejected it.

In response, Iran announced the disconnection of the IAEA's surveillance cameras installed at Iran's nuclear facilities, stressing that these cameras are not part of Tehran's commitment to the Safeguards agreement recently signed with the agency.

Iran said the shutdown of IAEA cameras is the first step and if the West continues its nonconstructive measures, it will take other retaliatory measures.

Iran first turned off nearly 20% of IAEA surveillance cameras that operated beyond the Safeguards agreement between Tehran and the UN nuclear watchdog. Then it announced the start of installing more advanced centrifuges.

Over the last few days, the West issued a barrage of strongly-worded statements criticizing Iran for its nuclear work in what appeared to be a concerted effort aimed at pocketing new concessions from Iran.

President Ebrahim Raisi underscored Thursday that Iran would not budge from its stance in the wake of the adoption of the resolution against

Tehran's nuclear program.

Raisi made the statements during a visit to Shahr-e Kord, the capital of Chaharmahal and Bakhtiari Province, a day after the IAEA's 35-nation Board of Governors passed the anti-Iran resolution submitted by the U.S., Germany, France, and the United Kingdom.

"How many times do you want to test the Iranian nation and not listen to the words of the country's officials? Do you think that we will retreat as a result of issuing of resolutions?" Raisi asked, referring to the drafters of the non-binding resolution.

"Iran will not take a step back from its positions," he emphasized.

The president went on to say, "We will not stop and we will not tie the development of the country's industry, agriculture and tourism to the frown and smile of the enemy."

"Our youths are bent to make the enemy desperate in the clash of wills," Raisi stated, adding that the enemy does not want Iran to have access to nuclear industry, modern military and automotive industry, or profit from superior knowledge.



issued an Order on provisional measures requiring the United States to remove any sanction on the importation of humanitarian goods. The Court also ordered the U.S. to make sure that all necessary permits and authorizations are in place, and that payment and other financial activities linked to the humanitarian goods and services are not restricted. Unfortunately, the U.S. has not only failed to comply with the Court's Order but also defied it by imposing additional sanctions, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic."

He added, "In a statement made during her recent visit to Tehran on May 18, 2022, the UN Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures emphasized the illegality of such inhumane measures, asserting that 'States have an obligation under international human rights law to ensure that any activity under their jurisdiction or control does not result in human rights violations, and in this regard, she calls on sanctioning States, particularly the United States, to observe the principles and norms of international law, and to lift all unilateral measures, in particular on those areas affecting the human rights and the lives of all the people in Iran.'"

individuals infected with AIDS."

She added that rooting out the transmission of AIDS from mother to child is one of Iran's important priorities, and the joint United Nations program to combat AIDS can play an important role in this field.

She continued, "As was emphasized in the third recommendation of the Secretary-General's report, it is necessary to put the latest medicines and health and treatment technologies related to the prevention and treatment of AIDS within the reach of developing countries quickly. Therefore, with this assurance, it is necessary to remove all obstacles that prevent these countries from obtaining such medicines."

Ershadi stated, "Unfortunately, the unilateral coercive measures, including the unilateral economic, financial and banking sanctions imposed on Iran, seriously violate the right of Iranians to access health and treatment services, and individuals who face problems resulting from AIDS suffer in particular from this situation directly."

"Coercive and unjust unilateral measures block the normal channels of international cooperation and are a source of concerns that negatively affect Iran's efforts to confront diseases. Moreover, they severely restrict access to timely and effective access to diagnosis, medicine, treatment, medical devices and technology needed to provide comprehensive health and treatment services, especially with regard to individuals infected with AIDS," she said.

Ershadi noted, "Iran, while condemning such illegal and unjust measures and policies and illegitimate approaches which impinge on countries' health sectors and hinder the provision of services to patients, including those living with HIV, calls on the members of the international community to take effective, urgent and practical measures to lift the forgoing coercive sanctions."

Earlier, in a letter dated June 2, 2020, to the UN Security Council, Iranian Ambassador to the UN Majid Takht Ravanchi took a jab at countries using sanctions as a state policy.

"Unilateral coercive measures are employed by certain states as a method of war to starve innocent civilians. These international wrongful acts violate the UN Charter and international law. We believe that those countries that impose unilateral coercive measures including sanctions as a state policy should be held accountable for such crimes," Takht Ravanchi said.

He added, "For decades, Iran has been the target of the most severe economic and financial sanctions of the United States, directly endangering the lives of Iran's most vulnerable population, including children, the elderly, and patients. Even some patients, particularly children with rare diseases, have died as a result of import restrictions on medicine and medical supplies, a heartbreaking reality."

The Iranian ambassador further said, "As a result of Iran's submission to the International Court of Justice, on October 3, 2018, the Court unanimously

Iran targets \$5b annual trade with Africa by 2025

From page 1 ► Peyman-Pak put the share of African countries in Iran's export basket at \$1.2 billion, saying: "Africa's annual imports amount to about \$580 billion and our share of this figure is still small despite all the efforts. We have managed to export \$1.2 billion to this market."

He further mentioned the capacities of the mentioned continent for the export of technical and engineering services and said: "The total exports of technical and engineering services to Africa is currently \$300 billion; But our share last year, despite a slight increase reached only \$200 million, which is still small."

According to the TPO head, in order to increase the level of trade with Africa certain infrastructure including transportation and direct shipping lines, as well as proper legal, commercial, monetary, and banking relations must be provided, and TPO has been recently focusing on providing such requirements to facilitate trade with Africa.

"To solve the transportation problems, four countries have been selected in East, West, South, and North of Africa, to launch air and shipping lines," he said.

Earlier this week, the TPO deputy head for export markets development said his organization was looking for ways to implement barter trade mechanisms with African trade partners.

"Given the implementation of barter trade mechanism by Trade Promotion Organization with several countries, we hope to benefit from this platform with African trade partners as well," Ahmad-Reza Alaei Tabatabaei said.

The official noted that the TPO has prepared a list of 1,100 commodity items that can be included in the barter trade with African countries.

Referring to the TPO plans to expand trade with Africa, Tabatabaei announced the improvement of export infrastructure and strengthening of the



presence of Iranian commercial attachés in the said continent.

According to the official, the most important challenge for Iranian businessmen regarding Africa is the lack of knowledge and familiarity with its markets.

He further noted that another important challenge in the way of expanding trade with African countries is transportation and logistics, especially the need for developing maritime transportation infrastructure.

"Establishing regular shipping lines, which we have recently witnessed in East Africa and which needs to be strengthened, must also be implemented and regulated in West Africa. By allocating transportation subsidies, we try to regulate these lines; So that traders can benefit from this capacity," Tabatabaei said.

Referring to Iran's great potential in the field of technical and engineering services, he said: "African countries are among the most important importers of technical and engineering services in the world, and fortunately, Iran has become more advanced in this area in recent years."

The official also pointed to the 45 percent increase in exports to Africa, saying: "Currently, Ghana is Iran's first export destination in Africa, followed by South Africa and Nigeria in second and third places."

rose 20 percent during the past Iranian calendar year 1400 (ended on March 20), as compared to its preceding year.

The IMIDRO's data put the annual production of aluminum ingot at 538,633 tons in 1400, while the figure was 446,836 tons in 1399, and 278,318 tons in 1398.

Among the country's four major producers, Iranian Aluminum Company (IRALCO) had the best performance in the previous year producing 177,058 tons of aluminum ingots, although the figure was 185,000 tons in its preceding year.

South Aluminum Corporation (SALCO) produced 173,594 tons, production by Almahdi Aluminum Company stood at 150,738 tons, and Iran Alumina Company produced 37,243 tons of aluminum ingots in the Iranian calendar year 1400, the IMIDRO's data indicated.

Annual production of the aluminum ingot in the country had been planned to increase 63 percent in the past year.

Iranian officials estimate the country's aluminum sector has a value of \$22 billion, which is sufficient to meet the country's aluminum needs.

At present, Iran is the 18th biggest aluminum producing country in the world.

The country plans to reach the annual production of 1.5 million tons of aluminum ingot by the Iranian calendar year 1404 (March 2025-March 2026).

Aluminum ingot production rises 4% in 2 months on year



TEHRAN – Production of aluminum ingot in Iran rose four percent in the first two months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21-May 21), as compared to the same period of time in the past year, according to the data released by Iranian Mines and Mining Industries Development and Renovation Organization (IMIDRO).

The IMIDRO's data put the production of aluminum ingot at 89,718 tons in the two-month period of this year, while the figure was 86,216 tons in the same time span of the previous year.

Among the country's four major producers, Iranian Aluminum Company (IRALCO) had the best performance in the first two months of the present year producing 31,330 tons of aluminum ingots, followed by Almahdi Aluminum Company producing 27,238 tons, South Aluminum Corporation (SALCO) producing 24,917 tons, and Iran Alumina Company producing 6,233 tons of the product.

According to the data previously released by IMIDRO, production of aluminum ingot in Iran

TEDPIX drops 2,000 points on Saturday

TEHRAN- TEDPIX, the main index of Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE), lost 2,011 points to close at 1.518 million points on Saturday (the first day of Iranian calendar week).

As reported, over 5.368 billion securities worth 34.273 trillion rials (about \$131.8 million) were traded at the TSE.

The first market's index lost 2,242 points, and the second market's index dropped 1,661 points.

A market analyst believes that the Iranian stock market has the

potential to grow despite the distrust created in the market as a result of some bad decisions.

Emphasizing that there is potential for growth in the market, Hassan Kazemzadeh told ISNA on June 5: "Given this potential, the market will grow. Of course, there are ups and downs, but no matter how much distrust there is, the changes of major economic factors will affect the market, but this effect takes place gradually and over time."

According to the analyst, uncertainty about monitoring



policies, especially interference in valuing the shares of companies, imposition of various duties, imposing corporate expenses such as taxes and export duties, etc., has caused shareholders to be pessimistic about the market.

"Although there is a 30 to 40

Textile industry: some challenges & solutions

By Mahnaz Abdi

TEHRAN- The textile industry in Iran has a long history and is one of the most important sectors for employment.

This industry has a high employment potential, and the amount of foreign currency investment to create a job in the textile industry is very low compared to some industries such as automotive.

But this sector has faced problems in recent years and it is very important to remove them.

In a recent interview conducted by IRIB, a board member of Association of Iran Textile Industries announced the closure of 7,000 production units in the country's textile industry.

Abbas Sarsharzadeh said: "The main reason for the distance of the textile industry from the set goals should be sought in the lack of planning for this industry by governments of different periods and incorrect policies, which led to inappropriate investment, disproportionate industrial capacities created along the

industry chain, machine wear, and improper tariff system."

According to him, these policies have decreased the textile industry's 12 percent share of GDP in almost ten years ago to about 8.5 percent in the current situation.

The \$1 billion worth of export from the textile industry shows that despite the investments made in recent years, this industry is \$2 billion far from the goal set in the outlook document and the realization of exports of \$3 billion given the current situation of the industry and production drop is out of reach, Sarsharzadeh further lamented.

Meanwhile, during the 17th symposium of the members of Joint Secretariat of Textile and Garment Unions and Associations of the country, which was held in Karaj city on Tuesday, the chairman of Alborz Province's Textile, Garment and Leather Industries Association, while underlining the country's capacity in the field of textile, said: "Many educated people in the textile industry are unemployed."

With the establishment of the textile engineering organization,



a platform is provided for the close connection between the textile engineering students with this industry, Yadollah Malmir commented.

Emphasizing that the textile industry is one of the most diverse industries in the country, he further said that the problem of clothes smuggling has seriously threatened this dynamic industry of the country, and the necessary measures must be taken in this regard.

Pointing to the need to deal decisively with professional smugglers, Malmir noted that the tightening of controls should prevent the mass import of clothes into the country in the form of merchandise in baggage (MIB) so that domestic producers are not challenged.

Another solution to help the textile industry improve is the establishment of textile industrial estates.

Alireza Haeri, a member of the board of directors of Society of Textile Specialists, regarding the discussion of establishing textile industrial estates and the assistance

that they provide to the textile industry, has said: "Creating textile industrial estates, the policy that the previous government was supposed to pursue, that if this happens or if it is pursued today, will help supply the clothing chain and reduce its cost."

He said that proper services, suitable and available raw materials, export and import warehouses and repairs services are among the facilities that these estates will provide for the producers, adding: "When these estates are set up, we will see the quality improvement and lower end price of the products produced in the units located in them".

Textile is one of the industries that due to high employment and on the other hand with minimal investment can become one of the leading industries with high value added in the country; provided that we can produce high-quality products and eliminate problems.

This sector can have a big share in the growth of domestic industry and even the country's exports, so the responsible organizations should hurry to remove obstacles in this important industry.

Venezuela eager to cooperate with Iran's petchem industry

TEHRAN - Hossein Alimorad, the head of international affairs department of National Petrochemical Company (NPC), has said Venezuela is eager to cooperate with Iran in the petrochemical industry, Shana reported on Saturday.

Noting that Venezuela's petrochemical industry is in dire need of development because of the U.S. sanctions, Alimorad said: "We can achieve good results in this country with very little, very low-risk investment, and I suggest focusing on this area in line with the strategies of the Oil Ministry for expanding foreign markets."

"In our last meeting with the heads of the country's petrochemical companies, I suggested that special attention should be paid to South American countries such as Venezuela, which is a very green market", he added.

Alimorad's remarks came as heading a high-level politico-economic delegation Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro arrived in Tehran on



Friday for an official visit.

Noting that the oil industry's upstream sector needs a lot of investment, the official said: "Foreign companies and countries are interested in participating in Iran's petrochemical industry, and despite the sanctions, many companies are reaching out to us in this regard."

Alimorad further emphasized that when the government pays special attention to a specific field or industry, foreign investors will

also get more interested in that field, adding: "Currently, high-level delegations from different countries and reputable companies across the world are repeatedly visiting Iran to cooperate with our petrochemical industry and knowledge-based companies active in this industry, especially to supply catalysts and chemicals from Iran."

Back in March, Oil Minister Javad Oji had said that his ministry was planning to attract about \$200 billion of investment in the country's oil industry in the current Iranian calendar year (started on March 21), relying on domestic capacities and international contracts.

In the field of oil, petrochemical, upstream, and downstream industries, \$200 billion of investment is needed, a significant part of which has been provided by 50 contracts concluded so far, the minister said.

The petrochemical industry is one of the most important pillars of Iran's economy and one of the main suppliers of foreign currency for the country.

Issues of Tehrani knowledge-based firms discussed with govt. officials



During the gathering, the government and private sector representatives analyzed the raised issues and concluded to form a working group in Tehran Governor's office to address the issues and challenges of the mentioned companies and facilitate their affairs.

Opening the meeting, Khansari

referred to the elimination of subsidized foreign currency rates as one of the most important economic measures taken in recent months, and said that the allocation of subsidized foreign currency for the imports of certain commodity groups had imposed serious challenges to the country's economy and now the government seeks to amend the situation which would be a welcome approach.

Elsewhere in the gathering, Head of TCCIMA Digital Innovation and Transformation Center Sahar Bonakdarpour presented a report on the problems and challenges of knowledge-based companies and enumerated some of the

bottlenecks in this field according to the data collected from the survey of 100 knowledge-based companies.

Further, Mahmoud-Reza Taheri, deputy secretary of the government and the Tehran Province's private sector dialogue council, presented a report on the council's performance in the previous Iranian calendar year (ended on March 20) and said: "Last year, the dialogue council held 11 meetings, which resulted in 88 resolutions. Of these resolutions, 70 have been implemented, 17 are in progress and one has not been implemented."

Exhibition industry conference held in Tehran

TEHRAN – Iranian Industry, Mining and Trade Ministry organized and held an exhibition industry conference on Saturday at Iran International Conference Center on the occasion of the Global Exhibitions Day (GED), IRIB reported.

The event was attended by senior officials including Head of Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) Alireza Peyman-Pak and Managing Director of Iran International Exhibition Company (IIEC) Houman Razdar as well as company representatives and recognized people active in the exhibition industry.

The slogan of the conference was the



significant role of physical exhibitions and trade events in the growth and improvement of the global economy.



Ex-Lebanese diplomat rules out military clash with Israel over disputed maritime border

From page 1 ▶ despite some reservations on the part of Lebanon, the maritime border remains under negotiation. Amos Hochstein, the Senior Advisor for Energy Security at the U.S. Department of State, is the current mediator between the two countries for this maritime area, known as the Karish field and known for its gas and petroleum reserves.

Recently, a ship belonging to the London-based ENERGIAN company arrived in the disputed area to start drilling gas for Israel. General Michel Aoun, the President of Lebanon, said that “any action or activity in the disputed area represents a provocation and an aggressive action.” At the same time, Lebanese Prime Minister Nagib Mikati said that Israel was “encroaching on Lebanon’s wealth”. Lebanon considers that part of the disputed area belongs to its economic zone while Israel considers that this whole field is in its exclusive economic zone.

How do you evaluate the talks between Lebanon and Israel over the disputed area? Are there direct talks or mediators are involved?

The indirect talks to delineate

the maritime border between Lebanon and Israel started more than two decades ago. There have been no direct talks between the two sides which have presented their respective maps to the American mediators. The Lebanese Foreign Minister declared recently that Mr. Hochstein has not been active enough in negotiations, especially since he has not been in Lebanon lately to be updated on the Lebanese response to the Israeli position. Lebanon has now requested the U.S. administration to dispatch Mr. Hochstein to Beirut to restart the negotiating process.

Do you think Lebanon possesses sufficient leverages, diplomatically and militarily, to restore its right when it comes to Israeli provocations?

First and foremost, Lebanon needs to jumpstart the

negotiations for the Karish field with a request to the U.S. to pressure the Israelis to cease drilling until an agreement on the maritime borders is reached.

Secondly, Lebanon can enlist the assistance of the UN, the European Union and other international bodies in promoting a resolution to the negotiations.

Thirdly, Lebanon could start drilling in the Karish field.

Militarily, I do not think that a war between Israel and Lebanon over this maritime border issue is a current consideration nor in the best interest of either country.

Do you expect Hezbollah to get involved in the dispute? I mean military action to Israel’s moves.

I personally believe that Hezbollah is in a difficult situation, especially after the May 15, 2022, Lebanese parliamentary elections. Any military action by Hezbollah

against Israel risks a strong Israeli response that may weaken the Party of God by destroying its military capabilities and the civilian infrastructure in Lebanon. Voices in Lebanon are increasingly focused on calling for the disarmament of Hezbollah and supporting the Lebanese Army to protect Lebanon from Israeli aggression. Hezbollah stands to receive significant backlash from any war initiative as the destructive results of the 2006 war with Israel is still fresh in the memory of most Lebanese. Although Hezbollah is capable of hitting Israel with its rockets in the south causing some damage and casualties, it cannot win an all-out war. In any respect, Hezbollah has officially declared that it supports the Lebanese government’s decision on this issue, whether through negotiations or through military action.

In conclusion, it is my personal hope that this Israeli aggression on Lebanon’s maritime wealth in the Karish field will encourage all Lebanese parties and factions to establish a united front. Lebanon’s overall precarious situation will not withstand continued divisions.

U.S. may allow Iran’s oil to market even without nuclear deal: London Energy Club chairman

Chairman of the London Energy Club says if the midterm election is dominated by the need to get gas prices lower in America, turning a somewhat greater blind eye to the sanctioned barrels flowing out is probably expected.

The people familiar with the matter told Reuters last week that the U.S. will resume allowing Venezuelan oil to flow to Europe. The outlet reported that Italy’s Eni SpA and Spain’s Repsol SA could ship Venezuelan oil to Europe as early as next month after the Biden administration authorized the plan last month.

According to these people familiar with the matter, the oil “has to go to Europe. It cannot be resold elsewhere.”

The Biden administration’s reported permission to allow for the use of Venezuelan oil comes as part of a push to rely less on Russian oil and redirect Venezuela’s shipments from China, according to the latest reports.

To shed light on the issue, we reached out to Mehmet Ogutcu, former Turkish diplomat and chairman of the London Energy Club.

Why has the U.S. decided to do so?

I was surprised to learn that after so many years of confrontation and sanctions a group of senior U.S. officials flew to Venezuela last March. The mission was to meet with President Nicolás Maduro’s government for a discussion of the possibility of easing sanctions on Venezuelan oil exports. The trip came at a time when the United States was seeking to isolate Russia for its attack on Ukraine and help Europe fill the widening supply of gas.

Venezuela, the Kremlin’s most important ally in South America and home to the world’s largest oil reserves, used to be a significant supplier of crude to the United States before exports were hobbled by domestic mismanagement and crippling sanctions from Washington.

When a decision was taken as a result of bargaining behind the closed doors in Caracas, Italian oil company Eni SpA and Spain’s Repsol SA have been allowed to ship Venezuelan oil to Europe as soon as next month to make up for sanctioned Russian crude.



My understanding is that the oil has to go to either the U.S. refineries or to Europe and it cannot be resold elsewhere. Also, the volume of oil Eni and Repsol will receive is expected to be fairly small with a minimal impact on oil prices around the world. There is a pressing need for more oil supply to come and help Europe fill the demand gap.

Do you see any relation between the U.S. administration’s decision and the upcoming congressional midterm elections?

I do not think there is any direct correlation between the Venezuelan deal and the U.S. midterm election. Still, U.S. President Joe Biden could decide that the need to bring down record-high pump prices ahead of November’s midterm elections outweighs the benefit of strictly enforcing sanctions on Venezuela and Iran.

What concerns the U.S. voters are the rising cost of living, unsafe streets, and pending Supreme Court ruling on abortion, and how the Ukrainian war and growing tension with China will be handled.

Inflation is a constant presence in the minds of voters when buying groceries, filling their gas tanks, or paying their home heating bills. There is no escaping from it, and unless there is a significant easing in the next few months, it will continue as one of the top issues of concern.

So far, Ukraine has not become a dominant U.S. political issue, in part because of support for Ukraine and advocacy of U.S. assistance in both parties.

Nor has the praise Biden has won from the foreign policy establishment or European allies translated into positive marks for his overall handling of national security issues. But no one is ready to predict where this issue will be by next fall.

If the war continues in Ukraine, do you see any possibility that the U.S. will allow Iran’s oil export to increase even if the two sides can’t reach a nuclear agreement in Vienna?

For the same reason as Venezuela, I believe that the U.S. may allow more sanctioned Iranian oil onto global markets even without a revival of the 2015 nuclear accord. While a new agreement would limit Iran’s atomic activities and ease U.S. sanctions on its energy exports, talks between Tehran and world powers have stalled since March. We are increasingly pessimistic that negotiators will strike a deal.

If the midterms are dominated by the need to get gas prices lower in America, turning a somewhat greater blind eye to the sanctioned barrels flowing out is probably something you might expect to see.

Iran has raised oil exports this year, most of them ending up in China. A new nuclear deal would lead to an additional 500,000 to 1 million barrels per day coming on to international markets, enough to weigh on prices. Iran also has around 100 million barrels of oil in storage that could be sold down quickly.

While many Republicans and some Democrats oppose any lifting of Iranian sanctions, Biden is under plenty of pressure to lower gasoline prices, which have shot up to an average of more than \$4.80 per gallon in the U.S.

Iran might decide to use the opportunity provided by instability in the global energy markets and push its demands in nuclear talks in Vienna now that the Ukraine crisis has increased the West’s need for the Iranian energy sector. Iran may also well as the United States to provide “economic, technical and political” guarantees for not reneging on the country’s 2015 nuclear deal with world powers again as it did in 2018.

(Source: Mehr News Agency)

Western arms firms enjoying huge profits from Ukraine crisis

From page 1 ▶ with \$4.6 billion coming from the U.S. alone. The United Kingdom has allocated at least £750 million in weapons, while the European Union has agreed to send €2 billion.

As Washington and some of its Western allies seek to prolong the conflict, that figure is expected to rise. With almost every passing week or so; the U.S. and the UK in particular have been announcing more weapons for Ukraine instead of seeking or pushing for a peaceful solution to the conflict.

New reports have been emerging about the huge profits being made by Western arms manufacturers.

Senior arms transfer researcher at the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) Siemon Wezeman, says not all the weapons being sent to Ukraine are from existing military supplies.

While some countries have been sending older equipment that was about to expire, many on the other hand, like the United States and the United Kingdom, have been sending newer weapons which they have already started the process of replacing.

The U.S. has already approved nine billion dollars to spend on military equipment so that the weapons being sent to Ukraine can be replaced.

Washington is sending 6,500 Javelin anti-tank missile systems, which are made by two of the largest American arms manufacturers, Raytheon and Lockheed Martin. The cost of each of these missiles is about \$78,000 and the launcher for these missiles (which is reusable) costs \$100,000 each.

Another bonus for Raytheon will come from the U.S. decision to send 1,400 Stinger anti-aircraft missile launchers.

The company has already been awarded a \$625m contracts to replenish the stocks.

Meanwhile, Lockheed Martin has been receiving even better news after Washington announced plans to provide Ukraine with four High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems, which are relatively expensive. Lockheed Martin also produces the launchers for long-range rockets that are being sent by the UK.

The U.S. is sending counter-artillery radar systems made by the same companies, along with American military arms giant Northrop Grumman.

The Pentagon is also sending 50 billion rounds of ammunition, which is likely to benefit Olin, the U.S. military’s largest small-arms ammunition supplier.

Another key item is the AeroVironment Switchblade drones, made by the American company AeroVironment. The U.S. is set to deliver 700 of these drones.

Meanwhile, in Europe, the big winners are expected to include BAE Systems (a British company) and Thales (a French company).

The British company BAE Systems manufactures almost all of the UK’s small-arms ammunition and is about to replace the 400,000 rounds sent to Ukraine.

BAE Systems also manufactures long-range artillery cannons being sent by the U.S., as well as anti-tank guided missiles being sent by France and Italy. They are being produced in a joint venture with Airbus and Leonardo.

Another key piece of equipment manufactured by BAE Systems, which has factories across the UK, is the Stormer armoured vehicle. The UK is providing Ukraine with these as well.

The vehicles include anti-aircraft missiles, which are made in Britain by Thales.

Thales is also the manufacturer of the Next Generation Light Anti-Tank Weapon (NLAW), a shoulder-launched missile system that can target Russian tanks. The UK is providing Ukraine more than 5,000 of them. They are reported to cost £30,000 each.

Germany’s Dynamit Nobel arms manufacturer has sent the 3,000 anti-tank weapons Berlin is providing Kyiv,



along with 5,100 MATADOR anti-tank weapons.

Large arms manufacturing companies are already seeing their share prices go up as investors anticipate the impact of the war on profits.

Thales shares have risen by 35 percent since the conflict started, while BAE Systems shares are up 32 percent. Lockheed Martin has seen an increase of 14 percent and AeroVironment 63 percent.

The Campaign Against the Arms Trade, says the provision of weapons to Ukraine is “not problem-free”

“You might think you’re handing over weapons to people you know and like, but then they get sold on to people you absolutely don’t,” the anti-war group said.

Wezeman says weapons supplied to Ukraine “may end up disappearing into the black market” – an increased risk given that the country “isn’t in full control of its territory”.

He says it is difficult to keep track of weapons when they have to be supplied at such speed and there is a risk of them getting “lost or disappearing in the chaos”.

That doesn’t appear to be a matter of concern for Washington and its allies.

U.S. defense secretary, Lloyd Austin, has previously admitted that some weapons given to Ukraine have been captured by the Russian military.

Replenishing the stocks being sent to Ukraine is not the only new business opportunity for Western arms manufacturers.

Analysts say the international community is facing increased pressure and threats of sanctions from the West which is calling on them to stop purchasing Russian arms.

Experts say there is even more money to be made as states respond to the fighting in Ukraine by increasing their military spending, a lot of which will be used for new equipment.

According to the International Institute for Strategic Studies, since the conflict started, at least 15 European countries have announced plans to increase their defense spending. According to the EU, the additional commitments are worth at least €200 billion.

Germany’s pledge to spend an extra €100 billion euros in the coming years has made the most headlines. It’s good news for Rheinmetall, a German arms manufacturer, which is expecting its sales to grow by up to 25 percent by next year.

Germany has also announced it will buy 35 F-35 fighter jets from the U.S., which are made by Lockheed Martin and have an estimated lifetime cost of \$1.6 trillion.

France has pledged to expand its military budget. The UK government had already planned increases and is facing calls from the main Labour opposition party to spend even more.

After a NATO summit in March, the military alliance said its members “have decided to accelerate our efforts to fulfill our commitment to the [so-called] Defense Investment Pledge in its entirety.”

This calls on all members to meet NATO guidelines of spending at least two percent of GDP on the military alliance within a decade. Some NATO members had resisted the shift in policy, an issue that previously irked the former U.S. President Donald Trump.

Deputy minister sees handicrafts as cultural ambassadors

From page 1 ► These handmade products are still far from what they should be and every related organization needs to get involved to fill this gap, the minister explained.

“I request all the colleagues in this section to engage all their experience and energy into this task since that is where good ideas will flourish,” he said.

With 14 entries, Iran ranks first globally for the number of cities and villages registered by the World Crafts Council, as China with seven entries, Chile with four, and India with three ones come next. For instance, Shiraz is named a “world city of [diverse] handicrafts”, Malayer is a global hub for woodcarving and carved-wood furniture, while Zanjan has gained the title of a “world city of filigree”.

In addition, the ancient city of Shiraz has been chosen to host the 39th General Assembly of the World Crafts Council-Asia Pacific Region (WCC-APR) in May 2023. Shiraz has a remarkable amount of handicraft pioneers. With an average age of 70, some of these pioneers are still active at their workshops. The occupational records of about 100 pioneers are collected and are annually praised by the custodians of the WCC General Office.

Available data compiled by the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts suggests the value of Iran’s handicrafts exports stood at \$120 million during the first



eleven months of the past Iranian calendar year 1399 (March 20, 2020 – February 18, 2021), Mehr reported. The country’s handicrafts exports slumped during the mentioned months in comparison to the same period last a year earlier due to the damage the coronavirus pandemic has inflicted on global trade.

The Islamic Republic exported \$427 million worth of handicrafts during the first eleven months of the calendar year 1398. Of the figure, some \$190 million was earned via suitcase trade (allowed for customs-free and tax-free transfer) through 20 provinces, according to data compiled by the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts. Ceramics, pottery vessels, handwoven cloths as well as personal ornamentations with precious and semi-precious gemstones are traditionally exported to Iraq, Afghanistan, Germany, the U.S., the UK, and other countries.

IranAir: Germany, Turkey end COVID curbs on flights from Iran



TEHRAN – Germany and Turkey have removed their COVID-19 restrictions on

international passenger flights from Iran, Iran’s flag carrier, IranAir, announced on Saturday.

Passengers, like before, can travel to the mentioned countries without observing the restriction as a result of the pandemic, the airliner said, Mehr reported.

Over the past two years, the majority of flights to Europe have been carried out by observing health protocols after the onset of the coronavirus outbreak.

Seal of Excellence granted to nine Iranian handicrafts

TEHRAN – Seal of Excellence has recently been granted to nine handicrafts made by artisans who are natives of South Khorasan province.

“Nine works of handicraft made by South Khorasan crafters have been received Seal of Excellence,” IRNA quoted the provincial tourism chief as saying on Saturday.

“300 fields of handicrafts have been identified in the country, of which 85 fields are practiced across the province,” Hadi Shahvari said.

South Khorasan intersperses arid mountains and semi-deserts and is famed for saffron and barberries. But there’s also a wealth of old mud villages that seem to have been left almost complete as though to tempt archaeologists.

With 14 entries, Iran ranks first globally for the number of cities and villages registered by the World Crafts Council, as China with seven entries, Chile with four, and India with three ones come next. For instance, Shiraz is named a “world city of [diverse] handicrafts”, Malayer is a global hub for woodcarving and carved-wood furniture, while Zanjan has gained the title of a “world city of filigree”.

In addition, the ancient city of Shiraz has been chosen to host the 39th General Assembly of the World Crafts Council-Asia Pacific Region (WCC-APR) in May 2023. Shiraz has a remarkable amount of handicraft pioneers. With an average age of 70, some of these pioneers are still



active at their workshops. The occupational records of about 100 pioneers are collected and are annually praised by the custodians of the WCC General Office.

Available data compiled by the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts suggests the value of Iran’s handicrafts exports stood at \$120 million

New evidence of prehistorical settlement comes to light in southern Iran

TEHRAN – A team of archaeologists has uncovered new clues about a prehistorical settlement in the Marvdasht plain of Fars province in southern Iran.

Evidence from a prehistorical settlement has come to light after archaeologists carved several trenches in Tall-e Qaleh to study cultural layers of the ancient mount, CHTN quoted archaeologist Fazlollah Habibi as saying on Saturday.

“We have unearthed remnants estimated to date sometime between the 5th millennium BC to the 2nd millennium BC,” Habibi, who presides the archaeological team, said.

“First, with the aim to demarcation, we carved 12 trenches each measuring 1 by 1 meter, which yielded remnants dating from the 5th millennium

BC to the 2nd millennium BC,” the archaeologist explained.

“In the end, the team specified an area covering 5.5 ha to determine the boundaries of the archaeological site,” he said.

Furthermore, the team conducted a stratigraphy study to analyze the order and position of archaeological layers at the site.

To fulfill a stratigraphy study, we dug two trenches on the southern side of the mount, which resulted in the discovery of a ruined Elamite-era mudbrick structure, the archaeologist explained.

In addition, the team discovered some tomb chambers with urn burial places.

The excavations, however, came to an end when archaeologists reached intact soil at a depth of



620 cm below the surface.

Experts believe the ecosystem of Marvdasht plain, which was once the seat of power for the Achaemenid Persian Empire (c. 550 – 330 BC) in southern Iran, has been one of the most important factors in the creation and development of several thousand years of civilization in this region.

That is why the remains of different settlements and cultures have been discovered during many excavations carried out in ancient hills and historical sites of the plain, cultural heritage expert Hamid Fadaei says.

The ancient region, known as Pars (Fars), or Persis, was the heart of the Achaemenid Empire founded by Cyrus the Great and had its capital at Pasargadae. Darius I the Great moved the

capital to nearby Persepolis in the late 6th or early 5th century BC. Alexander the Great defeated the Achaemenian army at Arbela in 331 and burned Persepolis apparently as revenge on the Persians because it seems the Persian King Xerxes had burnt the Greek City of Athens around 150 years earlier.

Persis became part of the Seleucid kingdom in 312 after Alexander’s death. The Parthian empire (247 BC– 224 CE) of the Arsacids (corresponding roughly to the modern Khorasan in Iran) replaced the Seleucids’ rule in Persis during 170–138 BC. The Sasanid Empire (224 CE–651) had its capital at Istakhr. Not until the 18th century, under the Zand dynasty (1750–79) of southern Iran, did Fars again become the heart of an empire, with its capital at Shiraz.

Nomadic Sangsari carpets to go on show in Italy

TEHRAN – A collection of Sangsari carpets, handwoven by nomad people, is set to go on show in Italy.

“We are planning to hold an exhibition of Sangsari carpets in Italy from March 18 to April 6,” ISNA quoted a local official as saying on Saturday.

Sangsari rugs and carpets are made by nomadic people in Mehdishahr, Semnan province, north-central Iran.

Experts believe that Persian carpets are among the most complex and labor-intensive handicrafts in the world.

Weavers spend several months in front of a loom, stringing and knotting thousands of threads. Some practice established patterns, some make their own. When the weaving is finally done, the carpet is cut, washed, and put out in the sun to dry.

For millennia, invaders, politicians, and even



enemies have left their impact on Iran’s carpets. As mentioned by Britannica Encyclopedia, little is known about Persian carpet making before the 15th century, when art was already approaching a peak.

The Mongol invasion of the 13th century had depressed Persia’s artistic life, only partially restored by the renaissance under the Mongol

Il-Khan dynasty (1256–1353). Although the conquests of Timur (died 1405) were in most respects disastrous to Persia, he favored artisans and spared them to work on his great palaces in Samarkand.

Later in the 17th century, there was a growing demand for the production of so many gold-and-silver-threaded carpets that were ultimately exported to Europe. Some were made in Kashan, but many of the finest came from Isfahan. With their high-keyed fresh colors and opulence, they have affinities with European Renaissance and Baroque idioms.

From the early 8th century onwards, nomads and town dwellers were still making carpets using dyes developed over centuries, each group maintaining an authentic tradition. Not made for an impatient Western market, these humbler rugs of the “low school” are frequently beautifully designed and are of good material and technique.

Handicrafts by female breadwinners go on show

TEHRAN – Sets of hand-made products by female breadwinners are currently on show in an exhibition in Tehran.

The permanent exhibition was inaugurated on Saturday morning during a ceremony at Ham Namak Gallery in downtown Tehran, IRNA reported.

Furthermore, the exhibition showcases handicrafts by women with disabilities, according to organizers.

“A venue like this provides a stable and appropriate environment for the presentation of exquisite works created by women heads of households, which will be followed by other measures and support projects based on the same concept,” said Mohammadreza Mashhadi, an official with the gallery.

In order for deprived families to succeed, they need to pay attention to the quality and competitiveness of their products, he added.

As women artists grow and prosper in the country, this kind of cultural and artistic experience will always be available, he



mentioned.

In addition to two branches in Tehran, the exhibit will also be set up in other provinces, including Khorasan Razavi, East Azarbaijan, Lorestan, and Kordestan, he noted.

According to the data compiled by the tourism ministry, some 295 fields of handicrafts are currently practiced across Iran with more than two million people engaging, the majority of whom are women. Handicrafts also play an important role in the economy in our rural villages.

In Iran, there are 3 million women-headed households, out of a total of 22 million families, and most of them can be found in less developed areas of the country.

Cultural elements in Qazvin made national heritage



TEHRAN – A selection of seven new cultural elements, traditionally practiced in Qazvin province, have been registered on the national intangible cultural heritage list.

The Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts on Saturday announced the inscriptions in separate letters to the governor-general of the west-central province, CHTN reported.

The skill of making Qolchaq

dolls, the talent of making Kham-Ashi and the skill of making Qolab-Sang were among the items added to the prestigious list.

Qazvin was once the capital of the mighty Persian Empire, under Safavids, from 1548 to 98. It is a major tourist destination with a wonderfully restored caravanserai-turned-arts precinct, some quirky museums, and a handful of decent eating options. For most travelers,

Qazvin is also primarily the staging point for excursions to the famous Castles of the Assassins and trekking in the sensational Alamut Valley.

Also known as the castle of the Assassins, the 12th-century Alamut castle is nestled on top of a peak. It was once a shelter for the followers of Hasan-e Sabbah (1070–1124) who was a spiritual leader of an Islamic sect. In the early 1930s, British-Italian explorer and travel writer Freya

Stark described her exploration of the place in her book “The Valleys of the Assassins”.

Qazvin is also home to one of the biggest roofed caravanserais in the country, Sa’d-al Saltaneh caravanserai. Dating back to the Qajar era, it’s a place for discovering tens of Hojreh or shops, cafes, yards, and a stunning mosque. It’s a place for visitors who want to experience the culture, cuisine, and hospitality of Iran

Nanotechnology improves medicinal plant extracts

TEHRAN – The properties of medicinal plants and natural flavors have been significantly increased with the efforts of Iranian knowledge-based nanotechnology companies, IRNA reported.

With the nanoparticle size of plant extracts, some of their potential properties have been realized and some of the useful properties have been significantly increased, Mehdi Ahmadi, CEO of a knowledge-based company said.

For example, the antibacterial properties of some nano-extracts increased by 10-folds. Reducing the particle size to the nanoscale increases their penetration depth. Therefore, we formulated 30 types of plant extracts, he explained.

“We are looking for industrial application of these nanostructures. We recently introduced one of our formulations that could increase the shelf life of protein products,” he stated.

Nanotechnology, with its trans-disciplinary nature, has broken the boundaries of various sciences and provided the basis to increase the quality of life. Therefore, the private sector, with the support of the Nanotechnology Innovation Council and InnoTEN, seeks to support projects



and commercialize the products.

Nanotechnology improvement

One of the industries that have experienced good growth in Iran in recent years, proving the country's scientific development, is the nanotechnology industry, a subject area that has brought Iran to the world's fourth place.

Currently, nanotech products are produced and marketed in more than 15 industrial fields based on domestic technologies and are being exported to 49 countries from five continents.

Over the past year (ended March 20), the total sale of Iranian nano-products has been equal to 115 tril-

lion rials (nearly \$425 million).

The expansion of nanotechnology export programs in recent years and the establishment of bases for exporting nanoproducts to China, India, Indonesia, Syria, Turkey, and Iraq have provided the opportunity for the entry of Iranian nanotechnology goods and equipment, and services into global markets.

Some 42 percent of the products in this field are related to construction, more than 17 percent to the field of oil, gas, and petrochemicals, 13 percent to the field of automobiles, and over 10 percent to the field of optoelectronic.

Some 270 companies are active

in the nanotechnology field and it is predicted that their revenue will reach up to 80 trillion rials (nearly \$310 million), Vice President for Science and Technology, Sourena Sattari, announced.

Iran's ranking in nanotechnology articles citation in 2019 has significantly improved compared to 2018, as it moved 26 levels higher, according to the StatNano's statistics collected from the WoS database.

Based on a report Nanotechnology Publications report, Iran ranked 38 worldwide for the average number of times the nano-articles have been cited in the Journal Citation Reports in 2019, while in 2018, it was placed 64.

It also ranked 4th for the highest number of nano-article publications.

Nanotech products are manufactured in more than 15 industrial fields, being exported to 49 countries.

End child labor!

From page 1 ► and a potent policy tool to prevent families from resorting to child labor in times of crisis.

However, as of 2020 and before the COVID-19 crisis took hold, only 46.9 percent of the global population were effectively covered by at least one social protection benefit while the remaining 53.1 percent – as many as 4.1 billion people – were left wholly unprotected. Coverage for children is even lower. Nearly three-quarters of children, 1.5 billion, lacked social protection.

Significant progress towards ending child labor requires increased investment in universal social protection systems, as part of an integrated and comprehensive approach to tackle the problem.

Mahmoud Aligoo, an official with the Welfare Organization, said that more than 44 percent of working children are members of a family of 4 to 6, which is also worrisome.

The Welfare Organization has covered over 14,000 children to control child labor, he said, adding, “We currently have 67 training and support centers run by NGOs and 31 government-run 24-hour centers.”

This is the result of various processes and economic issues in the region and neighboring countries; economic issues and political and cultural issues are highly effective, he lamented.

“The second issue is the way we look at these children. First of all, we must accept that children are not to blame for this process and are vulnerable to this social, economic, and cultural process,” he stated.

“We seek social support for the families of working children. In addition, we must provide them with cultural, social, and economic empowerment,” he added.

More than 80 percent of these children in Iran are foreign nationals. A national decision must be made on the issue of refugees and illegal citizens, he further noted, emphasizing the need to enhance the cooperation of responsible bodies to contain the issue.

A five-point plan for labor and street children will be implemented in 12 provinces of the country, Aligoo said.

Empowering the child's family, collecting labor children's biometric information, implementing a child-friendly plan, using the media system, and continuously monitoring the labor child's condition through a special system are among the five steps of this plan, he said.

70,000 street children

There are two concepts for labor children, some of whom are street children and others who are not homeless but have to work to provide a family livelihood.

Street children are homeless boys and girls, aged under 18 years, for whom “the street” has become home or their source of livelihood, and who are inad-



equately protected or supervised.

According to the Society for Protecting the Rights of the Child (SPRC), there are 14,000 dump-site pickers in Tehran, of which 4,700, or one-third of them, are children.

Habibollah Masoudi Farid, the deputy head of the Welfare Organization, announced in 2020 that there are an estimated 70,000 street children in the country. Of course, given that the conditions of children working in workshops are different, Masoudi Farid said that there are no exact statistics.

Under the law, the employment of children aged 15 or younger is prohibited in Iran and there are also restrictions on the types of jobs that persons between 15 and 18 years can do. For example, no child is allowed to work on jobs that pose occupational health hazards.

Financially struggling children

Referring to the leading causes of child labor in the country, Seyed Hassan Mousavi Chalak, head of the Iranian Social Workers Association, has said that the current causes of child labor in the country are similar to its global causes, which are economic and financial issues.

The inefficient social security system is another reason behind child labor. If the coverage of social security expands and becomes stronger, a significant part of this phenomenon will decrease.

Some 83-87 percent of working children are from financially struggling families.

Currently, 5-6 million people (that are legally eligible for a living allowance) are under the coverage of the Welfare Organization and Imam Khomeini Relief Foundation and are receiving subsidies, but the pension does not cover their living expenses.

Although the financial burden is indeed heavy for the government, we missed the capacity to expand social support, which might have been affected by various factors, such as U.S. sanctions, improper management, etc.

Now that the country's economy is not in good condition, the population in need of continued support is growing, and this is worrisome.

Working children are the consequence of inefficient economic and social security systems.

Tehran to host intl. microbiology congress

TEHRAN – The 23rd International Congress of Microbiology will be held in Tehran from August 30 to September 1st.

For the past two years, the event had been held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but this edition will be held in person.

The main purpose of the congress is to provide a scientific and suitable place to exchange information and experiences of Iranian and foreign specialists in medical microbiology with each other and with enthusiastic students and to be aware of the existing capacities in the country.

In this international event, not only famous Iranian professors but also famous foreign professors from different countries including Canada, Italy, Greece, Germany, Sweden, Belgium, Australia, the USA, India, and Oman, will participate to share the results of their research.

Also, during the congress, there is an opportunity for knowledge-based companies to attend and introduce their products and express their experiences. In addition, with the establishment of the exhibition, it will be possible for companies to introduce microbial and laboratory products.



The most important topics to be discussed in this congress are the status, treatment, vaccination, and control of COVID-19 disease; entrepreneurship and diagnostic achievements; study of emerging and re-appearing diseases including smallpox, phage therapy and its importance in treatment; microbiome and the role of probiotics in infectious diseases; urinary tract infections and recent diagnoses and treatments, and the importance of infectious diseases, etc.

Second Announcement



IN THE NAME OF GOD
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN BROADCASTING
INTERNATIONAL TENDER No: 1401/108-17 /03
Renewal

Tender Holder:
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN BROADCASTING (IRIB)

Subject of Tender :
Leasing 9MHz bandwidth capacity on Eutelsat 3B in accordance with the technical specification and other terms and conditions mentioned in the tender documents.

Tender Deadline and how to receive the Tender Documents:
From **Sunday 12 June 2022 (1401/03/22) 09:00 a.m** until **Wednesday 15 June 2022 (1401/03/25) by 14:00 p.m** with submitting the Interest Tender Letter and the receipt of Tender Documents Fee.

Place of receiving the Tender Documents:
Interested participants may refer to purchasing (KALA) Dept. ,4th Floor of IRIB Administration Complex , Esteghlal St. Vali –Assr Ave,Tehran, Iran

Tender Process/Documents Fee and how to deposit it:
The interested participants shall deposit the amount of 1,000,000 Rials to account Number 4101029171204273 with BIC No.IR 310100004101029171204273 IRAN Central Bank in favour of IRIB.

Type and amount of Tender Guarantee :
The interested participants shall provide a Tender Guarantee for participating in tender , in amount of USD 26403 fixed or its equivalent in Rials 7393000000 which should be in the form of Bank Guarantee.

Time and place of delivery Tender Envelopes:
The sealed (A,B&C) packages/envelopes in a master envelope and the qualification evaluation package/envelope separately packed , should be submitted no later than **09:00 a.m. on Saturday 23 July 2022 (1401/05/01)** at the address mentioned in 4th clause.

Time and place of opening Qualification Evaluation envelopes:
The date of opening the Qualification Evaluation envelopes is on **Saturday 23 July 2022 (1401/05/01) at 10:00 a.m** in the office of International Purchasing Dept.

Time and place of opening Envelopes:
The envelopes A of those eligible participants who meet the qualification criterion and approval of Technical and Commercial committee will be opened on **Sunday 24 July 2022 at 05:00 p.m (1401/05/02)** in the office of Financial Vice President .In case of complete content in the envelopes A the envelopes of B and C of eligible participants will be opened at the same time and place.
The participant must be qualified by the competent authorities.
Fore more information please see :
www.iriboffice.ir/tenders and http://iets.mporg.ir/ Tel: 00982122167053

Purchasing (Kala) Dept.,IRIB

ENGLISH IN USE

LEARN NEWS TRANSLATION

Iran finds herbal medicines effective in COVID-19 treatment

Two herbal drugs that are effective in healing the symptoms of COVID-19 have been permitted to be produced domestically.

The Food and Drug Administration has approved four domestically produced herbal medicine effective in the treatment of COVID-19 and has issued a production license for two of them.

Kianoush Jahanpour, the spokesman for the Food and Drug Administration, told IRNA on Monday that “none of these drugs are a cure for COVID-19, but they have effects to reduce the symptoms of this disease and should be further investigated.”

تولید دو داروی گیاهی موثر در درمان کرونا در ایران

سازمان غذا و دارو ی ایران چهار فرآورده طبیعی تولید داخل با اجزای گیاهی برای بهبود علایم کووید۱۹ را تایید کرده و مجوز تولید را برای دو مورد آنها صادر کرده است.

کیانوش جهانپور سخنگوی سازمان غذا و دارو روز دوشنبه در گفت وگو با ایرنا گفت: هیچکدام از این داروها داروی درمان کووید۱۹ نیستند اما اثراتی برای بهبود علایم این بیماری داشته اند و باید مراحل بررسی بیشتر را طی کنند. وی گفت: اولین داروی گیاهی از این مجموعه یک اسپری دهانی حاوی ۶ اسانس گیاهی است و با توجه به نتایج کارآزمایی بالینی ارائه شده در صورت مصرف به بهبود عوارض ریوی کووید۱۹ شامل تنگی نفس، سرفه و اکسیژن رسانی شریانی کمک می کند.

COVID-19 UPDATES ON JUNE 11

New cases	56	Total deaths	141,349	Total recovered patients	7,058,665
New deaths	6	New hospitalized patients	11	Diagnostic tests conducted	52,430,924
Total cases	7,233,528	Patients in critical condition	383	Doses of vaccine injected	150,089,557

TEHRAN TIMES

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JUNE 12, 2022

GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

Recommended prayers cannot attain the pleasures of Allah for you when obligatory prayers are left unattended.

Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times » Noon:13:04

Evening: 20:42

Dawn: 4:02 (tomorrow)

Sunrise: 5:48 (tomorrow)

Non-Iranian Languages of Iran

Part 4

In terms of political and tribal entities, these correspond to the kingdoms/regions of Mannea, Parsua, Ellipi, Elam, and Anshan (for a map of the peoples and the regions mostly in western Iran during the Neo-Assyrian period).

The most exhaustive philological and comparative linguistic analysis so far of the anthroponymy and toponymy documented in Neo-Assyrian sources and of pertinent Urartian sources during the Neo-Assyrian period, between ca. 1000 and ca. 600 BCE, is that by R. Zadok.

Supported by numerous statistical analyses, he attempts to reconstruct the process of the gradual Iranization, dividing the material into three historical periods (beginning 1000, 744, 704 BCE, respectively).

The part of Iran covered is delimited by the Araxes (Aras) river and the Qara-su river in the north; the Alborz range and the Dasht-i Kavir in the east; Lorestan up to the border of Elam in the south; the area east of Lake Urmia; the Hakkari mountains and most of Iraqi Kurdistan and the piedmont of the Zagros.

Naturally, documentation is best along the Zagros: Iranian names were overall the largest group (some 45 percent), followed by Kassite names (in the range 8-5 percent) and Hurro-Urartian names (7-1 percent).

Regionally, the Iranian names were dominant in the seven Median regions, where Kassite names were the second largest group in inner and western Media (18-15 percent and 12-6 percent), and in northwest Media and Parsua (7-3.5 percent).

Hurro-Urartian names were the largest group in most of Kurdistan (22-7.5 percent). These reflexes of Iranian and non-Iranian languages are thus quite heterogeneous and vary from region to region; moreover, many items of the data remain difficult to assign linguistically, and many of those are likely to belong to unknown languages and dialects.

By the middle of the first millennium BCE, the time of the Achaemenids, Urartian was probably still spoken in the northwest, but had been replaced by Armenian in the southern Caucasus.

Dialects of Kassite probably survived in the middle Zagros, as did the non-Iranian languages along the Caspian littoral, as well as Dravidian in the southeast. Elamite as one of the official languages of the Achaemenid court was still widely spoken in the southwest.

Two further non-Iranian languages had become prominent: Akkadian, both Neo-Assyrian and Babylonian, as well as Aramaic, which had in fact replaced Akkadian as the spoken language of Mesopotamia by the end of the first half of the second millennium BCE.

The fall of the Neo-Assyria empire in 612 BCE had probably brought Assyrians into northwestern Iran and the Urmia region. After the fall of the Achaemenid empire, groups of Greeks and Macedonians began to settle in various locations, and founded kingdoms along the Irano-Indian frontier, and finally from the mid-fourth century CE came the “Hunnish” Chionites and Hephtalites from Central Asia, partially of Altaic stock.

The synopsis in Table 1 correlates the diachrony of Iranian languages with those of Indo-Aryan (I-A) and the major non-Iranian Near Eastern languages with which they intersected at various stages; omitted from the tabulation are Armenian, Greek, and Altaic-Turkic, as well as Dravidian, because of the uncertain information.

Source: Encyclopedia Iranica
To be continued

Croatian writer Yasmin Dar’s novel on Iran “On the Roads of Persia” introduced in Zagreb

From Page 1 ▶ She said, “I tried to illustrate what I observed in my visit to Iran in the form of a novel based on what I had read in the Persian literary works produced between the 12th and 17th centuries by Hafez, Sadi, Khayyam, Attar and other great Persian poets.”

Dar also recounted an excerpt of her memories of the visit to Iran and along with Darija Zilic, the editor of the book, answered questions from the audience.

On his part, Esmaeli called the cultural ties a strong bridge between the two nations that would never collapse, and added, “Every book written for the purpose of introducing a nation is a cultural and informational treasure for current readers and those in the future.”

“Iran is a home to one of the major ancient human civilizations, and Mrs. Mehic’s efforts to introduce Iranian culture and traditions to Croatian readers through her narrative and works of great Persian poets, such as Hafez, Khayyam, Attar and



Croatian writer Yasmin Dar (1st R) and editor Darija Zilic (3rd R) talk to the audience in a meeting held at the Zagreb municipality on June 10, 2022, to present her novel “On the Roads of Persia” (“Putevima Perzije”).

Sadi, are really great and deeply appreciated,” he added.

In the novel, what seems even more important is that travel through Persia leads to an inner journey that opens up many questions about appearance,

identity, thinking about the meaning of life and the world in which we live, editor Darija Zilic, who is also a poet, literary critic, translator and an editor of the literary journal Tema, wrote in a preface to the book.

In this dreamy-realistic prose, the author plunges into the depths of her own being through the spiritual character of the Persian poet Hafez, but her narrative is not solely mystical, she added.

2022 Parisian Iran Cinema Festival announces lineup



A poster for the 2022 Festival Cinemas d'Iran.

TEHRAN – The 2022 Iran Cinema Festival (Festival Cinemas d'Iran) has unveiled its lineup.

The ninth edition of the festival, which will be held in Paris from June 22 to 28, will open with a screening of Saeid Rustai’s latest drama, “Leila’s Brothers.”

The film follows Leila, a young woman who has dedicated her whole life to her parents

and her four brothers. Heavily impacted by an unprecedented economic crisis, the family is crumbling under debt and tearing itself apart as personal disillusionment occurs.

Having its premiere at the 2022 Cannes Film Festival, the film won the FIPRESCI Prize, the International Film Critics award, at the Cannes Film Festival.

Director Ahmad Bahrami’s acclaimed drama “The Wasteland” is another highlight of the lineup.

The story of the film is set in a remote brick manufacturing factory producing bricks using an ancient method. Many families with different ethnicities work in the factory and the boss seems to hold the key to solving their problems. Forty-year-old Lotfollah, who was born on-site, is the factory supervisor and acts as a go-between for the workers and the boss. The boss has Lotfollah gather all the workers in front of his office. He wants to talk to them about the shutdown of the factory. All that matters now to Lotfollah is to keep Sarvar unharmed, the woman he has been in love with for a long time.

Winner of the grand prize at the 36th Venice International Film Critics’ Week, “Zalava” will

be also screened.

Directed by Arsalan Amiri, the film is set in 1978 in a small village called “Zalava”, where the villagers claim that a demon is among them.

A military official’s skepticism gets a rude awakening when he travels to the village in this chilling, critically acclaimed Iranian tale of the line between faith and paranoia.

Mohammad Kart’s directorial debut “Drown” has also been chosen to be screened. After a video of Parvaneh’s class in a women-only swimming pool is leaked, she is brutally murdered by her husband, Hashem, who then seeks a way to redeem his reputation and dignity as the godfather in the neighborhood. Hashem’s brother, Hojjat, embarks on a journey into the labyrinths of the underworld in Tehran to find out who is responsible for this dirty game.

The lineup also features Niki Karimi’s “Atabai”, Reza Dormishian’s “No Choice”, Majid Barzagar’s “The Rain Falls Where It Will” and Morteza Farshbaf’s “Tooman”.

The 2022 Festival Cinemas d'Iran will also screen a number of short and documentary films.

“Vincent’s Starry Night” falls at Iranian bookstores illuminating art history for children

TEHRAN – “Vincent’s Starry Night and Other Stories: A Children’s History of Art” by the British author and art historian Michael Bird has been published in Persian.

Published by Now, the Persian edition also carries the original illustrations by Kate Evans. Narges Entekhabi is the translator of the book originally published in 2016.

Take an enthralling journey by means of this book through 40,000 years of art and learn about everything from cave paintings to Cubism!

The book is made up of 68 chapters of stories about



Front cover of the Persian edition of Michael Bird’s book “Vincent’s Starry Night and Other Stories”.

art through the ages. It also includes reproductions of featured artworks, a comprehensive timeline of events, and extra feature spreads on places connected with art.

An essential reference book for all children who love art and stories, this book is the perfect blend of both. Discover artists and their art around the world, in exciting and imaginative tales about artists and the way they created their artwork.

Let your child discover the wonder of art and history with “Vincent’s Starry Night and Other Stories”.

Michael Bird is also a radio broadcaster. His books include “100 Ideas that Changed Art”. He has also published many essays and articles, and lectures widely. He currently holds a Goodison Fellowship at the British Library, where he is researching the oral history of modern British art.

Kate Evans is a freelance illustrator with clients including HarperCollins, The Guardian, Macmillan Books, National Geographic, Transport for London and V&A Magazine. She has had exhibitions in Bristol, Bath, London and Stockholm. Kate lives and works in Bristol.

ISIS from the view of ISIS members

A review of the book “From Frankfurt to Raqqa”

The author of “From Frankfurt to Raqqa,” Hadi Masoumi Zare, explains in the book’s introduction that his purpose in creating the book is to bridge the gap that most of us have with Salafi jihadism.

This book is a collection of several recorded face-to-face conversations with ISIL members. One of the interviews in this book, conducted after Mosul’s recapture in May 2017, is with a 23-year-old young man named Ebrahim. Masoumi Zare asks him to explain a little about ISIL and how they interact with people. “To be honest, when ISIL first appeared in the region, the people welcomed them, particularly in Mosul and the main cities, believing that these were tribal revolutionary fighters rather than

ISIS,” said Ebrahim.

“After a month or two, some rural youth swore allegiance to ISIS, and others managed to escape to Baghdad and Kirkuk. After a while, however, the majority of people were dissatisfied, but no one dared to speak out against them in public, so they discussed their dissatisfaction with ISIL in private,” he added.

Regarding the jihad al-nikah, which has become one of the most controversial subjects on social media, Ebrahim stated that he had only heard of it and had never seen anyone do it. The author goes on to explain that the topic of jihad al-nikah was a media game played by ISIL’s opponents and that no solid evidence has been presented to date that such an event occurred within the ISIL organization.

When asked if Europeans were also members of ISIS and had an active presence in



the Iraq conflict, the interviewee stated that he had personally seen ISIS members from France, the United Kingdom, and Germany. “They were the commanders in charge of the operational planning, as well as everything else, including leading and commanding the Iraqi soldiers,” said Ebrahim.