Straight Truth

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U.S. Ups the Ante in Syria Amid Tough Nuclear Talks

▸ Page 3

European energy bills soar with UK the latest

The European continent is currently the flashpoint when it comes to unprecedented demand and costs for energy despite winter being still a few months away.

The cold winter weather is usually the time when an energy crisis makes the headlines in Europe so why is it happening now?

European household prices for energy have dramatically surged to fresh records this week with the United Kingdom the latest to announce a record energy spike by a massive 80 percent to cap off a bad week for the European continent.

After German and French power prices hit the unknown and saw the Euro suffer a 20-year low, millions of British households will see their energy bills rocket.

This comes as the maximum level UK energy companies will be allowed to charge has increased to £3,549 a year, plunging many Brits into economic hardship.

The massive 80-percent hike, announced by the British energy regulator Ofgem, will see an ordinary consumer paying an extra £1,578 for their energy in a deepening cost of living crisis.

Ofgem sets the cap on how much energy companies are allowed to charge their consumers. A string of energy companies went bankrupt after struggling to meet the cap in the face of expensive wholesale energy prices. With Ofgem allowing energy prices to soar the energy companies now won't be going bust, but households and other consumers will. ▸ Page 5

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Amir Abdollahian meets Zanzibar president, calls for academic, industrial co-op

TEHRAN – Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian who met with Zanzibari President Hussein Mwinyi in Stone Town on Friday declared that the Islamic Republic is ready to facilitate business activities by Iranian tradespersons and entrepreneurs in the African country.

Amir Abdollahian also said the sitting Iranian administration is insistent on developing relations with Africa, adding historical and cultural affinities between Iran and Zanzibar have provided a fertile ground for strengthening ties.

Iran's chief diplomat also said the situation is ripe for commercial, academic, industrial and inter-city cooperation between Iran and Zanzibar.

Iran is one of the world's leading countries in medicine, hi-tech industries, and other sciences, Amir Abdollahian said, adding that Tehran is ready to share its know-how with African countries. ▸ Page 2

Major oil industry projects begin in Government Week

TEHRAN – On the occasion of Government Week (August 24-30), Iranian Oil Minister Javad Oji ordered the beginning of executive operations of five major oil industry projects in Khuzestan Province, in the southwest of the country, on Friday, Shana reported.

Inaugurated through video conferencing, the mentioned projects include the second phase of the Yaran oil field development, the development of Balal gas field in the Persian Gulf, the development and maintenance of Nargesi field in Gachsaran, and the development of the Propane dehydrogenation to propylene (PDH) unit of Bid Boland Refinery, as well as some social responsibility projects.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by senior officials including Head of National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) Mohsen Khojasteh-Mehr and Head of ▸ Page 4

© ISNA/ Hadise Pasandi

Iran bids farewell to poet Amir-Hushang Ebtehaj

TEHRAN – Reciting his poems "Arghavan" and "Sepideh", Iranians bade farewell to their beloved poet Amir-Hushang Ebtehaj in front of Tehran's Vahdat Hall on Friday.

The 94-year-old Ebtehaj, who wrote under the pseudonym of "Sayeh", died in his home in Cologne, Germany, on August 10. ▸ Page 8

Law on protection, sustainable exploitation of wildlife

By Faranak Bakhtiari

TEHRAN – Considering that 55 years have passed since the adoption of the hunting and fishing law in the country, the Department of Environment drafted a law on the protection and sustainable exploitation of wildlife.

The hunting and fishing law approved in 1967 forms the legal basis for the protection of wildlife and the natural environment in Iran. Although many of the provisions of this law were progressive and innovative at the time of its approval, after several decades, due to the changes and developments in the environmental, social, economic, and cultural structure of Iran, it needs to be revised and updated.

Widespread destruction of natural habitats, the rampant increase in hunting weapons, population increase, climate change, ▸ Page 7

Report

Iran in three-way race in 2022 FIVB World Championship

TEHRAN – Iran will start the 2022 Men's FIVB World Championship on Saturday with a match against Tokyo 2020 Olympic bronze medalists Argentina in Ljubljana, Argentina.

There is the three-way race between Iran, the Netherlands and Argentina, without the clear favorites, in Pool F.

In 2021, Iran won their fourth Asian continental title to qualify for the World Championship, while Argentina booked their spot at the World Championship as 2021 South American Championship runners-up.

Iran, the Netherlands and Argentina finished seventh, eighth and ninth with similar records in the VNL 2022 standings, which shows how equally matched they are ahead of their upcoming encounters in Ljubljana. They all have the potential and the ambition to do well, not just in the pool stage, but at the World Championship as a whole, and as they lock horns in the Slovenian capital, it will be down to how they perform on the day.

The Netherlands are the only team in Pool F to have ever reached a World Championship final. That was in 1994. They are also the only team to have won an Olympic title, in 1996, volleyballworld.com reported.

Egypt finished 20th at the 2018 World Championship and are currently the number 20 team in the World Ranking. Underdogs Egypt might be able to upset some of their opponents in the pool, like they did with China at the 2018 World Championship.

The competition formula will see the 24 competing teams spread across six pools of four, playing in a single round-robin format from Aug. 26 to Sept. 11. The top two nations in each pool and the four best third-placed teams will qualify for the elimination round.

Iran eyes UNESCO tag for ancient Seymareh

TEHRAN–Iran has completed an all-inclusive dossier for the ancient city of Seymareh in the western Ilam province for possibly becoming a UNESCO World Heritage, the deputy provincial tourism chief has said.

A preliminary dossier has been prepared for the possible registration of the historical-cultural landscape of Seymareh, which should first be approved in the country, Raed Nasserifar said on Friday, ISNA reported.

Seymareh is situated near Darreh Shahr, which was once the summer capital of Elamites, a pre-Iranian civilization dating from 2700 to 539 BC. The city also enjoyed centuries of prosperity during the Sassanid era (224 CE–651).

Covering an area of 200 hectares, the ancient city dates back to the Sassanid epoch and is believed to be built on remnants of the Elamite capital, Madaktu.

The first archeologist to visit Seymareh was Sir Henry Rawlinson. He began an expedition to the site in 1836.

Jaques de Morgan also visited this historical land in 1891 and introduced it as the same ancient city of Madakto. Then it was Aurel Stein who attempted to explore it in 1936, according to Visit Iran, the official travel guide of Iran.

The archeological findings show that the city included about 5,000 houses with some modern aspects, like a water distribution system through clay pipes and underground sewers. The city was destroyed and deserted after a huge earthquake around 950 BC. ▸ Page 6

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Op-ed

Climate change and challenges

By Mehdi Zare

Climate change refers to long-term changes in temperature and weather patterns that may be natural but since the middle of the 18th century, the trends have changed.

Human activities mainly due to burning fossil fuels (such as coal, oil, and gas) have increased the gases.

The gases trap and the heating process develops, which is named as "greenhouse effect". Such an effect is the cause of climate change which has had extensive effects on the environment.

The ice sheets in polar areas and natural lakes are shrinking, the rivers and lakes are disintegrating faster, the geographical ranges of plants and animals are changing and the trees bloom earlier.

Scientists have predicted the consequences for the long term, that would come later due to global climate change, which is happening now, such as the loss of lakes, increasing the water level in the oceans, and longer and more intense heat waves.

Generally, a wide range of published evidence shows that the net cost of damages caused by climate change is significant and will increase over time.

The sea level has increased from 1.7 mm per year in most years of the 20th century to 3.2 mm per year since 1993. The average thickness of the 30 well-studied natural lakes has decreased by more than 18 meters since 1980.

The area covered by sea ice in the Arctic at the end of summer has shrunk by about 40% since 1979. The amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere increased by about 25% from 1958 to 2020 and by about 40% after the industrial revolution. ▸ Page 7

"Winners" wins audience award at Edinburgh Intl. Film Festival

TEHRAN – Iranian drama "Winners" has garnered the audience award at the Edinburgh International Film Festival in Scotland.

Speaking at the closing ceremony held last week, Iranian-British director Hassan Nazer said, "Winning the audience award at EIFF means everything to me. I have been working towards this since I decided to become a filmmaker. I make films for the audience and will continue to do so."

He added, "It's a great thing to be part of an ethnic minority living in Scotland where your vision is a mix of your background and new home. My aim is to always tie my cultures together and celebrate diversity through cinema. I'm very thankful our work has been recognized by Screen Scotland and EIFF." ▸ Page 8

Iran FM: Tehran serious on safeguards issues to bring U.S. back on track

TEHRAN- In the midst of efforts to get the U.S. back into compliance with the 2015 nuclear agreement, Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian asserts Iran is "extremely serious" about the remaining issues concerning the safeguards agreement.

Amir Abdollahian talked on the most recent developments regarding the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), the official name of the 2015 nuclear agreement, and the sanction-removal negotiations in Vienna on Thursday.

Talking at a gathering of Iranian nationals in the Tanzanian city of Dar es Salaam, Amir Abdollahian stated that "the Iranian administration is following two paths at the same time, making efforts to render the sanctions ineffective and bring about economic prosperity and development to the country without focusing merely on the JCPOA."

"The reason as to why this policy was initially adopted is because assuming that our agreement reaches a final point in a few days or a few weeks, the secondary sanctions will be removed but the primary sanctions will remain in place within the framework of the JCPOA," he underlined.

The top Iranian diplomat emphasized the Raisi administration's resolve to continue sustainable economic development plans in efforts to neutralize the sanctions, adding the nuclear talks have "progressed to the point where we have received a response from the American side to our written proposals through the European Union's coordinator."

Amir Abdollahian went on to voice that "we received the American side's response yesterday (Thursday); we are currently examining and evaluating the response. Tehran is extremely serious about the remaining safeguards issues and we are in no way ready to leave unattended certain political and unfounded charges made by the Zionist regime."

In an effort to lift the primary sanctions it is necessary that all parties return to the agreement and lift the sanctions, the chief diplomat suggested.

The Iranian foreign minister added, "If the American side is serious in its commitments and if we reach the desired point in the agreement, we can reach the final stage of the negotiations."

Amir Abdollahian emphasized that Iran's red lines would only be respected when the JCPOA parties meet and the Vienna talks come to an end.

The talks to revive the 2015 nuclear deal began in April 2021 after U.S. President Joe Biden said his administration is willing to rejoin the multilateral agreement.

'Iran in no hurry'

"As long as we are not confident whether our red lines are honored and the interests of the Iranian nation are guaranteed, we will make no rush on this issue," he remarked.

Amir Abdollahian began the second phase of his three-nation Africa tour by arriving in Tanzania early on Thursday. The senior diplomat just returned from Mali and is now headed to Zanzibar.

Amir Abdollahian left for his regional tour of Africa on Monday and declared that the Islamic Republic takes seriously its desire to strengthen connections with all parts of the world.

Iranian, Qatari FMs speak on phone about JCPOA

TEHRAN - Amir Abdollahian, who was on a tour of Africa, talked and reviewed the most recent developments concerning diplomatic efforts to restore the 2015 nuclear deal – JCPOA - with his Qatari counterpart, Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani, over the phone on Thursday.

Sheikh Mohammed highlighted Qatar's desire to come to a fair solution that would address the concerns of all parties, noting that doing so would be advantageous to the security and stability of the region.

On August 8, after four days of intense negotiations in Vienna, a revised document put forth by the European Union to bring the nuclear talks to fruition.

The five-month break in the negotiations was caused by the U.S. negotiators' inability to resolve their internal differences.

On August 15, a week after the conclusion of the most recent round of the Vienna negotiations, Iran sent its response to the EU draft proposal. Following the submission of its reply, Tehran encouraged Washington to be "realistic and flexible" in order to establish a compromise.

The Biden administration's answer to Iran's remarks on the EU draft was sent over 10 days later.

In May 2018, the United States, then ruled by President Donald Trump, pulled out of the accord and reinstituted the punishing sanctions that it had been lifted under the JCPOA.

Months after Biden succeeded Trump, the negotiations to save the deal began in the Austrian capital in April of last year to look into the possibility of the U.S. returning to the pact and lifting the penalties.

Despite significant advancement, the lengthy negotiations were often interrupted by the U.S.'s indecision and delay.

Amir Abdollahian meets Zanzibar president, calls for academic, industrial co-op

Mwinyi added that Zanzibar is ready to cooperate with Iran for oil and gas extraction

From page 1 ▶ The top Iranian diplomat also voiced Iran's readiness for cooperation in oil and gas extraction with Zanzibar.

Amir Abdollahian also sent President Ebrahim Raisi's invitation to Mwinyi to visit Iran.

For his part, Mwinyi praised the visit by Amir Abdollahian and his accompanying delegation to Zanzibar. He also welcomed areas of cooperation proposed by the Iranian foreign minister and announced his country is ready to facilitate the presence of Iranian companies in Zanzibar.

Mwinyi also said his country enjoys great capacities in marine industries and fisheries. Mwinyi added that Zanzibar is ready to cooperate with Iran for oil and gas extraction and establishment of technology parks. He also called for cooperation in areas of agriculture, education, and dam and road construction.

The president of Zanzibar also hailed Iran's advances in defense industry.

He also thanked and welcomed invitation by President Raisi to visit the Islamic Republic of Iran and said plans will be made for the trip in future months.

Amir Abdollahian started a tour of Africa on Monday that took him to Mali, Tanzania and Zanzibar.

Sanctions lifting talks in Vienna at final stages, Amir-Abdollahian says

In his meeting with President Mwinyi, Amir Abdollahian also said the talks to revive the 2015 nuclear deal and remove sanctions against Tehran are at the "final stages" but the United States needs to adopt a realistic approach, Press TV reported.

He said the outstanding issues in talks to revive the deal, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), can be resolved if the U.S. acts realistically.

Iran plans to become hub for building nuclear plants: AEOI head

TEHRAN- Mohammad Eslami, the chief of Iran's Atomic Energy Organization (AEOI), vowed on Thursday that his country intends to quickly become a center for developing nuclear power plants.

Eslami make the remarks on the sidelines of a ceremony to inaugurate the production line for a locally produced, portable gamma radiation equipment to be utilized in agriculture as a persistent global fuel crisis had made the use of nuclear energy more pertinent.

"The world is currently experiencing a fuel crisis, and nearly every nation—and European ones in particular—have turned to building nuclear facilities. We are several years behind in that regard," the nuclear chief said.

He continued that Iran had a 20-year strategy for using nuclear energy to generate power.

"What is of very great significance to us is to be able to grow the applications of nuclear technology in the country by the day," the top nuclear official pointed out.

Eslami emphasized that Iran should become a powerhouse for developing and building nuclear facilities with the implementation of that strategy.

He went on to highlight that "by God's favor, the development of the use of radiation was put on the agenda in the first year of the current government. At the national level, the comprehensive development document was researched, created, and put on the agenda. Twelve locations in the country that may be exploited for agriculture were selected based on this study."

The nuclear chief stated that just one radiation system was utilized in a small portion of this region. He added a genuinely cutting-edge portable system is now being developed.

Behrouz Kamalvandi, the AEOI spokesman, said in April that Iran intends to construct a number of additional nuclear power facilities around Iran.

He continued by saying that European states had likewise come to terms with the inescapable need to develop nuclear power facilities.

Building nuclear power facilities, according to Kamalvandi, is crucial to meeting the demands of the Iranian nation.

In addition, the spokesman praised Iran's accomplishments in nuclear technology, emphasizing that these accomplishments fall under four categories: radiation, energy, fuel generation, and research and development (R&D).

Adib hands out credentials as Iranian ambassador to Georgia

TEHRAN – On Thursday, Mahmoud Adib, Iran's new ambassador to Tbilisi, handed over a copy of his credentials to Georgia's Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Khvtisiashvili.

After presenting the credentials, Adib and Khvtisiashvili discussed potential avenues for future collaboration.

The ambassador was congratulated on his appointment by Georgia's Deputy Foreign Minister, who also wished him a successful career and expressed optimism for the future of bilateral cooperation in a number of areas.

In turn, Ambassador Adib expressed happiness with being in Georgia and called for development of strong ties and collaboration in all areas of economy, culture, politics, and consular services.

Adib emphasized that "the long-standing historical and cultural ties and three decades of constructive relations between the two countries and the valuable capacities of people-to-people relations have paved the way for us to further develop the mutual relationship."

Iran's ambassador also reaffirmed Tehran's long-standing support for Georgia's territorial integrity and sovereignty while highlighting the Islamic Republic's significant contribution to regional stability.

Iran criticizes UN for failing to get Israel to sign NPT

Amir Abdollahian says it is essential to resolve all "artificial and politically-motivated Safeguards" issues

TEHRAN – The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference has come under fire from Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian for failing to force the Israeli regime to ratify the agreement.

On August 1, the Tenth Review Conference of the Parties to the NPT got underway, and was planned to end on Friday.

In a phone call with UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Thursday, Amir Abdollahian bemoaned that the NPT conference's President-designate Gustavo Zlauvinen had not pushed the Israeli regime to sign the treaty.

The Iranian foreign minister said Zlauvinen had put away all of the previous conferences' successes by failing to criticize the Tel Aviv regime, adding, "This is not acceptable by us at all."

In its ratifications in 1995, 2000, and 2010, the UN had pressed Israel to sign the NPT and put its nuclear program under the Safeguards agreement.

With 200–400 nuclear warheads in its arsenal and a deliberate strategy of ambiguity regarding its nuclear weapons development, Israel is the only owner of non-conventional weapons in the West Asia.

However, the regime has steadfastly refused to ratify the NPT or allow the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to investigate its military nuclear installations.

The U.S. and European countries, which are harshly critical of Iran's peaceful nuclear energy program, have expressed support for Israel and this has emboldened the Tel Aviv regime to further up its nuclear operations.

Iran studying U.S. response

Regarding the ongoing negotiations for potential lifting of U.S. sanctions against Iran within the framework of the nuclear talks in Vienna, Amir Abdollahian said Iran is studying Washington's response a European Union proposal that is intended to break the talks' present deadlock.

The United States responded to the EU's proposed nuclear text on Wednesday and Iran is studying it.

"My colleagues are currently working to examine the U.S. response," the foreign minister told the UN chief who initiated the phone talks.

"We possess the serious and real will for conclusion of a strong and sustainable agreement, and have displayed this will in practice," he underscored.

Iran responded to the new EU proposal on August 15, one week after it was released.

Elsewhere in his talks with the UN secretary general, Amir Abdollahian said Iran has reminded to all negotiating partners that it is "highly essential" to resolve all "artificial and politically-motivated Safeguards" issues pertaining to Iran's nuclear program.

He added Iran has shown "strong, serious and real will for" reviving the JCPOA and "we have shown this in practice".

UN chief thanks Iran for its constructive approach toward Vienna talks

For his part, the UN chief promised to address the Islamic Republic's worries over the Israeli regime's failure to sign the NPT.

Regarding the Vienna talks, Gutters thanked the Islamic Republic for its constructive efforts and stances and expressed optimism that the negotiations would result in a favorable outcome.

U.S. ups the ante in Syria amid tough nuclear talks

TEHRAN – For the second time in less than two weeks, the U.S. launched attacks on targets in Syria in what it described as a "response." But Iran has offered a new version of reality.

On Thursday, the U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) announced that it launched attacks in northern Syria against what it called "Iran-affiliated militants."

"Over the past 24 hours, in response to yesterday's rocket attacks on Mission Support Site Conoco and Mission Support Site Green Village in northeast Syria, CENTCOM forces struck at Iran-affiliated militants in the area with AH-64 Apache attack helicopters, AC-130 gunships, and M777 artillery, resulting in four enemy fighters killed and seven enemy rocket launchers destroyed," CENTCOM said in a statement.

The latest U.S. attack came on the heels of another attack that took place on Tuesday last week. CENTCOM Communication Director Colonel Joe Buccino said in a statement on Tuesday that "at President Biden's direction, U.S. military forces conducted precision airstrikes in Deir ez-Zor Syria" that were "intended to defend and protect U.S. forces from attacks like the ones on August 15 against U.S. personnel by Iran-backed groups. The U.S. strikes targeted infrastructure facilities used by groups affiliated with Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps."

Iran was quick to respond to U.S. allegations. It denied any connection to the targeted groups and highlighted the illegality of U.S. presence in Syria.

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani condemned U.S. aggression on Syria. "Kanaani has strongly condemned the US Army's aggression on Wednesday morning against the people and infrastructure of Syria as a violation of the country's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity," the Iranian foreign ministry said in a statement on Wednesday.

He added that the continued presence of U.S. forces in parts of Syrian soil is against international law and constitutes a breach of Syria's sovereignty and occupation. Kanaani noted, "Hence, the US must immediately leave Syria and stop plundering the country's oil resources and grains."

On Friday, the spokesman reiterated that position, saying that the U.S. had no legal right to station troops in Syria. "The U.S. has called the recent attacks by its transgressive army against popular groups and counterterrorism forces of Syria 'a direct response to attacks and continued threats against the United States troops,'" Kanaani said on Twitter, adding, "The truth: the presence of the occupying America in Syria in itself and its aggression against the defenders of Syria's independence and territorial integrity is illegal and condemned."

The U.S. escalation in Syra comes against a backdrop of tough negotiations between Iran and the West. On Wednesday, the U.S. gave its response to an Iranian response on the nuclear talks concurrently with the Syria strikes, sparking speculations over its strategy toward Iran.

Some have tried to establish a link between the Syria strikes and the talks in Vienna over reviving the 2015 Iran nuclear deal, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), saying that the U.S., with its attacks, seeks to imply that it is no rush for a deal with Iran. But others believe that the U.S. attacks are a message that the U.S. would not stop its illegal attacks in the region even after signing a deal with Iran.

Iran says U.S. presence in Syria 'illegal'

TEHRAN – Iran has condemned the U.S. strikes against Syria, saying the U.S. presence in the Arab country is "illegal."

"The U.S. has called the recent attacks by its transgressive army against popular groups and counterterrorism forces of Syria 'a direct response to attacks and continued threats against the United States troops,'" Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani said on Twitter.

He added, "The truth: the presence of the occupying America in Syria in itself and its aggression against the defenders of Syria's independence and territorial integrity is illegal and condemned."

The United States has launched a series of precision strikes against Syria that escalated tensions without any credible reason.

"At President Biden's direction, U.S. military forces conducted precision airstrikes in Deir ez-Zor Syria today," CENTCOM Communication Director Colonel Joe Buccino said in a statement on Tuesday. "These precision strikes are intended to defend and protect U.S. forces from attacks like the ones on August 15 against U.S. personnel by Iran-backed groups. The U.S. strikes targeted infrastructure facilities used by groups affiliated with Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps."

General Michael "Erik" Kurilla, commander of CENTCOM put out a similar statement, saying that "the strike in eastern Syria was in response to attacks by Iran-backed groups against US forces in Syria on August 15th and demonstrates our resolve to defend U.S. forces and equipment."

The US carried out additional airstrikes on Wednesday night.

The U.S. military carried out the strikes with AC-140 gunships, Apache attack helicopters, and M777 howitzers, US Central Command said in a statement.

The U.S. alleged that the strikes were in repones to attack by groups close to Iran, a charge Iran has denied.

"We will respond appropriately and proportionally to attacks on our servicemembers," Michael "Erik" Kurilla, commander of US Central Command, said in the statement, according to CNN. "No group will strike at our troops with impunity. We will take all necessary measures to defend our people."

INVITATION TO ONE STEP INTERNATIONAL TENDER
Second Announcement
55/1/13259
08/27/2022

Agricultural Support Services Company

Ministry of Jihad-e-Agriculture

AGRICULTURAL SUPPORT SERVICES COMPANY

Agricultural Support Services Company, hereinafter will be referred as ASSC, a subsidiary of the Ministry of Agricultural Jihad of I.R. of Iran, is considering the purchase of 250000±5% MTS of Granular Triple Super Phosphate (GTSP) in 30000 MTS ± 5%, 40000 MTS ± 5% and 50000 MTS ± 5% cargoes (at seller's option) through one step international tender.

All of the qualified and interested companies are invited to receive tender documents from Wednesday dated 24/8/2022 until Saturday dated 3/9/2022 (7 working days) from our purchasing committee (located at the 9th floor, no. 1, fourth alley, Gandhi St., Tehran, Iran).
The bidders are requested to submit their letters of introduction, along with remittance bill of Iranian Rial 1,200,000 to ASSC's account no. 4001039704005791with SHEBA no. IR250100004001039704005791 at the Central Bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran through payment order of SATNA or PAYA with the 30 character identification code of 358039782263500650000000000006.

The bidders are required to submit their sealed and stamped envelopes containing offers latest on Monday dated 3/10/2022 (during official working hours) to our security office, located on the 8th floor. Meanwhile the meeting for the opening of the envelops will be on Tuesday dated 4/10/2022 at 14:00 with the presence of bidders' representatives in our purchasing committee (9th floor, no. 1, fourth alley, Gandhi St., Tehran, Iran).

- The bid bond value should be:

1- € **418352** for each of 30000 MTS ± 5% equivalent to Iranian Rials **113775000000.**
2- € **525935** for each of 40000 MTS ± 5% equivalent to Iranian Rials **143033000000.**
3- € **633518** for each of 50000 MTS ± 5% equivalent to Iranian Rials **172291000000.**

- The bid bond value will be in Euro or in equal value of any other foreign currencies, except US dollars, based on Telegraphic Transfer rate in Sana rate website, www.sanarate.ir. It should be noted that this site lists the currency transactions, executed in Integrated Currency Transactions System [Nima website] on 13/8/2022.

– The bidders are permitted to submit the bid bond in Iranian Rial. The value of bid bond must be **submitted only by the bidders.**

- After approval of ASSC's Financial Manager, the bidders are permitted to use their previous and definite outstanding claims as the bid bond.

For more information, you may refer to our website www.assc.ir, and http://iets.mporg.ir or contact us by phone no. 00982188776325.

PR & Intel Affairs Dept. of Agricultural Support Services Company (ASSC)

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SPORTS

Iran into 2022 Asian Men's U20 Volleyball Championship semis

TEHRAN – Iran defeated Saudi Arabia in straight sets (25-20, 25-15, 25-21) on Friday to book a place in the 2022 Asian Men's U20 Volleyball Championship semifinals.

The 2022 Asian Men's U20 Volleyball Championship is the 21st edition of the Asian Men's U20 Volleyball Championship, a biennial international volleyball tournament organized by the Asian Volleyball Confederation (AVC) with Bahrain Volleyball Association (BVA).

The tournament is being held in Riffa, Bahrain from Aug. 22 to 29.

This tournament serves as qualification tournament for 2023 FIVB Volleyball Men's U21 World Championship.

The top two teams will book their places at the World Championship.

Senegal federation confirms friendly with Iran

TEHRAN - Senegal football federation has confirmed the friendly match with Iran scheduled for late September.

Dragan Skocic's team will play the African powerhouses in their training camp in Austria on Sept. 27.

The Persians are supposed to play Uruguay in Austria four days earlier.

The Lions of Teranga will first play Bolivia on Sept. 24 in Austria and then meet Iran three days later.

Iran have been drawn in Group B along with England, Wales and the U.S. in the 2022 FIFA World Cup.

Senegalese are in Group A along with hosts Qatar, the Netherlands and Ecuador.

Iran rout Qatar in 2022 FIBA U18 Asian Championship

TEHRAN – Iran defeated Qatar 82-45 in the 2022 FIBA U18 Asian Championship in the 5–8th place classification on Friday.

Mohsen Asgari Nia scored 18 points for Iran, while Hamad Yassin led Qatar with 15 points.

Iran will play the Philippines on Sunday for the 5th place, while Qatar meet Chinese Taipei to finish in seventh place.

The 2022 FIBA U18 Asian Championship is an ongoing international U18 basketball competition that is currently held in Tehran, Iran from Aug. 21 to 28.

China, Japan, South Korea and Lebanon have already qualified for the 2023 FIBA U19 Basketball World Cup in Hungary.

This is the third time that Iran has hosted the tournament after hosting the 2008 and 2016 editions.

Iran move up one place in FIFA Ranking

TEHRAN – Iran national football team moved up one place in the FIFA world ranking released on Thursday.

In the Top 50, almost nothing has changed from the previous edition.

Brazil, Belgium and Argentina still occupy the podium places, while their immediate pursuers remain in the same order they were in June.

Only Iran (22nd, plus 1) and FIFA World Cup hosts Qatar (48th, plus 1) move up one place apiece.

The next FIFA World Ranking will be published on Oct. 6.

Iran to play Japan at 2022 AVC Cup for Women QF

TEHRAN – Iran lost to China 3-1 (24-26, 25-19, 25-10, 25-13) in Pool A of the preliminary round of the 2022 AVC Cup for Women on Thursday.

China captain Wang Yifan led all scorers on the field with 25 points (23 attacks and 2 service winners).

"Iran is a good team, and it was not easy to play against them and that's why we prepared. We watched a lot of videos to observe how they move, how they play," said Wang Yifan.

As the top-ranked team in Pool A, China will face Australia in the quarterfinals, scheduled on Saturday at the PhilSports Arena, while Iran play Japan.

Iran beat Japan at FIBA World Cup 2023 qualifier

TEHRAN - Iran started the Second Round of the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023 Asian Qualifiers with a win over Japan on Thursday.

Iran fended off a determined Japan side to get a 79-68 win on their home court.

The game turned into a shootout between the two stars off the team, Behnam Yakhchali and Yudai Baba. In the end, Yakhchali both won the game and the individual matchup by scoring 30 points to Baba's 27.

Japan fell behind with a slow start in the second quarter and even though they were able to make a solid fourth quarter push, it was not enough. Hamed Haddadi also had a big game with 13 points, 10 rebounds, and 4 assists, while Arsalan Kazemi added 12 points and 17 rebounds.

Iran are scheduled to play the Boomers four days later in Bendigo, Australia.

Similar to the 2019 FIBA Basketball World Cup qualification, the format will be six windows over a 15-month period across all FIBA regions. 80 national teams are expected to compete during the qualification process.

Iran, U.S. to renew rivalry at World Wrestling Championships

TEHRAN – The Iranian and the U.S. freestyle wrestling teams will renew their rivalry in the 2022 World Wrestling Championships.

Iran finished third in Oslo, Norway six points behind the US. A few rivalries may also see a new chapter added to them in Belgrade, Serbia.

More than 800 wrestlers will arrive in Belgrade to compete at the World Championships beginning September 10 at the Stark Arena, UWW.org reported.

The tournament will kick off with Greco-Roman as Iran looks to win the team title it missed in Oslo. The field includes stars from Iran, Georgia, the Republic of Azerbaijan and Turkey.

Esteghlal edge Mes Kerman at Azadi Stadium

TEHRAN – Esteghlal football team edged past Mes Kerman 1-0 on Matchweek 3 of Iran Professional League (IPL) on Thursday.

Kevin Yamga scored the solitary goal of the match in the 75th minute.

It was Esteghlal's second win in three matches in the game which was attended by the women fans as well.

In Isfahan, Zob Ahan and Mes Rafsanjan shared the spoils in a goalless draw and Paykan earned a 1-0 away win over Naft Masjed Soleyman. Nassaji were also held to a 2-2 draw against Malavan.

Iran to sign gas swap deal with Russia in near future: Oji

TEHRAN - Iranian Oil Minister Javad Oji has announced that a gas purchase and swap deal will be signed between the Islamic Republic and the Russian Federation in the very near future, Shana reported.

"The negotiations for the purchase and swap of gas from Russia have been finalized and [the contract] will be signed in the near future in Moscow between the National Iranian Gas Company and the Russian side," Oji said referring to a meeting with Igor Yevgenyevich Levitin, aide to the President of the Russian Federation in Tehran on Wednesday.

Negotiations were also held regarding the swap of petroleum products, he said, adding: "Iran has many capacities in the fields of the sea, railway and land transportation which will be beneficial for the development of swap between the two sides," he stressed.

According to Oji, during the meeting with Levitin, the two sides followed up on previous agreements in the fields of energy and rail transportation and discussed ways of expanding cooperation in the mentioned sectors.

Iranian Oil Minister Javad Oji (L) receives Aide to President of Russian Federation Igor Yevgenyevich Levitin (R) in Tehran on Wednesday.

"In the transportation sector, discussions were held regarding the construction of the Rasht-Astara railway and the signaling of the Garmsar-Inche Borun railway line," the Iranian minister said.

He noted that Russian banks are going to finance the said projects, saying: "Since the senior aide to the Russian president has full authority these projects will be operational soon."

Referring to the signing of a $40-billion memorandum of understanding (MOU) with large Russian companies, Oji said: "Now we have contracts with Russia for the development of seven oil and gas fields, which have a progress of between 10 percent and 30 percent, and negotiations are underway for 14 other fields."

He went on to say that the meeting of the Iran-Russia Joint Economic Committee will be held in two months in Moscow and negotiations on various issues including energy, transportation, and trade will be followed up in that meeting.

Referring to the fact that Russia is committed to financing €5 billion in Iran's development and infrastructure projects, Oji continued: "Some 2.5 billion euros have been already allocated and the funds are being used in power plant projects. We also determined the projects for the rest of the mentioned figure whose contracts will be signed soon."

Emphasizing that the cooperation between Iran and Russia in the field of energy is not one-sided, the minister added that in the petrochemical sector, some contracts have been signed for the exports of products and catalysts to Russia.

The official further noted that some agreements have also been reached with Russian companies for the improvement of the recovery factor of the South Pars gas field, saying: "Another issue emphasized in the MOU signed with Russian companies is increasing the pressure in the South Pars gas field, since the Russians have good capabilities in this area."

Electricity issues of Tehran industrial parks discussed with govt. representatives

TEHRAN – During a working group meeting of the government and Tehran private sector dialogue council on Wednesday the issues regarding the electricity supply to the province's industrial parks were discussed.

As the portal of Tehran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines, and Agriculture (TCCIMA) reported, in the meeting representatives of the Association of Manufacturers and Suppliers of Renewable Energy Goods and Services (SATKA) said that production units active in industrial parks can prevent electricity shortage during peak consumption periods by installing renewable power stations.

Speaking at the meeting, Mohammad-Hassan Ghafouri, the executive director of SATKA noted that currently, 19 industrial parks and zones are active in Tehran province in which about 6,000 units are operating.

"If these industrial units are equipped with

solar power stations of at least 200 kilowatts, over 1,200 megawatts of new electricity generation capacity will be added to the country's power grid," he said in the meeting.

Based on a systematic program, Iranian Energy Ministry cuts off the electricity supply to industrial parks in specific hours during summer peak consumption period to manage the capital's electricity supply and demand and prevent blackouts for household consumers.

Iran expected to ink agreement with Russia's EXIAR soon

TPO Head Alireza Peyman-Pak (2nd R) and Director-General of Russian Export Center Veronika Nikishina (2nd L)

TEHRAN – Head of Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) has urged Russia to take the necessary measures for signing an agreement between Export Guarantee Fund of Iran and the Russian Agency for Export Credit and Investment Insurance (EXIAR) in the coming weeks, the TPO portal reported.

"If this agreement is signed, many Iranian trade companies will be able to use this insurance. This agreement is a good opportunity for traders to benefit from the two countries' export capacities to the fullest and it will be a driving force for the development of Iran and Russia's trade," Alireza Peyman-Pak said in a meeting with Director-General of Russian Export Center Veronika Nikishina in Moscow on Wednesday.

He expressed hope that this document will be finalized and ready to be signed within the next two weeks so that the obstacles in the way of the businessmen of the two countries can be resolved as soon as possible.

Peyman-Pak also announced Iran's readiness to establish banking relations with Eximbank of Russia and emphasized that Iran is ready to use all the banking capacities of the two countries in order to facilitate the financial transactions between the two sides.

Nikishina for her part welcomed the Iranian side's proposals, saying: "We gladly join the actions and decisions that are being made because we want to create acceptable conditions for expanding business in a competitive financial environment."

Commodities worth $2.2b traded at IME in a month

TEHRAN- During the past Iranian calendar month Mordad (ended on August 22), 10.311 million tons of commodities worth $2.2 billion were traded at Iran Mercantile Exchange (IME).

As reported by the IME's Public Relations and International Affairs Department, the exchange traded on both domestic and export rings of its oil and petrochemical trading floor 1.827 million tons of commodities valued at more than $864 million.

The IME's customers purchased on this floor 547,600 tons of vacuum bottom, 532,275 tons of bitumen, 321,756 tons of polymeric products, 149,500 tons of lube cut, 134,590 tons of chemicals, 110,125 tons of sulfur, 22,017 tons of oil, 2,000 tons of slops wax and 1,300 tons of insulation.

Furthermore, the exchange saw trade of 8.443 million tons of commodities worth more than $1.4 billion on its metals and minerals trading floor.

Items traded on this floor included 4,231,000 tons of cement, 1,253,000 tons of steel, 2,374,000 tons of iron ore, 371,500 tons of sponge iron, 46,555 tons of aluminum, 114,875 tons of zinc, 25,701 tons of copper, 730 tons of molybdenum concentrate, 500 tons of coke, 60 tons of precious metals concentrate, 91 kg of gold bars and 600 dignity and fidelity SUV automobiles.

The IME also traded within the month 40,997 tons of commodities on its side market.

The value of trades at Iran Mercantile Exchange rose 102 percent, and the volume of trades at the exchange increased 128 percent in the past Iranian calendar year 1400 (ended on March 20), which was the highest level of growth in the history of the exchange since its establishment.

Statistical data show that in the past year, in addition to new records in the volume and value of trades of different products, 10 major records in total value and physical market trades were registered. In a way that besides the total value of trades, the volume and value of physical market trades, the volume, and value of industrial products and petrochemicals trades, the value of oil products trades and the volume and value of side market trades all hit records.

IME is one of the four major stock markets of Iran, the other three markets are Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE), Iran's over-the-counter (OTC) market known also as Iran Fara Bourse (IFB), and Iran Energy Exchange (IRENEX).

Major oil industry projects begin in Government Week

Oil Minister Javad Oji (C), NIOC Head Mohsen Khojaste-Mehr (3rd R), NISOC Head Alireza Daneshi (1st R), and NPC Head Morteza Shah-mirzaei (2nd L)

From page 1 ▶ National Iranian South Oil Company (NISOC) Alireza Daneshi, as well as Head of National Petrochemical Company Morteza Shahmirzaei.

With a total investment of $227 million, the second phase of the Yaran oil field development project is being implemented by Persia Oil and Gas Industry Development Company under a 10-year contract.

Based on the contract, Persia Oil and Gas Industry Development Company is going to increase the field's oil production by 39.5 million barrels within the 10-year time span.

As reported, the development project of Balal gas field has also been assigned to Petropars Company under a contract valued at $500 million. The first phase of the project includes the drilling of a descriptive-exploratory well with $28.4 million of investment.

The development and maintenance of Nargesi field is being conducted by Dana Energy Company under a 41-month contract. During the contract period, Dana Energy Company is obliged to increase the field's production to 6,000 barrels per day (bpd). The implementation of this plan will generate more than $500 million in revenue for the government within two years.

The Propane dehydrogenation to propylene (PDH) unit of Bid Boland Refinery is going to convert 700,000 tons of Propane to propylene every year; over $950 million has been invested in this project.

Export from Tehran province rises 33% in 4 months yr/yr

TEHRAN – Export from Tehran province increased 33.78 percent in the first four months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21-July 22), as compared to the same period of time in the past year, a provincial official announced.

Hassan Mirzaei, an official with the province's Industry, Mining and Trade Department, said commodities worth $400 million were exported from the province in the four-month period of this year.

He said that the industry and agriculture sectors accounted for the lion's share of export from the province, and named Turkey, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan and United Arab Emirates as the major export destinations.

As previously announced by the head of Tehran province's Industry, Mining and Trade Department, the value of export from the province rose 66.44 percent in the past Iranian calendar year 1400 (ended on March 20), from its preceding year.

Mahmoud Seyjani said that commodities worth $1.218 billion were exported from the province in the past year.

He named Iraq, Turkey, Afghanistan, Russia, Turkmenistan, India, China, Pakistan, United Arab Emirates (UAE), and Azerbaijan as the main destinations of the products exported from the province in the previous year.

Neighboring countries, India and China imported 69 percent of the exported commodities, the official noted.

According to the data released by the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA), the value of Iran's non-oil exports reached $17.24 billion in the first four months of the current Iranian calendar year, up 22 percent compared to the last year's

same period.

Based on the mentioned data, Iran exported 35.656 million tons of non-oil commodities in the mentioned four months, IRIB reported.

Meanwhile, some 11.159 million tons of goods valued at $17.24 billion were imported into the country in the said period, indicating a 17-percent rise in terms of value compared to the last year's same time span.

In total, the Islamic Republic traded about 46.815 million tons of non-oil goods worth $34.48 billion with its trade partners in the first four months of the current Iranian calendar year, up 19 percent in terms of value, the IRICA data showed.

Iran's top export destination during this period was China with $5.617 billion worth of imports from the Islamic Republic, followed by Iraq with $2.398 billion, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) with over $2.264 billion, Turkey with $2.06 billion, and India with $567 million.

Liquid propane, methanol, liquefied natural gas, urea, liquid butane, polyethylene, bitumen, light petroleum oils, iron and steel ingots, and light oil products were among the top exported items in the said four months.

Meanwhile, the country's top five sources of imports during these four months were the UAE with $4.875 billion, China with $4.422 billion, Turkey with $1.787 billion, India with $859 million, and Russia with $599 million worth of imports.

CAO prepares 10-year roadmap for developing aviation industry

TEHRAN - Head of Iran's Civil Aviation Organization (CAO) has said his organization has prepared a 10-year roadmap for the development of the country's aviation industry, IRNA reported.

Speaking in a meeting with representatives of some knowledge-based companies on the occasion of Government Week, Mohammad Mohammadi-Bakhsh said the mentioned roadmap includes two major axes one of which is regarding the manufacturing of airplanes by knowledge-based companies and the other is the supply of parts and equipment needed in this industry.

Mentioning the problems that the U.S. sanctions have created for the Iranian aviation industry, the official said: "We have no choice but to build our own airplanes."

"According to the decision of the Supreme Council of Aviation, there is no limit for the entry of knowledge-based companies and startups into the country's aviation sector," Mohammadi-Bakhsh noted.

Stressing the importance of training and education in the aviation industry, the official stated that in the 10-year roadmap special attention has been paid to cooperation with universities and research institutions for holding training courses and keeping the people active in this industry up-to-date.

The CAO head further said that three separate three-year executive programs have also been prepared and defined for the development of the country's aviation industry, noting: "We will not wait for the sanctions to be lifted."

According to Mohammadi-Bakhsh, the number of the country's passenger airplanes will increase to 550 within the next 10 years, based on the mentioned comprehensive program.

"Under the framework of this program, fleet expansion up to 550 airplanes, repairing airplane parts and indigenizing the knowledge for the construction of aircraft inside the country are set on the agenda," he said.

"Following President Raisi's orders, we have focused all our efforts on a few areas, including buying airplanes, manufacturing airplanes, and repairing grounded airplanes. We need 550 airplanes to meet the country's air transportation demands," Mohammadi-Bakhsh noted.

European energy bills soar with UK the latest

From page 1 ▶ Experts are now forecasting around 24 million British households to be strongly affected by the latest huge price hike. As energy prices rocket, there are real concerns now the average household will see energy prices spike to as much as £6,823 per year from next April.

Like in the rest of Europe, it's not just families or individuals who are facing a huge rise in energy costs; small and medium-sized businesses are struggling too. The Confederation of British Industry has warned that many businesses are facing "distress" unless urgent action is taken.

There have been calls on the government to take urgent measures. Ofgem's chief executive officer Jonathan Brearley told state media "[the price cap rise] is beyond the capacity of the regulator and the industry to address. The prime minister with his or her ministerial team will need to act urgently and decisively to address this."

British Conservative Party members are currently in the process of choosing their new leader to replace Boris Johnson and become the next prime minister, with a winner to be announced on September 5. Liz Truss and Rishi Sunak are the two candidates in the runoff for the top job.

Responding to the price cap increase, the opposition Liberal Democrat leader Ed Davey called for energy prices to be frozen saying "then we need a proper plan to be put in place to bring bills down next year.

"As millions suffer the Conservatives do nothing. No policy from the government, no plan from Liz Truss or Rishi Sunak. They have no idea how much pain these energy prices will cause our country. They are simply unfit to govern."

Soaring wholesale gas costs have been fueled by the fighting in Ukraine. The British government has accused the rising cost of

living crisis, the energy crisis, and rising inflation in Russia.

The accusation has been echoed by some European allies but especially by its American counterpart. Washington has also tried to blame all its economic woes on Russia.

Which doesn't explain the massive arms packages the United States and its European allies have been pumping into a war zone. A conflict that the West says is causing great financial hardship to millions back home.

Russia dismisses the accusations being leveled against it by not just Western governments but also information of a biased nature being spread by the Western media to promote Western political objectives.

In June, the ex-Russian president Dmitry Medvedev touched on the energy crisis by slamming the Western policy of sanctions targeting Moscow's energy saying "of course, our opponents will continue to do everything to cause maximum damage to our fuel and energy complex... Today, they are experiencing an energy crisis, the scope of which will only increase."

The former top politician added that "even the main instigator of anti-Russian aggression, the U.S., has suffered,"

He was not the only one to predict that Europe which is heavily reliant on Russian energy will experience an increasingly large crisis in the energy sector.

The unprecedented level of sanctions against Moscow shows once again the West's failure to learn that this policy doesn't bring the desired results or at least the results it publicly states.

It is quite a strange policy when Europe finds itself once again being egged on mostly by the U.S. but also by the UK to impose sanctions knowing it will backfire.

The boomerang effect is being felt by European households the most as well as tipping European economies into record inflation and recession.

Data shows that as wholesale gas and electricity prices surge, millions of people in Europe are now spending a record amount of their income on energy bills.

In the face of blackout warnings, EU energy ministers are looking at holding an emergency meeting to discuss the now hostile energy markets, according to the Czech Republic which holds the EU's rotating presidency.

Is there a realization from some EU countries that they need to get out of this sanctions regime policy? Time will tell.

It certainly might take an emergency to realize that imposing sanctions while sending weapons (allowing a minority to financially benefit at the plight of tens of millions suffering) is not the right policy to push forward in Western or Eastern Europe.

In another desperate attempt, some have tried to tie down the sovereignty of Europe's energy to the independence of another country namely Ukraine. An argument that doesn't add up when you consider the U.S.-led NATO military alliance's eastward expansion towards Russia using Ukrainian territory which triggered the fighting in Eastern Europe.

Yet at the same time, NATO and the European Union have publicly refused to expand membership to Ukraine.

European economies had already been battered by the coronavirus and the conflict in Eastern Europe has intensified the problem especially by imposing sanctions.

It is very clear that economies in Europe are reliant on energy from outside suppliers and it is difficult to explain how the continent did not foresee the impact of their sanctions on Moscow apart from ignorance that the public will back these policies all the way.

Instead, a lot of European leaders have lost their seats in power or majority as a result of bad policies and the worst is still to come as the harsh winter season will bring about high demand for heating.

It's not the leaders that are suffering but European households mostly and this winter season will see more calls to food banks; all for a war that could have been avoided if more emphasis was put on peace talks, not weapons such as implementing the Minsk agreement for example.

As some experts have noted there are other agendas in the planning process of NATO leaders to try and destabilize Eastern Europe, but as always the planning is not carried out in full and the results are backfiring. This is tumbling into very serious problems yet somehow Europe continues to blindly follow Washington.

The documents matter: Why Trump is a security risk

Now that the documents have been recovered, we shouldn't have to worry about that anymore—or should we?

Responses by Donald Trump's supporters to the recovery of the material that Trump illegally took to his Florida residence have thrown the concept of law and order to the wind and have endangered public servants doing their jobs. That is demonstrably bad, but focus for a moment on the documents themselves. More specifically—although Trump's action, unlike the more responsible conduct of other former presidents, clearly violated the Presidential Records Act even if no classified material had been involved—consider the national security implications.

We now know, thanks to the release of a letter from the acting archivist of the United States to Trump's lawyers, that the material that Trump retained illegally for a year before returning it to the government in January included more than 100 classified documents totaling more than 700 pages. Some of the documents were classified at the highest levels, reserved for the most sensitive national security materials. Then, after Trump's lawyers lied to the government in asserting that this material was all there was, the FBI found and seized this month multiple boxloads of still more classified material from Trump's residence. No exact count of that part of the stash has been made official, but press reporting suggests that the total number of classified documents that Trump carted off to Florida is more than 300, with the page count presumably some multiple of that.

In short, it is a huge amount of sensitive material relevant to U.S. national security. We, the public, still do not know details of the contents, and we should not expect to find out. Revelations that would impress on the public the sensitivity of the material would tend to defeat the purpose of classifying it in the first place.

But what already is publicly known, in terms of the amount of material and levels of classification—even allowing for some possible over-classification—warrants the conclusion that the mishandling of this material has posed serious dangers to national security. Risk to intelligence sources and methods is almost certainly involved. So is the risk to sensitive aspects of U.S. diplomacy. Compromise of the information and its acquisition by hostile powers could occur through either direct acquisition of improperly secured material or recruitment of people who have had access to it.

The damage is likely to be all the greater because Trump's actions have impeded assessment of the damage. As the acting archivist's letter indicates, the attempts of Trump's lawyers to freeze any examination of the material inside the government, by making implausible claims of executive privilege, delayed by months the initiation of a damage assessment covering the first batch of recovered documents. Damage assessments are most effective in limiting further damage when performed as promptly as possible. Responses to such assessments can include evacuating human intelligence sources from areas where they may be in danger, or reconfiguring the use of technical collection systems.

On top of this is the indirect effect that Trump's brazen disregard for rules on safeguarding national security material could have on the willingness of many lower ranking officials still in government to abide by those rules. The great majority of public servants with access to such material will continue to respect the rules. But it only takes one person to cause significant additional damage by deciding that he doesn't need to be any more diligent in handling secrets than an ex-president has been.

Trump already showed while in office that he lacked respect for such rules, or indeed, respect for national security. It was just one more set of national interests that took second place to his highest priorities, which were himself, his ego, his pocketbook, and his thirst for revenge against anyone who crossed him. At least in the White House he had some "adults in the room" who could monitor his conduct and his access and try to limit damage. He doesn't have those people in Florida.

What might Trump have done (or possibly already has done) with those documents? Boastful show-and-tell is probably the least damaging possibility, although any unauthorized disclosure of classified material carries risks. Another possibility is willful sabotage of a successor administration's policies through selective leaks, in which the damage would come from both the compromise of classified information and the undermining of U.S. foreign policy.

It is in coming to the most nefarious and worrisome possibilities that one has to consider Trump's character and history. If Trump had been an ordinary applicant for employment in one of the departments or agencies handling national security matters, he never would have been approved for a security clearance. Any security officer reviewing his file would have immediately seen red flags. These include a financial history of indebtedness and business bankruptcies, connections to a hostile power such as Russia, and dependence on that foreign power to achieve business objectives.

Trump's conduct in government has confirmed what would have been the security officer's decision to deny a clearance. This includes not only the disregard for rules and laws, the careless handling of classified information, and the willful obstruction of damage assessments, but also behavior that suggests more specifically that he has something to hide, especially in his relations with Russia. That there has been more to Trump's relationship with the Russian regime than he ever has acknowledged is indicated by his secretive approach to meetings with Russian president Vladimir Putin, concealing contents from his own staff and other U.S. officials. After his first meeting with Putin, Trump confiscated his interpreter's notes and ordered him not to disclose to anyone what he had heard. In other conversations with the Russian president, he used Putin's interpreter, with no Americans present besides Trump himself. It is highly unusual for a U.S. president to shut out in this way his own staff and U.S. officials having responsibilities concerning the country in question.

Without any documents, Trump as an ex-president might not have been a very attractive target for a foreign regime or intelligence service. His disengagement from briefings, inattention to detail, and disregard for truth would mean that whatever he said from memory or off the top of his head might not have much value anyway. But with classified documents, he has something to sell. As a disgruntled former employee of the U.S. government, he further fits the profile of a security risk. And he probably still would like to build a Trump Tower in Moscow.

Now that the documents have been recovered, we shouldn't have to worry about that anymore—or should we? Trump's representatives already have lied once about whether he had any remaining documents, and there is no guarantee that the FBI was able to find everything. And Mar-a-Lago probably has copying machines.

(Source: The National Interest)

Pentagon watchdog doubtful Kiev tracks U.S. weapons

The Pentagon's acting Inspector General Sean O'Donnell told Bloomberg on Thursday that his office will test the effectiveness of the system that tracks U.S. weapons shipped to Ukraine as part of the Defense Department's multi-billion dollar military assistance program.

"As far as we can tell, right now, everything that is supposed to shoot and go boom, they are using every bit of it," the official said, adding that the system needs to be double-checked as the Ukrainians use "hand receipts" to trace supplied arms.

"I don't think they have much fidelity" as to where it ends up, O'Donnell said.

The IG's office will be looking into the weapons shipments to ensure that they are not being diverted to the black market, according to the report. Concerns over such risks have been voiced by various European

and international law enforcement agencies, following evidence that at least some easier-to-smuggle Western arms have ended up in the hands of gunrunners offering them to clients online.

American and Ukrainian officials have given assurances that all Western weapons sent to Kiev are traced and used as intended to fight Russia. Reports to the contrary tend to be harshly criticized by Kiev and its allies.

CBS News this month agreed to remake a documentary about corruption in Ukraine and how it affects foreign aid. The film originally featured remarks by the founder of an organization that has been sending various items to Ukrainian soldiers for years. He said getting equipment to the frontline in Ukraine required navigating a network of "power lords, oligarchs [and] political players," trying to capitalize on the supplies.

The Pentagon has in the past been caught failing to properly account for the vast scale of its assets. The department has failed multiple attempts to pass a financial audit since 2017, when the first such check was launched. After the latest failure in 2021, U.S. military officials said they hoped to pass the test for the first time by 2027.

(Source: RT)

Russian lawmakers warn of looming nuclear disaster

The Council of Russia's State Duma (the lower house of parliament) adopted a special statement supported by the heads of all parliamentary factions, which calls on the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to demand the Ukrainian authorities end the shelling attacks on the Zaporozhye Nuclear Power Plant. The lawmakers emphasize that the consequences of a potential explosion threaten not only European countries but the entire world, Izvestia writes.

Political strategist Dmitry Fetisov believes that the State Duma's statement will be heard in the West but foreign politicians aren't ready to recognize Ukraine's defeat just yet. "The State Duma has made an official statement defining the problem. In any case, it is an official document that even those opposing Russia will have to take note of," the expert explained.

Political scientist Alexey Makarkin, in turn, told Kommersant, that the statement would not make much difference to the UN because Russia's foreign policy is the responsibility of other institutions, the president and the Foreign Ministry. According to him, the State Duma's statement is aimed at achieving another goal by demonstrating ongoing political consensus and making it clear that all parliamentary factions support the government and nothing has changed since the start of Russia's special military operation in Ukraine. "The West would like Russian society to change its attitude to the country's leadership but lawmakers have shown that it's not happening," Makarkin emphasized.

Fetisov also pointed to a recent vote in the United Nations, where only 54 out of the 193 UN member states signed a statement against Russia's

military operation in Ukraine. In the analyst's view, it means that the trend showing countries' attitude to the situation in Ukraine is being corrected though it's too early to talk about radical changes.

Archaeologists report deciphering Elamite script discovered in southern Iran

TEHRAN–A team of French archaeologists believes they have partially deciphered an ancient Elamite script found in southern Iran some 120 years ago.

French archaeologist Francois Desset and his team assume that they have partially deciphered the ancient script, using eight silver cups as a basis for the decryption, with many symbols of the Linear Elamite writing system carved into the metal.

"The cups had long been in the possession of a private collector and were only recently made available to researchers," Desset, who works at the University of Tehran in Iran and the Archeorient research laboratory in Lyon, France, has recently told DW.

For some 120 years, the composing framework known as "Linear Elamite" was viewed as obscured. Presently, a group of archeologists professes to have, to some extent, interpreted the composing framework. However, different analysts are more reluctant.

Diamonds and squares with dots and dashes, French archaeologists came across these geometric characters as early as 1903 when they were excavating ancient ruins in the city of Susa in southwestern Iran, the German broadcaster reported on August 22.

Researchers quickly realized that the language was one of the four oldest scripts known to humankind, along with Mesopotamian cuneiform, Egyptian hieroglyphics, and

This tablet with Linear Elamite writing from Susa dates back to the second half of the third millennium BC (Credit: Louvre Museum)

the Indus script. The Elamite civilization used the writing system during the Bronze Age in the late 3rd and early 2nd millennia BC.

A UNESCO World Heritage, Susa was once the capital of the Elamite Empire and later an administrative capital of the Achaemenian king Darius I and his successors from 522 BC.

The characters were given the name "Linear Elamite."But, since the discovery, experts haven't known how to read the diamonds and squares or understand what they meant. Only a few characters could be clearly interpreted.

The real surprise, Desset said, is the nature of the writing system. Researchers assumed that Linear Elamite writing is a mixture of phonographic and logographic writing.

Phonographic characters, or "phonograms," are individual letters and syllables and represent a speech sound. Logographic characters, or "word signs," represent a whole word, the way our numerical sign of "1" stands for "one."

"At the end of my analysis, I found that Linear Elamite writing is a purely phonographic script," Desset said. "That makes it the oldest of its kind in the world, and changes our view of the entire evolution of writing."

"Until clear evidence is provided, the Linear Elamite script is not fully deciphered," Michael Mader told DW. Mader is a linguist at the University of Bern and scientific director of the Swiss Alice Kober Society for the Decipherment of Ancient Writing Systems. So far, he said, there are only 15 characters with the known pronunciation and 19 plausible suggestions.

"It may well be that Desset's work will add more characters to the list of suggestions," Mader said. "But until we know the function and pronunciation of all characters, we won't know for sure."

Mader also has "considerable doubts" about Desset's statement that the script is purely phonographic: "Mathematical analyses show that the Linear Elamite writing system consists of only 70 percent phonetic characters," Mader said. The rest are word signs, he added.

As mentioned by the German broadcaster, whether Desset is right or not remains an open question for the time being. In October, experts on ancient writing systems will meet at a conference in Norway to discuss the discovery.

Over the past decades, seasons of archaeological excavations have uncovered evidence of continual habitation dating back to about 5000 BC. The earliest urban structures there date around 4000 BC. However, some parts of Susa are still inhabited as Shush, Khuzestan province on a strip of land between the rivers Shaour (a tributary of the Karkheh) and Dez.

According to the UN cultural body, "the excavated architectural monuments include administrative, residential, and palatial structures" and the site contains several layers of urban settlement dating from the 5th millennium BC through the 13th century CE.

Ruins and relics unearthed from the region demonstrate that even the earliest potteries and ceramics in Susa were of unsurpassed quality, decorated with birds, mountain goats, and other animal designs.

Iran eyes UNESCO tag for ancient Seymareh

From page 1 ▶ The remnants of the city were inscribed on the National Heritage list in 1931.

Darreh Shahr and its surrounding regions boast vestiges of Sassanid constructions such as arches, ceilings, alleys, and passages that follow a specific order of urban development criteria of the time.

The name Elam was given to the region by others–the Akkadians and Sumerians of Mesopotamia –and is thought to be their version of what the Elamites called themselves– Haltami (or Haltamti)–meaning "those of the high country." 'Elam', therefore, is usually translated to mean"highlands" or "high country" as it comprised settlements on the Iranian Plateau that stretched from the southern plains to the elevations of the Zagros Mountains.

Kordestan welcomes investors in water tourism

TEHRAN–The western province of Kordestan welcomes and supports private sector investors in water tourism, the deputy provincial tourism chief has said.

"As part of Kordestan's water tourism development, investors from the private sector will be welcomed and supported," CHTN quoted Arman Vatandust as saying on Friday.

As well as having many historical monuments and tourist attractions, Kordestan province is very well suited to develop water tourism, the official added.

There is a very good potential in water tourism at the Garan Dam in Marivan, which is one of the province's important assets, he noted.

By investing in and implementing tourism projects in this region, some obstacles and problems will be reduced, more tourists will be attracted, and the people's livelihood will improve, he mentioned.

Despite its arid climate, Iran's tourism sector has tried to boost hydro tourism or water tourism in recent years.

This branch of tourism involves traveling to places specifically to take part in water-based activities. Some individuals who do not wish to partake in water-related activities embark on water tourism trips so that they can visit tourist sites that sit close to bodies of water such as lakes, rivers, dams, oceans, etc.

While water tourism often includes active chases, some water tourists visit islands and shore regions to join more relaxed pursuits such as diving or swimming. Travel businesses organize tours of coral reefs and arrange for local tour guides to preside over excursions on which travelers can swim with local marine life such as dolphins or even sharks. Some tour operators also cater to families who are primarily focused on swimming and tanning rather than interacting with aquatic life.

Water trips occasionally involve inland destinations, such as lakes and rivers. Holidaymakers can sail or swim on lakes while many rivers are ideally suited to whitewater rafting. Additionally, some leisure businesses operate water parks that contain swimming pools, water slides, and areas for kayaking or canoeing.

The name Kordestan refers to the region's principal inhabitants. After the Turkish invasion of Iran in the 11th-century CE (Seljuk period), the name was given to the region comprising the northwestern Zagros Mountains.

It was during the reign of Abbas I the Great of Iran's Safavid dynasty (1501–1736) that the Kurds rose to prominence, having been enlisted by Abbas I to help stem the attacks of the marauding Uzbeks from the east in the early 17th century.

New national history museum to open

TEHRAN–A museum focusing on Iran's three different historical eras will be set up in the near future, the head of Iranology Foundation has said.

The museum will feature exhibits from historical periods of ancient Iran, Iran in Islamic era and Iran after the 1979 Islamic Revolution, Mohammad-Hossein Rajabi-Davani said on Wednesday.

A major goal of the foundation is to promote and introduce Iran's rich history and culture throughout the country in a variety of fields and eras, he noted.

Ancient Iran, also known as Persia, historic region of southwestern Asia that is only roughly coterminous with modern Iran. The term Persia was used for centuries, chiefly in the West, to designate those regions where the Persian language and culture predominated, but it more correctly refers to a region of southern Iran formerly known as Persis, alternatively as Pars or Parsa, modern Fars.

Parsa was the name of an Indo-European nomadic people who migrated into the region about 1000 BC. The first mention of Parsa occurs in the annals of Shalmanesar II, an Assyrian king, in 844 BC.

During the rule of the Persian Achaemenian dynasty (559–330 BC), the ancient Greeks first encountered the inhabitants of Persis on the Iranian plateau, when the Achaemenids —natives of Persis— were expanding their political sphere. The Achaemenids were the dominant dynasty during Greek history until the time of Alexander the Great, and the use of the name Persia was gradually extended by the Greeks and other peoples to apply to the whole Iranian plateau.

In the 7th century, the Muslim conquest of Persia, also known as the Arab conquest of Iran, led to the fall of the Sasanian Empire of Iran in ca. 651 and the eventual decline of the Zoroastrian religion. Experts say the rise of Muslims coincided with an unprecedented

political, social, economic, and military weakness in Persia.

The Islamic Revolution took place in February 1979 when the U.S.-backed regime of Mohammad Reza Shah collapsed under the weight of continual protests across the country under the leadership of Imam Khomeini, who had returned home from exile ten days earlier.

Millennia-old relics recovered in Zanjan

TEHRAN – A total of 22 historical relics have recently been discovered in the city of Saein Qaleh in Zanjan province, a senior police official in charge of protecting cultural heritage has said.

The relics, estimated to date back to the 1st millennium BC and the (early) Islamic era, have been recovered from a smuggler's car, Hossein-Ali Fazli explained on Friday.

The recovered collection includes copper, nickel, and brass coins as well as pieces of pottery, the official added.

In this regard, police arrested a suspect who is surrendered to justice for further investigation, he added.

Zanjan is one of the cities founded by Sassanid King Ardashir I (180-242 CE). The province makes a base for wider explorations with the architectural wonder of Soltaniyeh, the subterranean delights of the Katale-Khor caves, colorful mountains, and the UNESCO-registered Takht-e Soleiman ruins nearby.

Restorers finish work on historical core of Laft

TEHRAN—A team of restorers has finished renewing cobblestone paths in the historical core of Laft, a southernmost Iranian village in the Persian Gulf.

"200 square meters of cobblestone paths have been installed in the historical core of Laft," CHTN quoted Hormozgan province's tourism chief as saying on Wednesday.

This was part of a vast restoration project aimed to safeguard Laft's historical texture and its cultural heritage, the official said.

Perched on a rocky slope overlooking the Khoran Strait, Laft has a wonderfully photogenic roofscape of badgirs (wind towers) and minarets. Laft is one of the best places in Iran to encounter the fast-disappearing traditional culture of the Persian Gulf.

According to Lonely Planet, views are best from the hill near the ruins of the Portuguese-built Naderi Fort. "From this vantage point, you'll also see dozens of ancient wells and a white-domed Ab-Anbar (water cistern)."

A few hundred meters north of Laft is one of Qeshm's many Lenj-building yards. These traditional cargo boats are still used to carry goods back and forth across the Persian Gulf. Laft is also the place to go for a boat trip into the nearby Harra Sea Forest. Laft was registered on the national heritage list in 2006.

Qeshm embraces a wide range of ecotourism attractions such as the Hara marine forests and about 60 villages dotted mostly across its rocky coastlines. The island has an abundance of wildlife, including birds, reptiles, dolphins, and turtles as well.

Known as the province of islands, Hormozgan province is located on the northern coasts of the Persian Gulf. It embraces scenic islands, among which Kish, Hormuz, Hengam, and Qeshm are the most beautiful ones and top tourist destinations in southern Iran.

Tribal handicrafts: Namakdan

TEHRAN –Namakdan, a kind of handwoven saddlebag, is one of the ancient handicrafts traditionally practiced by tribespeople in Iran's Chaharmahal-Bakhtiari province.

Those saddlebags are usually made to contain products like grains of wheat, oats, beans, and salt. They are woven on looms, usually by nomadic and villager women. Nomadic shepherds use Namakdan to carry chunks or grind salt to meet the necessities of the herd.

Moreover, some nomads put salt in Namakdan and hang it in the corner of their tents for cooking. Grind salt is very hard to prepare, and it is important to be taken care of. That is why the Namakdan is designed so that the salt does not pour out.

When it comes to form and design, Namakdan could be considered an important, valuable, and even holy object. It consists of a body and a head, which makes it look like a prayer rug. Weaving Namakdan has solid rules based on the following four principles:

Chaharmahal-Bakhtiari lies in the southwestern part of the country. Its capital is Shahrekord. The province has various unique traditions and rituals relative to the 'tribal' lifestyles. Special forms of music, dance, and clothing are noteworthy. It has considerable potential to become a vibrant tourist attraction because of its changing natural landscape.

The province is also a hub for making wool felt products, majorly of which are exported abroad. It is home to some 500 crafters, in over 250 workshops, making handmade felt products.

Basketry exhibit opens in Dashtestan

TEHRAN–Collections of basketwork have been put on show at a sales exhibition in Dashtestan, which is famed as a national hub for the ancient craft in southwest Iran.

Opened on Friday, the eighth-day exhibition features a wide variety of traditional basketry made of natural materials such as young twigs from trees and shrubs like willow, plant roots, grape or honeysuckle vines, or grasses.

Hasir-Bafi or basketry is one of the oldest fields of handicrafts on the Iranian plateau. It is not known when and where this craft was first invented. Archaeological evidence has found traces of mat weavings on plaster pieces that belong to six thousand years ago.

The oldest piece of Hasir in Iran belongs to the Shahdad region of Kerman province. Mat weaving, which is wearing thin reeds through cotton yarns, has not changed from ancient Egypt until today.

Tools for Hasir-Bafi are very simple and limited, including sickle, file, scissors, needle, and stitching awl. This art-craft is common in the provinces of Sistan-Baluchestan, Khuzestan, Kurdistan, Hormozgan, Bushehr, Kerman, Yazd, Fars, Mazandaran, Gilan, and Tehran.

To practice the craft, the first step is to pick

stems that match each other in size and diameter to be soaked in water. Then three to five of them are packed together by another stem. These bundles are woven together to make objects such as baskets, bags, floor covers, wall hang, etc.

Law on protection, sustainable exploitation of wildlife

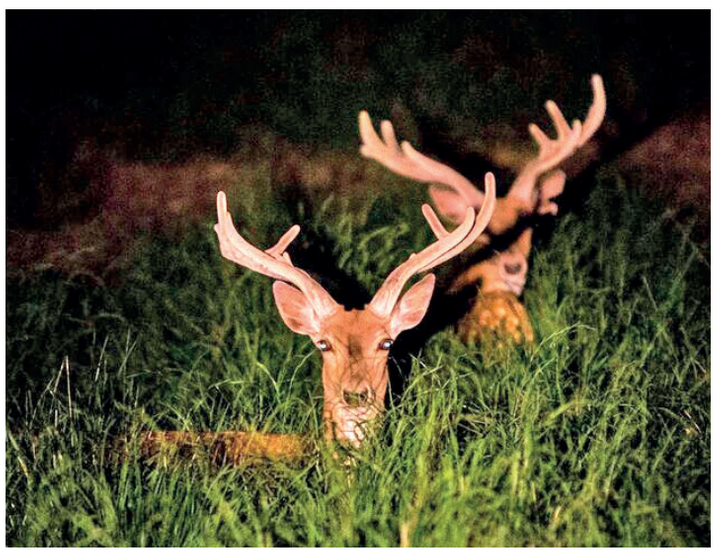
From page 1 ▸ significant decrease in the population of wildlife species and the increasing threat of extinction, the development of illegal trade of wildlife species, and the entrance of invasive species to natural habitats are the main threats to the country's nature in recent years, which requires clear and firm laws to deal with.

The law of hunting and fishing is mostly based on setting the rules and systems of exploitation of wildlife and explaining the crimes and determining the punishments for illegal hunting and fishing, but with the wide changes of environmental approaches in the world, today the management of biodiversity is the focus and axis of the environmental laws.

The law was approved in a situation where the prevailing view of conservation in the world was a state-oriented view, and the provisions of this law were compiled almost based on the government's power and resources, but in the past few decades, many governments, considering the limitations of financial and human resources for the development of conservation and management measures, according to the recommendations of international environmental organizations including IUCN and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), used non-governmental capacities such as indigenous and local communities, NGOs and the private sector.

However, it is unfortunately neglected in our national laws, despite all the problems that the DOE has faced in recent years to provide the budget and manpower needed to protect the country's biodiversity.

Accordingly, last year, the DOE decided to use national and international experiences, while determining the legal gaps in the hunting and fishing law, to draft a new comprehensive and efficient law.



The new law on the protection and sustainable exploitation of wildlife focuses on important and fundamental principles such as the protection of the habitat and wildlife and biological resources, the use of public participation and non-governmental capacities, the regulation of basic wildlife exploitation rules, reforming and revising crimes related to the natural environment and related punishments with the aim of increasing deterrence, defining legal requirements and mechanisms for other administrative and executive bodies whose programs and actions affect nature and wildlife.

Optimum implementation of national obligations towards international treaties related to wildlife, preservation of genetic reserves, attention to environmental economics and economic capacities resulting from the components of biological diversity, and determining legal mechanisms to direct these resources towards protective measures in the natural environment, using the capacities of native and local communities and those interested in environmental cooperation in the protection of habitats and wildlife, organizing trade of species, dealing with invasive species have also been considered as the main articles of the law.

Persian species in danger

Iran has a high diversity of species due to geographical conditions, climatic diversity, huge water resources of the Caspian Sea in the north and the Persian Gulf, and the Sea of Oman in the south.

According to the latest studies, about 1,300 species of vertebrates, including mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and aquatic fish, about 30,000 species of invertebrates, and 8,000 species of plants have been identified in the country.

Unfortunately, over the past two decades, human activities have led to the alarming degradation of ecosystems, and the deletion of genes, species, and biological capabilities; Human threats to biodiversity have accelerated the most over the past 50 years over the entire history of human life.

Out of 1,300 species of animals in the country, 130 of which are endangered and threatened, Hassan Akbari, deputy head of natural environment and biodiversity of the Department of Environment, said in December 2021.

Ways to prevent poaching, habitat destruction

Kheirollah Moradi, head of the department of environment in Kordestan province, said that by implementing long-term training programs, people's misconceptions about wildlife must be changed in order to take effective measures to preserve the biodiversity and wildlife.

Habitats and wildlife in most parts of the world are in poor condition, and regarding the country's habitats and wildlife, we must boldly say that a large population of different wildlife species are declining and even endangered, he further lamented.

Reducing the number of animal species will reduce their genetic diversity, and this will greatly reduce the wildlife's resistance to diseases, natural and man-made phenomena, he highlighted.

The best way to reduce the threat to wildlife is to protect the natural habitats, which are the most important measures to continuously educate local communities and improve the economic situation of locals by generating alternative income to prevent poaching and habitat destruction, he suggested.

> The law focuses on important and fundamental principles such as the protection of habitats and biological resources.

Climate change and challenges

From page 1 ▸ The snow melts earlier than the long-term average. Flooding is now an increasing risk because our climate is changing. In comparison with the beginning of the 20th century, heavy and frequent rainstorms occur abnormally in regions like Iran, especially at unexpected times and frequency (like March 2019 and July 2022).

The drought is getting worse. Humans use more water, especially for agriculture. Just like when the weather is hot, we sweat more, and higher air temperature causes us to lose more water, which means that the farmers should consume more water.

Both highlight the need for more water in places where water reserves are decreasing.

Snow is an important source of fresh water for many people. As the snow melts, fresh water becomes available for use, especially in areas like Iran where there is not much rainfall during the warmer months.

But as it gets warmer, it generally snows less and snow begins to melt earlier in the year, meaning snow may not be any more a reliable source of water supplies.

Some changes (such as droughts, fires, and heavy rainfall) are occurring faster than scientists had previously estimated. UN Panel on Climate change (IPCC) - The United Nations body that was established for the scientific assessment of climate change on an inter-governmental scale-has determined that modern humans have never seen the changes observed in our world's climate before, and some of these changes will be nonrefundable for thousands of years.

Global warming

Scientists are very confident that the Earth's temperature will continue to rise for several decades, mainly due to greenhouse gases produced by human activity.

The sixth assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) which was published in 2021, showed that the

emission of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere before the industrial revolution (since 1750) has increased by 1.1 degrees Celsius.

It is expected that the average global temperature in the next few decades will reach 2 (in some estimates 3) degrees of Celsius. This change will affect all regions of the Earth.

The concept of average temperature for the entire globe may seem strange. However, at this moment, the highest and lowest temperature on earth is probably more than 55 degrees Celsius.

They are far apart. Temperatures are getting worse from night to day. The times are different during the seasons in the northern and southern hemispheres. This means that some parts of the Earth are quite cold while other parts are quite hot.

However, the concept of global average temperature measurement over time to identify and track changes in budgeting Earth's energy - how much sunlight is absorbed by the earth minus the amount that radiates into space as heat - is a useful concept.

Analyzing the surface temperature data of the similar ascending trend. The Earth's surface temperature in each year from 1900 to 2020 in comparison with the average of 1981-2020 has an increasing trend.

According to the May 2021 climate report, every month of 2021 was warmer than the average. The coldest month was February, which was 0.65 degrees Celsius warmer than the average.

The author is the head of geology division, the Academy of Sciences, Tehran, Iran **(Part 1)**

First Announcement

IN THE NAME OF GOD
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN BROADCASTING

INTERNATIONAL SINGLE-STAGE TENDER No: 1401/103-16/03

Tender Holder:
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN BROADCASTING (IRIB)

Subject of Tender :
Leasing STM-4 Fiber Protected Xcontribution link between Bandar Abbas-Frankfurt for 3 years in accordance with the technical specification and other terms and conditions mentioned in the tender documents.

Deadline and how to receive the tender documents:
From Saturday 27 Aug 2022 (1401/06/05) 09:00 a.m until Tuesday 30 Aug 2022 (1401/06/08) by 02:00 p.m with presentation of introductory letter by company or its representative and the receipt of paying the documents fee.

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

The fee of the tender documents and how to deposit it:
Submission of payment receipt for the amount of 1,000,000 Rials to account 4101029171204273 with BIC No.IRIB 310100004101029171204273 IRAN Central Bank in the name of IRIB.

Type and amount of guarantee for participation to tender:
The amount of deposit for participating in tender is USD 41/807 fixed or its equivalent in Rials 11/706/000/000 which should be in the form of Bank Guarantee.

Time and place of delivering Bidding Envelopes:
The sealed (A,B&C) packages/envelopes and the qualification evaluation package/envelope separately packed , should be submitted no later than 09:30 a.m. on Saturday 01 Oct 2022 (1401/07/09) 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 01 Oct 2022 (1401/07/09) 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 02 Oct 2022 (1401/07/10) at 03:30 p.m iin 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

BIRDS IN IRAN

Part 9

At the same time the universities in Iran began to take an increased interest in the birds of Iran, the universities of Tehran and Shiraz being particularly active in this field.

The Department of the Environment's major ornithological programs have included the following:

Bird banding (ringing) program

A national banding scheme was established by the department in 1966. Emphasis was initially given to migratory wildfowl wintering in the south Caspian region, but by the mid-1970s the program had been expanded to include banding studies of white pelicans Pelecanus onocrotalus, greater flamingos Phoenicopterus ruber, herons and egrets Ardeidae, common cranes Grus grus, and shorebirds Charadriidae and Scolopacidae.

By the end of 1976 a total of 22,064 birds of 239 species had been banded in Iran, including 797 white pelicans, 8,766 greater flamingos, and 2,385 ducks.

Banding activities and all recoveries reported up to the end of 1975 are discussed in Cornwallis and Ferguson, Argyle (1975 and 1976).

In 1974, the Department conducted a nationwide census of breeding white storks Ciconia ciconia as part of an international census of storks in Europe and the Middle East.

The census revealed an Iranian population of some 3,300 pairs, two-thirds of which were nesting in Azarbaijan province (Fotoohi and Scott). To be continued

ENGLISH IN USE

LEARN NEWS TRANSLATION

Nicaragua seeks to use IRCS experiences

TEHRAN – Issac Lenin Bravo, the Nicaraguan ambassador to Iran, and Pirhossein Kolivand, the head of the Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS), discussed areas of cooperation.

Measures taken by the IRCS are exemplary in the region and the world, Lenin said, referring to IRCS's great achievements in recent months.

He announced interest in using the experiences of the Iranian Red Crescent Society.

Fortunately, there are good relations between the two countries, and the cooperation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent of the two countries can be a turning point, he explained.

تمایل نیکاراگوئه به استفاده از تجربیات هلال‌احمر ایران

ایساک لنین براوو، سفیر نیکاراگوئه در ایران، با پیرحسین کولیوند، رئیس جمعیت هلال احمر، دیدار کرد.

در جریان این دیدار سفیر نیکاراگوئه در تهران گفت: اقدامات هلال احمر در منطقه و جهان نمونه است و هلال احمر جمهوری اسلامی ایران در ماه های اخیر دست آوردهای خوبی داشته است.

وی افزود: در همین راستا دولت و صلیب سرخ نیکاراگوئه علاقه مند است تا از تجربیات هلال احمر ایران استفاده کند.

خوشبختانه روابط خوبی میان دولت های ایران و نیکاراگوئه وجود دارد و همکاری صلیب سرخ و هلال احمر دو کشور می تواند با توجه به مشترکات سیاسی که وجود دارد، نقطه عطفی در این خصوص باشد.

COVID-19 UPDATES ON AUGUST 26

New cases	2,019	Total deaths	143,647	Total recovered patients	7,271,024
New deaths	35	New hospitalized patients	524	Diagnostic tests conducted	53,730,223
Total cases	7,520,993	Patients in critical condition	1,208	Doses of vaccine injected	153,888,950

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AUGUST 27, 2022

GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

Our affairs are attached to the destiny decreed by Allah, even our best plans may lead us to destruction.

Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times » Noon:13:06 Evening: 19:58 Dawn: 5:05 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 6:33 (tomorrow)

What's in Tehran art galleries

Drawing

* A collection of drawings by Nader Badri Ahari is on display in an exhibition at Ehsan Gallery.

The exhibit named "This Ancient Land" will run until August 31 at the gallery located at No. 22, East 14th St. in the Ajudanieh neighborhood.

Painting

* An exhibition of paintings by Nirvana Diane Emami is underway at Zhinus Gallery.

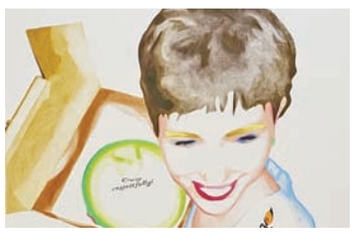
Entitled "Black and White", the exhibit runs until August 31 at the gallery located at 21 Fatemi St., off Vali-e Asr Ave.

* Paintings by Sogol Ahadi and Nasim Shoja are on view in an exhibition at Mohsen Gallery.

The exhibit runs until September 4 at the gallery located at 42 East Mina Blvd., Naji St., off Zafar St.

* A group of children is showcasing their paintings in an exhibition named "Divnameh" at Aliha Gallery.

Nilufar Heidari is the curator of the exhibit, which will run until September 5 at the gallery located at No. 31, Ahmadi-Moqaddam Alley, near Quds Square, Shariati Ave.



* An exhibition of paintings by Niki Fallahfar is currently underway at Dastan Basement Gallery.

The exhibit named "Noah's Ark" will be running until September 23 at the gallery located at 6 Bidar St., off Fereshteh St.

* Hoor Gallery is currently playing host to an exhibition of paintings by Nazila Moqaddam.

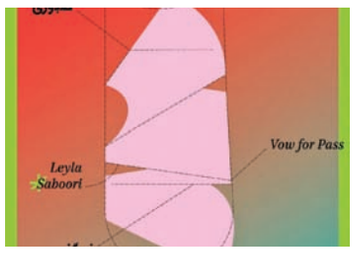
The exhibition will be running until September 16 at the gallery located at 12 Naeimi Alley, North Mirza Shirazi St., off Motahhari Ave.

* Maryam Bahman is showcasing a collection of her latest paintings in an exhibition at Shirin Gallery.

The exhibition named "Silence and Watching Is the Mother of Thoughts" will run until September 9 at the gallery located at No. 5, 13th St., Karim Khan Ave.

* An exhibition hanging works by renowned Iranian painters such as Ahmad Esfandiari, Parvaneh Etemadi, Aidin Aghdashlu, Sadeq Tabrizi, Manucher Motabar and Ardeshir Mohasses is underway at Sohrab Gallery.

The exhibit will run until August 31 at the gallery located at 142 Somayyeh St.



* A collection of paintings by Leila Saburi is on display in an exhibition at Tarrahan Azad Gallery.

The exhibition named "Vow for Pass" will be running until September 6 at the gallery located at 5 Salmas Square, off Fatemi St.

Sculpture

* An exhibition of sculptures by Setareh Adibi is currently underway at Golestan Gallery.

The exhibition named "Concern" will be running until September 7 at the gallery that can be found at 34 Kamasai St. in the Darus neighborhood.

"Winners" wins audience award at Edinburgh Intl. Film Festival

Frome Page **1** ▸ The story of the film is set in a deprived area of a small Iranian town where children are required to work to help support their families. Nine-year-old Yahya is one such child, his little hands scouring through massive piles of junk in search of hidden treasures. One day, Yahya strikes literal gold by finding an unclaimed Oscar statue, the curious item leading the boy into an adventure-filled journey.

The award for best feature was given to "A Cat Called Dom" by Scottish animators Will Anderson and Ainslie Henderson.

Albeit framed as a film for Will's mother, we too are invited to witness how Will deals with the grief of his mother's cancer. The duo work on their animations and face the frustrations of trying to make this documentary. Whilst alone, Will turns to DOM, the animated cat that lives on his laptop screen.

The jury composed of Gaylene Gould, Rosie Crerar and Sarah Winman awarded Maha Haj's brilliantly realized black comedy, "Mediterranean Fever".

A scene from "Winners" by Hassan Nazer.

The film is about Waleed who dreams of a writing career while suffering from depression. He develops a relationship with his neighbor - a small-time crook. While the scheme turns into an unexpected friendship, it leads them into a journey of dark encounters.

Iran bids farewell to poet Amir-Hushang Ebtehaj

Frome Page **1** ▸ His body was transferred to Tehran on Thursday by his family to let his devotees say goodbye to the literary icon.

Prior to the poetry recitation, he was brought to his former home in Tehran to allow him to say his final farewell to his beloved Judas tree there, for which he composed the poem "Arghavan" ("Judas Tree").

Speaking at the gathering, Ebtehaj's daughter Yalda said, "We are here now to share this great grief."

"I congratulate you and hope you would accept this weighty thing to preserve in the earth," she added.

"Although his body will be buried, he will remain in this country with his poetry... he always was with the Iranian people in their sorrows and happiness; his heart was full of the love of Iranian people," she noted.

"By his poetry, he maintained his love of Iran, its culture and indemnity, and now, his poems have become part of our cultural inheritance, and I hope we will contemplate his poems," asserted Yalda who used to live with her father in Cologne.

The body was then sent to Rasht where his funeral will be held Saturday in Mohtasham Garden of the northern Iranian city, which is the hometown of Ebtehaj.

"Father always said, 'I wanted to return to Rasht, where I belong,'" Yalda said.

"He said, 'People realize a person who talks honestly,' and today, the Iranian people with different thoughts responded to this comment with their great presence at this gathering," she added.

He is also survived by daughter Assia, and sons Keyvan and Kaveh.

A German court previously prevented repatriating Entehaj's body due to a complaint lodged by Assia. However, earlier last week, the court ruled that the poet's remains may return home after his children reached an agreement to bury their father in his hometown.

A man holds a picture of Amir-Hushang Ebtehaj at a gathering held in front of Tehran's Vahdat Hall on August 26, 2022 to bid farewell to the renowned Persian poet. (ISNA/Amid Farahi)

Ross Welford's "Time Travelling with a Hamster" published in Persian

TEHRAN – "Time Travelling with a Hamster" by the English children's science-fiction and fantasy author Ross Welford, has been published in Persian.

Samin Nabipur is the translator of the book published by Ofoq.

On his twelfth birthday, Al Chaudhury receives a letter from his dead father. It directs him to the bunker of their old house, where Al finds a time machine, an ancient computer and a tin bucket.

The letter also outlines a mission: travel back to 1984 and prevent the go-kart accident that will eventually take his father's life. But as Al soon discovers, whizzing back thirty years requires not only imagination and courage, but also lying to your mom, stealing a moped, and setting your school on fire—oh, and keeping your pet hamster safe.

A combination photo shows Ross Welford and the front cover of his book "Time Travelling with a Hamster".

With a literary edge and tons of commercial appeal, this incredible debut has it all: heart, humor, vividly imagined characters and a pitch-perfect voice.

Welford was born in Cullercoats, a small seaside town in the northeast of England. It appears in his books as "Culvercot".

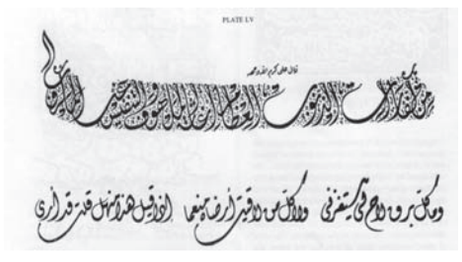
After university, he moved to London and became a journalist and then, after a few years, a television producer.

He worked on many well-known, and more best-forgotten shows, including ITV's "This Morning" with Richard Madeley and Judy Finnegan; Channel 4's "Big Breakfast" and the long-running "Pet Rescue".

Among many others, he also did a magic series for "Sky", a three-part documentary in Spain for Channel 4, a celebrity chat show with Jimmy Tarbuck, a comedy clip-show, an anarchic late-night discussion program, "Bridezillas" and a teenage reality show called "Cruel Summer".

He began writing "Time Travelling with a Hamster" in 2014. It was published in January 2016. His second book, "What Not to Do If You Turn Invisible" followed a year later.

Iranian calligraphy (khattati, khoshnevisi)



Ta'liq. Divani-e jali (line 1), by Hashem-Mohammad Khattat, and divani-e khafi (line 2), by Sayyed Ebrahim.

Part 6

The letters, though small and short, are fully shaped and in that respect fat. Intertwining (tadakhol) was not customary in reqa, except when unavoidable, and regular spacing and consistent shaping of letters and letter combinations were in general strictly maintained, but even so some of the words in old reqa manuscripts seem overly crammed.

Harakat and ornamental frills were not normally used with reqa, and when harakat were required they were kept to a minimum.

Title pieces and colophons of the Quran and other books giving completion dates and names of dignitaries and scribes were often written in reqa.

In the middle-ages reqa was widely used in most Muslim countries. In later times it gave way to other scripts in Turkey and the Arab countries but endured in Persia, where a few calligraphers still produce work in it today.

Reqa, as the successor to tawqi, inherited the latter's feature of the tuft at the top of certain letters. These tufts can be seen in some modern examples.

Ghobar

This miniscule script (ghobar "dust," or ghobar al-halba "dust kicked up by horses") was developed from reqa and used, both in Persia and elsewhere, for fast writing on small pieces of paper.

Having first been used for concise messages to be sent by carrier pigeons, it was also called the wing script (qalam al-janah). It is precise and uniform, predominantly round and without elongations, very compact, and can be written quickly.

There are no tufts, and the loops or eyes of median and final ayn and the fa, qaf, mim, waw, and laam-alef can be closed to make them smaller.

Certain later calligraphers denied that ghobar was a distinct script, arguing that any script could be made equally small.

Source: Encyclopedia Iranica

To be continued