

TEHRAN TIMES

8 Pages | Price 100,000 Rials | 1.00 EURO | 4.00 AED | 44th year | No. 14313 | Wednesday | September 14, 2022 | Shahrivar 23, 1401 | Safar 17, 1444

Armenia-Azerbaijan Clashes Sound Alarm Bells in Tehran

► Page 3

Report

Thousands of U.S. nurses walk out

Around 15,000 nurses across the U.S. state of Minnesota are on a three-day strike in what is believed to be the largest private sector nurses strike in U.S. history.

The protest puts further pressure on a health care system in America that is already facing growing calls from the public to undergo urgent reforms amid criticism over higher prices and insurance.

The nurses in Minnesota say they are burned out in the face of staff shortage, insisting that this is having a negative impact on the health and care of patients.

"I can't give my patients the care they deserve," said Chris Rubesch, the vice president of the Minnesota Nurses Association and a nurse. "Call lights go unanswered. Patients should only be waiting for a few seconds or minutes if they've soiled themselves or their oxygen came unplugged or they need to go to the bathroom, but that can take 10 minutes or more. Those are things that can't wait."

The Minnesota Nurses Association, the nurses union, held a press conference at one protest site where the health workers said they are striking to "save our profession".

"Fifty-one percent of us could potentially leave the bedside as of next year," Mary Turner, president of Minnesota Nurses Association, said. "That's a health crisis".

"We are not on strike for our wages. We're fighting for the ability to have some say over our profession and the work life balance," she added.

The strike is expected to last three days and has impacted more than a dozen hospitals. But if negotiations fail to reach an agreement, members of the Minnesota Nurses Association say they will likely vote again to authorize another strike. ► Page 5

Interview

Mahmoudi criticizes Iran's poor performance at world championship

By Farrokh Hesabi

TEHRAN - Iranian volleyball pundit, Behnam Mahmoudi, says that the performance of the Iran volleyball national team in the 2022 FIVB World Championship needs comprehensive analysis.

Iran failed to book their place in the 2022 FIVB World Championship quarterfinals after losing 3-0 to Brazil in Gliwice, Poland.

"The truth must be told even if it upsets some people," said Mahmoudi in his exclusive interview with Tehran Times. "Iran's volleyball set some ideal goals for itself from 14, 15 years ago, but it has not yet been able to achieve these goals," he added.

"During all these years, we have made great progress in the level of our volleyball. The point is that these successes did not belong to one person and many people worked hard for it,"

Mahmoudi implicitly criticized the president of the Iranian Volleyball Federation,

"The ideal goal of Iranian volleyball was to be among the top four at Olympics. However, we are moving away from our goal instead of closing to it," said Mahmoudi.

The former Iran volleyball team opposite also talked about the performance of the national team in the 2022 FIVB World Championship. ► Page 3



Iran thanks Iraq for warmly hosting Arbaeen pilgrims

By Saeed Azimi

TEHRAN — Iran and Iraq's history is filled with many affinities. Even the 1980-1988 war couldn't cut the cords between the two friendly neighbors. The Iraqis have shown once again that they are true friends of Iran with their exceptional hosting of Arbaeen pilgrims.

In a message issued on Tuesday, Iran's Interior Minister Ahmad Vahidi thanked the Iraqi nation for their "kind hospitality."

"As the Minister of Interior of the Islamic Republic of Iran, I would like to thank you, my dear Iraqi brothers and sisters, for your kind hospitality in serving the pilgrims," he wrote.

In his message, he added, "I hope the Almighty God will reward you for this sincere service to the pilgrims of Imam Hussein (AS) in this world and in the hereafter."

Earlier, Iran's mission in Baghdad and the Commander-in-chief of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps had expressed their appreciation of the Iraqi people's hosting. ► Page 2

Venezuela welcomes Iranian investment in its mining sector

TEHRAN - Venezuela's Minister of Transportation Ramón Blázquez has invited Iranian investors and experts to participate in the development of the mining and mineral industries of his country, IRNA reported.

Blázquez made the remarks on Monday in a

meeting with senior mining officials and experts from Iranian Mines and Mining Industries Development and Renovation Organization (IMIDRO).

Referring to Iran's progress in the field of mining and mineral industries over the past

two decades, he stated: "We have set Iran as our role model for achieving a non-oil economy and we are trying to use the experience and knowledge of Iranian engineers to develop our mining sector." ► Page 4

Report

Environmental literacy key to protecting nature

By Faranak Bakhtiari

TEHRAN - Today, the environment has reached a fragile stage in various terms of water, soil, and air. So, environmental protection should be taken seriously. This requires environmental literacy.

Iran is one of the progressive countries in the field of environmental protection because it is one of the first countries that consider environmental protection as a public duty in the constitution, in fact, the 50th principle of the constitution is proof of the claim that today's generation and future generations must have a growing social life in the country, it is considered a public duty, hence economic and other activities that cause environmental pollution or destruction are forbidden. ► Page 7



Women's polo competition held in Tehran

TEHRAN - Norouzabad women's polo team defeated Qasr-e Firoozeh 4-2 in the final match of the Safavieh Cup in Tehran on Monday.

The competition was held in Norouzabad Club in Tehran.

On Iranian islands, long walks, bike rides and amazing sceneries

By Afshin Majlesi

TEHRAN—Sun-kissed beaches in a wide-open blue sky, rich cultures and untouched pockets of wilderness are just a few alluring characteristics of the Iranian islands.

Hospitable people, mysterious tribes, stunning landscapes, strategic geographical locations, marine life, and undiscovered properties are among what are waiting for the sightseers.

Apart from long walks, bike rides and amazing

sceneries, many islands of the country are destinations for researchers, archaeologists and history buffs as they are old as the history of Persia.

They spread mostly across the Persian Gulf, not far away from the Strait of Hormuz. However, there is only one northern island in the Caspian Sea, which is more like a loose peninsula.

Here is a list of the top five Iranian islands, though it hard to compare one to another when all of them are quite sui generis in their own lush eye-catching way.

Qeshm Island

Many travel insiders believe Qeshm has been overshadowed by other Iranian islands but has enough incredible sites and history to take care of its fascination.

The sun-scorched island is embraced by the crystal-clear waters of the Persian Gulf that interestingly enough is quite popular among Iranian road-trippers, despite being completely cut-off from the mainland. Situated between the opening of the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz. ► Page 6

From Inside

- Advisor: Agreement in Vienna within reach despite external pressure on U.S. P2
- JCPOA revival talks necessitate flexibility from all parties: UN P2
- Raisi talks to Pashinyan amid Armenia-Azerbaijan border clashes P3
- Hamas delegation meets Iran envoy in Russia P3
- Iran's trade balance with Russia turns positive P4
- Transit of goods via Bushehr ports rises 200% in 5 months on year P4
- Ways of expanding trade with Pakistan explored at TCCIMA meeting P4
- Iran ready to help restore Yerevan mosque P6
- Sassanid palace to welcome sightseers P6
- Iran, Syria ready to develop educational, research co-op P7
- Environment houses to be developed nationwide P7
- Tehran, Kashan to host Japan Culture Month P8
- "Little King Kalle Wirsch" rules over Kanon bookstores P8

Iran: We responded to IAEA's queries regarding three sites in question

TEHRAN— Behrouz Kamalvandi, spokesperson for the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI), spoke to the press on Tuesday to respond to the accusations made by Rafael Grossi, the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

"Stating that there is a monitoring vacuum and the fact that this vacuum is getting bigger every day has no legal basis, because what Iran is not obliged to do today is related to the 5+1 agreement with the Islamic Republic of Iran, which is defined as the JCPOA document. The resurrection of the JCPOA must be in accordance with the Strategic Action Law for the Lifting of Sanctions (adopted by the Iranian parliament) which entails the lifting of sanctions and the ► Page 2

UAE ambassador resumes work in Iran after 7 years

TEHRAN — The UAE ambassador to Tehran, Saif al-Zaabi, has arrived in Tehran to resume his work after 7 years, according to informed sources.

The UAE downgraded diplomatic relations with Iran in 2016 after the attacks on the Saudi embassy in Tehran and the Saudi consulate in Mashhad in protest against Riyadh's execution of prominent Shia cleric Nimr al-Nimr.

"The Dream of a Horse", "Seven Symphonies of Zagros" to compete in Belgrade ethnological filmfest

TEHRAN - Iranian movies "The Dream of a Horse" and "Seven Symphonies of Zagros" will be competing in the 31st International Festival of Ethnological Films in Belgrade.

The festival, which offers an insight into a wide range of ethnographic films on the traditional and modern lifestyles of human communities, will take place in the Serbian capital from October 3 to 6.

"The Dream of a Horse" by Marjan Khosravi and "Seven Symphonies of Zagros" by Parviz Rostami will be screened in the main competition of the event.

"The Dream of a Horse" follows Shahnaz, the oldest daughter of a nomad family, who loves writing and her stories are inspired by her lifestyle. Her father wants to marry her off to better the family's condition, but Shahnaz wants to pursue bigger dreams.

Khosravi's documentary film "The Snow Calls" won an honorable mention at the 30th International Festival of Ethnological Films. ► Page 8

Iran thanks Iraq for warmly hosting Arbaeen pilgrims

From page 1 ► On Monday, IRGC chief Hossein Salami thanked the Iraqi government and the people.

While browsing Twitter, I observed several tweets from Arbaeen pilgrims expressing their sincere appreciation of the Iraqis' hosting with using the hashtag "Thanks Iraq for your generosity."

During the Arbaeen march ritual, Iraqis hold Mukibs (temporary accommodations that can also provide food, water, and resting places).

These Mukibs are not funded by the Iraqi government. My observations from the Arbaeen march in 2018 had interesting results. I personally witnessed an Iraqi family with eight children who were living in critical financial conditions. Nonetheless, this generous family served us (21 people) rice and chicken, various types of salads and traditional Iraqi desserts.

Iraqis living in Najaf and rural villages are on the belief that they should save up some money

throughout the year just to serve the pilgrims attending the Arbaeen march ritual. They also believe that these pilgrims should receive the best treatment, therefore they massage the pilgrims' feet to relax them after a long walk and provide the best food they can afford. I have even seen an Iraqi man who was washing our clothes, saying that he is more than willing to do this for an Imam Hussein (AS) pilgrim.

This year was no exception. After the Covid-19 pandemic, the march was shut down for two years. Naturally, this year, huge crowds flocked to Iran's border crossings. Certainly, there were some miscalculations on Tehran and Baghdad's sides, both the two governments overcame the obstacles through extensive collaboration.

With the march nearing its end, videos are being circulated in social media showing Iraqi hosts crying over the departure of pilgrims. This clearly shows the deep affection of the Iraqis for all Imam Hussein (AS) pilgrims, especially Iranians.

Israel's Lapid benefits from pause in Iran talks

TEHRAN - In a commentary on September 9, Al-Monitor said the buzz is that an Iran nuclear deal may be deferred until the November elections in both Israel and the United States and whether a return to deal matters more in Tel Aviv than Washington.

In the United States, no one will be switching their votes based on whether there is an Iran deal or not, given that the economy is top of mind for most Americans. President Joe Biden can expect all Republicans, some Democrats and others to slam him for signing a deal. In any case, Congress likely can't stop it if it happens.

In Israel, Iran packs more political punch.

Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid hopes to survive Israel's fifth election in less than three years. Former Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is running to Lapid's far right and the latest polls indicate the Likud leader may already have 59-60 Knesset seats in his column, just one or two shy of a majority.

If Lapid loses on Iran in time, Netanyahu would further weaponize the issue ahead of the elections.

In policy terms, there is little daylight between the Lapid and Netanyahu positions on Iran. But Lapid, unlike Netanyahu, has kept U.S.-Israel relations on a steady course despite stark differences with Washington over Iran and despite disagreements with Mossad chief David Barnea over how best to manage the file.

Lapid has capitalized on the deadlock in the Iran nuclear talks over the Iranian conditions that unsubstantiated claims over Iran's nuclear activities by the IAEA, which are fed by Israel, should come to an end and that Washington should give guarantees that it would not renege on the deal once again.

Barnea started a tour of Washington on September 6 to hold a series of meetings with top officials from the White House, CIA Director William Burns, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Pentagon and the State Department to try to halt the impending Iran nuclear deal, the Jerusalem Post reported.

Lapid is maintaining his direct line to Biden, telling the U.S. president just in recent days that Israel will

have "full discretion" to deal with what he called the Iranian nuclear threat.

Biden, however, does not appear to be holding up the deal because of Israel, as the negotiations are deadlocked over Iranian conditions. The best Lapid can get — and he's got it for now — is a hold. Iran could turn the tables at any time by accepting the deal.

The Biden administration, while officially staying out of Israeli politics, would likely prefer Lapid to hold on as prime minister to avoid the likely drama and difficulty of dealing with a Netanyahu-led far-right coalition government on both Iran and the Palestinian issue.

Tel Aviv has created a commotion over Iran's nuclear program since the early 2000s. However, contrary to Israel, Iran is a signatory to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and its nuclear activities are monitored by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), Israel has about 90 nuclear weapons. The regime is also believed to possess the ability to deliver them in several methods, including by aircraft, submarine-launched cruise missiles, and via the Jericho series of intermediate to intercontinental range ballistic missiles.

Israel has also opposed the United Nations' push for "establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East."

Iran has been saying that the IAEA is being influenced by the bogus intelligence provided by Israel and asked the UN body to adopt a purely technical approach toward Tehran's nuclear program.

Netanyahu was one of the chief culprits who provoked Donald Trump to quit the nuclear deal in May 2018 and slap the harshest sanctions on Iran.

Analysts believe that Israel's strong opposition to the revival of the 2015 nuclear deal - JCPOA - is intended to ignite a war between the U.S. and Iran.

Inclusive govt. vital to win back peace for Afghanistan: Iran FM

TEHRAN- Establishing an inclusive government in Afghanistan has been emphasized as one of the main requirements to restore peace and stability throughout the country, Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian has said.

Amir Abdollahian made the comments at a webinar on Monday that was conducted by his New Zealander counterpart, Nanaia Mahuta. The two senior diplomats addressed, among other things, the most recent developments regarding Afghanistan.

One of the prerequisites for establish peace and stability in the conflict-ridden Afghanistan, according to the Iranian foreign minister, is the creation of an "inclusive government with the robust involvement of all ethnic groups."

Amir Abdollahian emphasized the need for support from the international community and the help of friendly nations, including New Zealand, in this respect while pointing to actions done by Iran to provide services for the more than 4.5 million Afghan refugees in Iran.

Mahuta also praised the Islamic Republic's humanitarian attitude to hosting millions of Afghan refugees and emphasized her country's position in favor of promoting peace in Afghanistan and aiding its refugees.

The senior diplomat for New Zealand also made reference to Iran's strong position and emphasized the necessity of fostering mutual collaboration to the greatest extent feasible.

After a two-decade invasion, the U.S. withdrew its soldiers from Afghanistan in August 2021.

Iran: We responded to IAEA's queries regarding three sites in question

From page 1 ► implementation of the obligations of the JCPOA parties in order to protect the interests of the Iranian nation," Kamalvandi stated.

He went on to note that the AEOI has fully cooperated with the three sites the Agency is calling "undeclared," adding that the mere observation of contamination in a few places cannot be considered as a sign of the presence of undeclared nuclear materials.

"Iran has sent data and answers to the Agency's queries. It has also held dialogue sessions to resolve the ambiguities," Kamalvandi further explained.

The spokesman pointed out that the IAEA should not make judgments based on some forged documents the Zionist regime provided to the Agency with specific political goals, noting that this type of judgment is against the principle of the UN nuclear watchdog's neutrality and professionalism.

As per the nuclear spokesman, this type of conclusion is against the procedure and known standards of the IAEA even with similar cases in different countries.

Kamalvandi also noted that these statements are regrettably rooted in the biased political goals and



objectives that the Israeli regime is leading.

In conclusion, he advised the IAEA and Iran's negotiating partners to the Vienna talks to avoid such "encounters," which have not yielded any results so far.

The International Atomic Energy Agency Board of Governors started its quarterly meeting on Monday, with the Iran nuclear file, Ukraine's Zaporizhzhia nuclear power station and AUKUS on its agenda.

However, the meeting of the politicized body ended with further accusations against Iran.

In conformity with its mandate, the IAEA must deal with the countries' nuclear program in a quite scientifically and professionally.

Advisor: Agreement in Vienna within reach despite external pressure on U.S.

TEHRAN— An advisor to the Iranian negotiating team has emphasized that despite the external pressure imposed on the United States administration, Tehran and Washington are still close to reaching an agreement.

Mohammad Marandi made the remarks in an interview with the Al Jazeera news network on Monday.

According to the media advisor, Tehran is not one iota worried about the quarterly meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency's Board of Governors meeting which started on Monday afternoon.

Marandi also emphasized that U.S. President Joe Biden should make decisions to solve the existing issues on the way to reviving the nuclear deal, officially called the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Actions (JCPOA).

The comment comes while U.S. Secretary of State Anthony Blinken who is in Mexico for economic consultations said on Monday that Tehran's response to Washington's amendments to the EU proposal is "a step back."

"I can't give you a timeline except to say, again, that Iran seems either unwilling or unable to do what is necessary to reach an agreement," Reuters quoted Blinken as saying.

Prior to Blinken's statements, Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani told the press on Monday, "As you know, we submitted our response a while ago and we are waiting to receive the official answer from the other side."

He continued by saying that Iran has always emphasized that the other parties to the negotiations, especially the Americans, should take constructive actions to reach an agreement.

JCPOA revival talks necessitate flexibility from all parties: UN

TEHRAN- An agreement on resurrection of the 2015 nuclear deal demands "flexibility" from the parties, according to António Guterres' spokesperson, who also reiterated his support for the deal reached between Iran, the 5+1 nations and the European Union.

Stéphane Dujarric made the comments on Monday during a news conference in the midst of drawn-out negotiations to revive the global agreement, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

"For him, I think what's important is that all of the parties to the JCPOA demonstrate some flexibility, which is going to be required if you're going to reach a compromise on the last remaining issues and return to the full implementation of the plan and UN resolution 2231 (2015) without any further delay," he stated.

"Everyone has a different role to play," Dujarric explained, adding that the International Atomic

Energy Agency (IAEA), the UN's nuclear watchdog, is involved in one aspect of the nuclear talks and that IAEA Director-General Rafael Grossi is "deeply involved on behalf, shall we say, of the United Nations' system."

He said that Guterres had spoken with a number of parties involved in JCPOA talks, including Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian recently over the phone.

"He (Guterres) still has such conversations. He keeps getting updates from various sources," Dujarric added.

According to the spokesperson, the UN head has always been a "strong proponent" of the JCPOA and will remain so.

Before Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi's planned travel to New York next week to address the UN General Assembly, where he is anticipated to repeat Iran's position on the agreement and

At the beginning of the meeting, Grossi presented his report, which sounded quite political.

In his statement, Grossi said, "You have received my report entitled NPT Safeguards Agreement with the Islamic Republic of Iran. Unfortunately, since my previous report, despite the Agency's stated readiness to engage with Iran without delay to resolve these issues, Iran has not engaged with the Agency. Consequently, there have been no developments in this reporting period and none of the outstanding issues have been resolved. Therefore, all of these safeguards issues remain outstanding."

He added, "Unless and until Iran provides technically credible

explanations for the presence of uranium particles of anthropogenic origin at three undeclared locations in Iran and informs the Agency of the current location(s) of the nuclear material and/or of the contaminated equipment, the Agency will not be able to confirm the correctness and completeness of Iran's declarations under its Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement."

In line with his politically motivated statement, Grossi claimed, "Because it has not yet done so, the Agency is not in a position to provide assurance that Iran's nuclear program is exclusively peaceful."

Later in the day, he talked to reporters and met with a series of questions regarding Iran.

During the presser, he also said, "I regret this (Iran's so-called lack of cooperation). This is not new, when the Agency is demanding certain things and Iran doesn't want to or does not engage in the way one wouldn't expect, and they accuse (the IAEA) of politicizing. This is very straightforward. We found traces of uranium in places that were never declared, that were never supposed to have any nuclear activity, and we are asking questions. Explain to me why this is a political activity."

He then openly threatened Iran militarily, saying, "The Iranian leadership must be aware that the use of force against Israel or against Israelis will be met with a painful reaction on Iranian soil. We will chase after the ones who sent those affiliates. It will happen in Tehran or Isfahan."

Responding to this open and direct threat, Kanaani told the Tehran Times correspondent on Monday, "We do not expect a terrorist regime to do anything other than terrorist actions."

Barnea's latest threat came on the same day that the regime's caretaker Prime Minister, Yair Lapid, landed in Germany to encourage its Western partner to abandon the Iran nuclear deal.

The regime has been actively campaigning against the resurrection of the JCPOA, and evidently the E3 countries (Britain, France and Germany) are falling for this deceit.

In a joint presser with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz on Monday, Lapid said, "Returning to the nuclear agreement under current conditions would be a mistake."

Scholz also accused Iran of halting the negotiations, expressing regret that Iran has not yet responded positively to the EU text.

"It does not seem that there will be a signing of the agreement in the near future, because of Iran," the German chancellor said.

In this regard, Kanaani told the press on Monday that he expects the E3 countries to "act constructively."

"Our advice to the European partners of the Vienna talks is to take a constructive path and make amends for the past mistakes and try to pave the way for an agreement in a constructive and comprehensive way," he pointed out.

Washington's unlawful sanctions against Tehran, the UN leader expressed support for the JCPOA.

In May 2018, the JCPOA was ditched by the administration of President Donald Trump and sanctions were reinstated. Through such act, the U.S. violated international law as the JCPOA is endorsed by UN Security Council Resolution 2231

In April of last year, months after Joe Biden succeeded Trump, the negotiations to save the deal began in Vienna, Austria, with the goal of determining how seriously Washington intended to rejoin the pact and lift illegal sanctions against Iran.

The long negotiations were often interrupted by the U.S. indecision and delay despite significant progress.

Mohammad Marandi, the aide to the Iranian negotiators at the Vienna talks, has said the JCPOA might have been revived months

ago if the United States and its European allies (France, Britain and Germany collectively called E3) had not "dragged their feet."

"A deal might have been reached months ago if the U.S. and E3 hadn't dragged their feet in Vienna. The current text was feasible decades ago," Marandi said in a post on his Twitter account.

Iranian officials have urged their American counterparts to be "realistic" and "flexible" in order to reach a compromise on an EU draft proposal to reinstate the JCPOA.

The JCPOA was first signed in July 2015 between Iran and the 5+1 countries (the five permanent members of the UN Security Council plus Germany). Under the agreement, Iran agreed to put limits on its nuclear activities in exchange for termination of the economic and financial sanctions. Trump quit the deal while Iran was fully loyal to the terms of the text.

Raisi talks to Pashinyan amid Armenia-Azerbaijan border clashes

Tehran says any change to Azerbaijan-Armenia borders is unacceptable

TEHRAN – Iranian President Ayatollah Seyed Ebrahim Raisi had a telephone conversation on Tuesday with the Armenia Prime Minister, Nikol Pashinyan, amid reports of deadly clashes on the Armenia-Azerbaijan border.

"The prime minister provided details about the provocative and aggressive actions carried out by the armed forces of Azerbaijan in the direction of the sovereign territory of Armenia," the Public Radio of Armenia said of the call.

The Armenian prime minister's office also issued a statement about the call. "Ebrahim Raisi noted that a new war in the South Caucasus region is unacceptable and Iran is carefully following the developments. The President of Iran emphasized that all conflicts in the region should be resolved peacefully and Iran's position regarding the territorial integrity of states is clear," the statement said.

It added, "The President of Iran recalled the words of the Supreme Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Khamenei, according to which Iran's connection with Armenia should not be endangered, and the communication channels should be under the sovereignty of the states. Ebrahim Raisi stressed that his country is ready to support the establishment of peace in the region, adding that the issue of Armenia's security is important for Iran."



Heavy border clashes broke out on Monday night between Armenia and the Republic of Azerbaijan, with each side accusing the other of starting the fighting.

Following the escalation of tensions, Pashinyan chaired a session of the Security Council with the participation of President of the Republic Vahagn Khachaturyan and the President of the National Assembly Alen Simonyan in addition to the Security Council members.

"Further steps aimed at counteracting the aggressive actions by Azerbaijan against the sovereign territory of Armenia that started at midnight were discussed at the meeting," the Armenian prime minister said in a separate statement.

The statement added, "A decision was made to officially apply to the Russian Federation for the implementation of the provisions of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance, to the Collective Security Treaty Organization and the UN Security Council regarding the aggression against the sovereign territory of the

Republic of Armenia."

On the other hand, the Republic of Azerbaijan accused Armenia of starting a "large-scale" attack against Azerbaijan.

"On September 12, 2022, starting at late night, the units of the armed forces of Armenia held large-scale provocations in the directions of Dashkasan, Kalbajar and Lachin of Azerbaijan-Armenia state border," the Azerbaijani foreign ministry said in a statement.

The statement added, "According to the information provided by the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the sabotage groups of the armed forces of Armenia using the mountainous relief of the area and existing valley gaps carried out planting landmines on the areas between the positions of the units of Azerbaijan's army and the supply roads in different directions. In addition, the Armenian armed forces fired intensively at the positions of the Azerbaijani Army in Dashkasan, Kalbajar and Lachin regions with different types of weapons, including mortars. As a result, there are

casualties among the personnel of our armed forces, damage was inflicted to the military infrastructure."

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani has expressed concern about escalation of border tensions and clashes between the Republic Azerbaijan and Armenia, calling for restraint and resolution of disagreements between the two countries through peaceful means and based on international law.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman once again reiterated that the Islamic Republic considers any change to the borders between the Azerbaijan Republic and the Republic of Armenia as unacceptable.

Kanaani underlined that the Islamic Republic of Iran is closely watching the relevant developments, stressing the need for respect for the territorial integrity of both Azerbaijan and Armenia.

He expressed Iran's readiness to provide any assistance needed to resolve the disagreements between its two neighbors.

During the 2020 Karabakh war, Iran presented a peace initiative to Yerevan and Baku. And Iranian diplomats traveled to both capitals in a bid to peacefully solve the conflict. Iran's initiative centered around the need to protect the territorial integrity of the countries of the region. Iran has said that it does not accept any changes in international borders in the South Caucasus region.

Armenia-Azerbaijan clashes sound alarm bells in Tehran

By Mehran Shamsuddin

TEHRAN – The new episode of clashes between Armenia and Azerbaijan caused concerns in Tehran over the stability and peace in the strategically important South Caucasus region.

On Monday at late night, heavy clashes broke out along the Armenia-Azerbaijan borders. As usual, the two South Caucasus nations started putting the blame on each other for the flare-up.

Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan convened a security meeting of the country's high-level officials early in the morning on Tuesday. The meeting of Armenia's Security Council was held with the participation of Armenian President Vahagn Khachaturyan and the President of the National Assembly Alen Simonyan in addition to the Security Council members.

A statement put out by the Armenian premiership said Azerbaijan launched "aggressive actions" against Armenia's sovereign territory, a move that prompted Yerevan to officially apply to the Russian Federation for the implementation of the provisions of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance, to the Collective Security Treaty Organization and the UN Security Council.

On the other hand, Azerbaijan offered a completely different account, saying Armenia launched large-scale provocations in the directions of Dashkasan, Kalbajar and Lachin on the Azerbaijan-Armenia state border. "Death toll of Armenian armed forces amounted to 150-200 people, and hundreds of Armenian soldiers were injured following an unsuccessful provocation attempt against

Azerbaijan," Azerbaijani news agency Trend reported.

Iran, a longtime mediator in the South Caucasus region, was quick to call for peace and dialogue. Nasser Kanaani, the spokesman for the Iranian foreign ministry, expressed concern about the escalation of border tensions and clashes between Yerevan and Baku, calling for restraint and resolution of disagreements between the two countries through peaceful means and based on international law.

He reiterated Iran's longtime position that international borders in the region must be respected. "Iran considers any change to the borders between the Azerbaijan Republic and the Republic of Armenia as unacceptable," he said in a statement.

He also said that Iran is closely watching the relevant developments, stressing the need for respect for the territorial integrity of both the Azerbaijan Republic and the Republic of Armenia.

This position was once again reiterated in the phone call between Iranian President Ayatollah Seyed Ebrahim Raisi and Pashinyan. Underling that security in the Caucasus region is very important for the Islamic Republic of Iran, Ayatollah Raisi told Pashinyan, "The Caucasus region is going through special conditions and unfortunately, peace has not returned to this region yet."

Noting that Iran is watching the situation in the Caucasus region, President Raisi said, "The region cannot tolerate another war."

He added, "The historical borders of Iran and Armenia are considered the bedrock of prosperity,

convergence and security of the region, and Tehran is determined to continue cooperation in all fields for the benefit of the prosperity and stability of the region."

The latest flare-up once again aroused concern about the possibility of cutting the Iran-Armenia border, something that Iran clearly rejected and continues to reject.

Iran, while seeking good neighborly ties with both Armenia and Azerbaijan, has said that it will not accept any geopolitical changes in the South Caucasus region. The highest political echelons in Tehran have underlined the need to keep the status quo on the Armenia-Azerbaijan border.

The Republic of Azerbaijan has been overtly calling for the establishment of a land corridor linking the autonomous enclave of Nakhichevan to mainland Azerbaijan, which virtually will cut the Iran-Armenia border.

In a July meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin in Tehran, Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei made it clear that Iran will not accept such a geopolitical development. "The Islamic Republic will not tolerate policies or plans that lead to the closing of the Iran-Armenia border," the Leader said.

Ayatollah Khamenei reiterated this position in a separate meeting with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. "Of course, if there is a policy intended to block the Iran-Armenia border, the Islamic Republic will oppose it, for this border has been a connecting route for thousands of years," he said.

Hamas delegation meets Iran envoy in Russia

TEHRAN – A Palestinian delegation led by Hamas political bureau chief Ismail Haniyeh met with Iranian Ambassador to Russia Kazem Jalali.

The meeting took place on Monday during Haniyeh's visit to Russia.

Esmail Haniyeh and his accompanying delegation and Ambassador Jalali discussed and exchanged opinions about the latest political and field developments in Palestine and increase in cruel and anti-human policies of Israel in the occupied territories and the region, Fars News reported.

In August, Haniyeh spoke over the phone with Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian. In the call, Amir Abdollahian condemned the Zionists' crime of martyring Palestinian mothers and children as evidence of the regime's desperation and helplessness.

He praised Haniyeh's efforts to bring resistance organizations together, calling this unity a significant victory for the Resistance front.

The call was held after Israel's

aggression against Gaza, which killed several innocent Palestinian civilians, including children and women.

"It is a great achievement that once again the Resistance was able to stand against the vast military power of the Zionist enemy and force them to accept the ceasefire based on terms of the Resistance within two days," the Iranian foreign minister underscored.

He emphasized that the struggle against the invaders has been an accomplishment that has revealed the Zionists' fragility more than before.

Meanwhile, Haniyeh commended Iran's assistance for Palestine, asserting that the Zionist enemy attempted to impose its will on the Palestinian people and the Resistance in Gaza, but was met with valiant resistance by the Palestinian people.

"With the help of God, we are determined to continue this jihad until the final victory," he added.

He went on to say that the Resistance front's recent win has opened a new chapter in the Palestinian struggle against the Zionist tyranny.

Amir Abdollahian receives outgoing Tunisian ambassador

TEHRAN – Outgoing Tunisian Ambassador to Tehran Samir al-Mansar held a meeting with Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian as the envoy ended his diplomatic mission.

During the meeting, Amir Abdollahian laid emphasis on the good ties between Iran and Tunisia and the two countries' shared views and positions on many regional and international issues.

The foreign minister assessed the prospect of relations between the two sides as desirable.

He pointed to the strong capacities for cooperation between the two sides and emphasized the necessity of making efforts toward further expansion of bilateral ties, according to the Iranian Foreign Ministry.

Amir Abdollahian praised the positive and constructive positions adopted by the Tunisian nation and government in supporting the Palestinian people and opposing the Zionist regime's observer status in the African Union, stressing that there is no limit to the development of

relations between Iran and Tunisia.

The foreign minister referred to the developments currently unfolding in Tunisia and said, "We are certain that we will see Tunisia grow and flourish increasingly in all areas with the wisdom and rationality of Tunisian authorities and through the unity and solidarity between the country's nation and government."

The Tunisian ambassador, for his part, thanked Iran for hosting him and hailed the years of his presence in Tehran and among the Iranians as excellent.

He referred to the grounds for bilateral cooperation and emphasized the necessity of continued efforts by the two countries for the successful holding of the Joint Commission.

The Tunisian diplomat expressed optimism about the outlook of relations between the two countries. He pointed to the friendly ties between Iranian and Tunisian foreign ministers and said, "We will always stand by the Iranian nation and government and leave no stone unturned to protect the excellent relations between the two countries."

Mahmoudi criticizes Iran's poor performance at world championship

From Page 1 ▶ "There was a generational change in the national team. With a new generation eager to shine, we expected better results, but Behrouz Ataei's team were knocked out of the competition and failed to meet the expectations.

"We didn't do well in the 2020 Olympics. In the 2022 Volleyball Nations League, we had a poor start, then we got a little better and finished in seventh place. So, it was expected that Iran would be better in the FIVB World Championship and show more eye-catching performance, but it didn't happen.

"In terms of quality and quantity (statistics), the Iranian volleyball team were far from good in the tournament. The results and the performance of the team, technical staff, and the federation require an accurate and comprehensive analysis. I've always supported Ataei and still believe that the main problem is not related to the technical staff," he said.

"Iranian volleyball has a lot of talents all over the country, and the employment of young and expert managers can pave the way for volleyball's progress," concluded Mahmoudi.

Iran football federation to part company with Mahdavia

TEHRAN – Iran football federation will most likely part company with U23 coach Mehdi Mahdavia.

After Mehdi Taj was elected as new head of the federation, he started to make massive changes in the organization.

Taj brought back Carlos Queiroz as Iran football coach ahead of the 2022 FIFA World Cup and changed the federation's Secretary General.

The football federation seems to be reluctant to work with Mahdavia.

Under guidance of Mahdavia, Iran showed a poor performance in the 2022 AFC U23 Asian Cup and failed to qualify for the next stage.

Iran lost to Turkmenistan and were held by Qatar and Uzbekistan in Group A.

2022 IWBF World Championships Postponed

TEHRAN – The International Wheelchair Basketball Federation (IWBF) World Championships in Dubai were postponed until June 2023, with exact dates yet to be decided.

The competitions were postponed due to a clash with the FIFA World Cup in nearby Qatar.

The competition was due to be held in the United Arab Emirates from November 16 to 27 later this year but the governing body's Executive Council took the decision after receiving instruction from the Dubai Government and Dubai Sports Council.

The 2022 FIFA World Cup is scheduled for November 20 to December 18.

"The Dubai Government directive is based on rationale surrounding security, health concerns, and capacity in Dubai at this time because of the extraordinary conditions the FIFA World Cup brings," read an IWBF statement.

Iran victorious over Vietnam at 2022 Continental Futsal Championship

TEHRAN – Iran defeated Vietnam 3-1 at the 2022 Continental Futsal Championship underway in Bangkok, Thailand on Tuesday.

Mehdi Javan (two goals) and Mehdi Karimi were on target for Iran.

Iran had defeated Finland 2-1 in their opening match.

The tournament is being held from Sept. 11 to 16.

Iran (sixth in world rankings), Morocco (ninth), Finland (18th), Thailand (20th), Vietnam (40th) and Angola (46th) compete in the tournament.

Six teams are divided into two groups, played in a round-robin format. The top two teams per group will advance to the semifinals.

Iran have competed in the Tournament as part of preparation for the 2022 Asian Futsal Championship that will take place from September 25 to October 20 in Kuwait.

Team Melli have been drawn in Group C along with Lebanon, Chinese Taipei and Indonesia.

Carlos Queiroz ready for his mission in Iran

TEHRAN – Iran newly-appointed coach Carlos Queiroz says that he is ready for the Mission in Iran.

The Portuguese coach was officially appointed as Team Melli coach on Thursday as replacement for Dragan Skocic.

He has shared a post on his Instagram account on Tuesday and said he is committed to his duties.

"When the family call you home, all you do is simply just show up. Fully committed to your duties and ready for the Mission. Let's do it together Lads! To the future! Thank you so much Team Melli," Queiroz wrote.

Iran will have to play England in Group B on Nov. 21 before taking on Wales and the U.S.

Qatar will be Queiroz's fourth appearance at the World Cup as a coach, having led his native Portugal in 2010 before taking Iran to the finals in Brazil and Russia.

Iran will be appearing at the World Cup for the sixth time and have never advanced beyond the group phase.

Queiroz led the country to their best performance at a World Cup in Russia four years ago, when the Iranians defeated Morocco and drew with Portugal before narrowly missing out on a place in the knockout rounds.

Nemes stuns Gerai for 67kg world title amid Serbian gold rush

TEHRAN – Mate Nemes continued host Serbia's incredible gold rush when he rallied to a thrilling 5-4 victory over the reigning world and Olympic champion Mohammadreza GERAEI (IRI) in the Greco-Roman 67kg final on Monday, the third day of the World Championships in Belgrade.

"This fight was exceptionally hard," Nemes said. "In the first period, the opponent was two times stronger than me, or maybe it was all in my head. I managed to defend myself from his toughest grip, which helped him win all of his matches in this World Championships."

Geraei looked to be in a good position to repeat as world champion when he took a 4-0 lead in the first period, scoring a 2-point defensive takedown and getting two for a leg foul when he attempted a lift and throw.

In the second period, Geraei tried to execute a roll while in on a takedown attempt, but Nemes halted the move and caught the Iranian on his back for his first two points of the match. That fired up the Stark Arena crowd and seemed to turn the tide, and Nemes picked up on the energy.

Nemes, put on top in par terre, managed to muscle Geraei over with a gut wrench to go ahead 5-4 with 1:25, then held off everything the Iranian threw at him to secure the biggest victory of his career and add to the world bronze he won in 2019.

"Those who are one percent psychologically more ready, will win," Nemes said. "In this fight, I was psychologically stronger in the second period. The opponent was last year's world and Olympic champion, and I think he felt more pressure on him. The crowd helped a lot. In the second period, I didn't give 100%, but 130%, 140%."

Venezuela welcomes Iranian investment in its mining sector

From page 1 ▶ Also speaking at the meeting, IMIDRO Board Member Jamshid Molarahman underlined the friendly relations between Iran and Venezuela, saying: "Good political relations are a prerequisite for the development of economic relations between countries and fortunately, positive relations have already paved the way for the development of economic cooperation between Iran and Venezuela."

"This is a good opportunity that both sides should take advantage of," he stressed.

Amir Sabagh, IMIDRO's economic and investment development manager, also pointed to Iran's ability and potential in the field of mining and mineral industries and said: "There are many opportunities for cooperation between Iran and Venezuela in various fields such as steel, cement, gold, and other minerals."

According to the official, considering the fact that urbanization and construction in Venezuela are developing, there will be



an urgent need for construction materials including cement, steel, and rebar in this country.

"Therefore, we are ready to export or build steel and steel products factories and cement plants in this country," he said.

"We have identified many investment opportunities in Venezuela, and we plan to be present in the country's mining if some problems are resolved," Sabagh added.

Iran's trade balance with Russia turns positive



TPO Head Alireza Peyman-Pak (C)

TEHRAN – Head of Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) announced on Monday that the country's trade balance with Russia has turned positive, the TPO portal reported.

Alireza Peyman-Pak made the

announcement in a meeting of Government's Economic Coordination Headquarters which was chaired by President Ebrahim Raisi.

In this meeting, Peyman-Pak presented a report on Iran's trade with Russia and Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) in the second quarter of the current Iranian calendar year (started on March 21).

"The volume of trade between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the countries of the Eurasian region, especially Russia, has grown significantly since Khordad [the third Iranian calendar month (May 22-June 21)] when the Government's Economic Coordination Headquarters delegated new authorities to TPO to promote trade with the region," the TPO head said in his report.

Commodities worth \$453m exported from Khorasan Razavi in 5 months

TEHRAN- As announced by a provincial official, 813,000 tons of products worth \$453 million were exported from Khorasan Razavi province, in the northeast of Iran, in the first five of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21-August 22).

Javad Jafari, an official with the province's customs department, said that the five-month export indicates 21 percent and 34 percent fall in terms of value and weight, respectively.

He named saffron, fresh apples, pistachios with fresh and dry skin, and steel bars as the major exported items and Afghanistan, Iraq and Turkmenistan as the main export destinations.

The official further announced that 121,000 tons of goods valued at \$250 million were imported to the province in the first five months of the present year, with 21 percent and 65 percent growth in terms of value and weight, respectively, year on year.

He named mobile phone, wheat and cotton as the major imported

products and United Arab Emirates (UAE), Turkey, Tajikistan, and China as the main sources of imports in the said five-month period.

As previously announced by the official, the value of non-oil export from Khorasan Razavi rose six percent in the past Iranian calendar year 1400 (ended on March 20), from its preceding year.

He said that 2.607 million tons of commodities worth \$1.4 billion were exported from the province in the past year, indicating five percent fall in terms of weight year on year.

He named Iraq, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Pakistan, and Tajikistan as the major export destinations of the province's products.

Jafari also announced that 229,000 tons of commodities worth \$579 million were imported to Khorasan Razavi in the previous year, with 53 percent rise in value and 23 percent growth in weight year on year.



He named Oman, China, Tajikistan, and the United Arab Emirates as the main sources of imports to the province during the previous year.

The head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA) has announced that the value of Iran's non-oil exports reached \$20.924 billion in the first five months of the current Iranian calendar year, up 21 percent compared to the last year's same period.

According to Alireza Moghadasi, Iran exported 44 million tons of non-oil commodities in the mentioned five months which was 3.5 percent less than the figure for the previous year's same period.

Meanwhile, some 14 million

Govt., private sector discuss tax issues in dialogue council

TEHRAN - The 112th dialogue council of the government and the private sector was held in Tehran on Monday evening, in which the country's recent tax issues were discussed and attendees shared their views in this regard with the head of the Iranian National Tax Administration (INTA).

The meeting was attended by senior officials including Finance and Economic Affairs Minister Ehsan Khandouzi, Head of Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA) Gholam-Hossein Shafeie, and INTA Head Davoud Manzour, the ICCIMA portal reported.

In his opening speech as the

chairman of the council, Khandouzi emphasized the need for achieving the country's macroeconomic goals including restoring stability, curbing inflation, reducing the cost of business transactions, and removing the existing obstacles to business, in the current year and said: "The government is doing its best to manage the current fluctuations in order to improve the country's economic performance compared to the previous year."

The minister emphasized that the government should reduce the tax burden on real businesses, noting that this goal can only be achieved by promoting collaboration between government and private sector



Finance and Economic Affairs Minister Ehsan Khandouzi (C), ICCIMA Head Gholam-Hossein Shafeie (2nd L), and INTA Head Davoud Manzour (2nd R) at the 112th dialogue council of the government and the private sector on Monday

entities.

According to Khandouzi, transparent and official companies that operate according to the law should not bear the tax burden, and this burden should be borne by those who are not transparent and evade taxes.

"The country's tax collecting system is not supposed to think only about securing its income at any cost," he stressed.

Further in the meeting, Shafeie, as the secretary of the council, praised the performance of the Industry Ministry in eliminating cumbersome regulations in the way of businesses and noted that the results of the ministry's measures have been very

positive.

The ICCIMA also pointed to the atmosphere of understanding and dialogue which has been formed between the private sector and the tax organization as beneficial for both sides.

Elsewhere in the gathering, Manzour explained some of the measures that his organization has been taking to create synergy between the government and the private sector.

According to the official, the dialogue council is a suitable platform for reaching a consensus between the two sides and this capacity should be used to the best advantage.

Transit of goods via Bushehr ports rises 200% in 5 months on year

TEHRAN- Transit of commodities via the ports of Bushehr province, in the southwest of Iran, rose 200 percent in the first five months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21-August 22), as compared to the same period of time in the past year, the director-general of the province's Ports and Maritime Department, announced.

Mohammad Shakibi said: "It is expected that due to the port infrastructure and the development of the activities of transport companies, we will see the growth of goods transit from Bushehr ports."

As previously announced by the head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA), transit of commodities through Iran increased 25 percent in the first five months of this year from that of the previous year.

Alireza Moghadasi said that six million tons of commodities have been transited via the country in the five-month period.

After seven years of reduction in the transit of goods from the country, the growth path of transit resumed in the past Iranian calendar year 1400 (ended on March 20) and with the passage of 12.65



million tons of goods through Iran, a growth of 68 percent was achieved, the spokesman of IRICA has previously noted.

The 68-percent growth in transit last year and the 39-percent rise in the first two months of this year promise to reach 15 million tons of goods passing through Iran in the current year, which has been unprecedented in the entire history of the country, Ruhollah Latifi added.

The policy of paying attention to neighbors and developing political and economic relations with neighboring countries in the current government, increasing attention to road and rail routes in

the world and the efforts and cooperation of transportation and trade-related organizations in establishing or activating corridors through the country has led to significant growth in transit of goods through Iran.

Iran is one of the countries that has a special status in trade and transit relations due to its strategic location and special geography, as the country is the passage of several important international corridors.

Considering its geographical location, Iran can play a significant role in the transit of goods in the region and benefit a lot from its status in this due.

Paying attention to upstream documents, especially the country's development plans, and the government's decision to develop transit, paying special attention to infrastructure development, reducing transit time, making it cheaper to cross Iran and making more advantages over competitors, due to the short path for customers, can lead to facilitating the development of transit so that the country can reach the desired growth in this due.

Ways of expanding trade with Pakistan explored at TCCIMA meeting

TEHRAN - In a meeting between Consulate General of Iran in Karachi Hassan Nourian and Head of Tehran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (TCCIMA) Masoud Khansari, the officials discussed ways of expanding trade relations between Iran and Pakistan, the TCCIMA portal reported.

In this meeting, which was held at the place of TCCIMA on Monday, important issues such as the unfamiliarity of the businessmen of the two countries with the production capabilities, goods and services of each other, the existence of some communication and commercial monopolies, the decrease in the number of business delegation exchanges due to the pandemic, and the need for cooperation in holding exhibitions as well as more attention to border crossings were raised and discussed.

Referring to the volume of trade between Iran and Pakistan, Nourian said: "Informal trade between the two countries is large, and many Iranian products are traded in the Pakistani market using national currencies; trade through third countries and even smuggling also takes place, and it is estimated that the actual trade between the two countries is much higher than what is recorded in the official statistics."

"For a long time, establishing a barter trade mechanism between the two countries has been



TCCIMA Head Masoud Khansari (L) and Consulate General of Iran in Karachi Hassan Nourian

discussed for developing mutual trade, and in this regard, a memorandum of understanding has also been signed between Zahedan Chamber of Commerce and Quetta Chamber of Commerce and Industry, but nothing special has happened in terms of implementation, and it seems that more focus and effort should be put on this issue," the official added.

Referring to the holding of an exhibition in Karachi in late December, Nourian called on the Iranian chambers of commerce to make the necessary arrangements for the maximum presence of Iranian companies in this event.

Khansari for his part stated that TCCIMA will take the necessary measures to ensure the presence of private sector companies in the Karachi exhibition.

He further noted that TCCIMA is going to send an official invitation to Karachi Chamber of Commerce to send a business delegation to Tehran.

TEDPIX climbs 4,000 points on Tuesday

TEHRAN- After several days of falling, TEDPIX, the main index of Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE), rose 4,155 points to 1.393 million on Tuesday.

Over 5.491 billion securities worth 34.436 trillion rials (about \$123 million) were traded at the TSE.

The first market's index rose 5,460 points and the second market's index gained 1,100 points.

TEDPIX fell 26,537 points (1.84 percent) to 1.412 million in the past Iranian calendar week (ended on Friday).

As reported, 23.457 billion securities worth 198.314 trillion rials (about \$708.26 million) were traded through 1.399 million deals at the TSE in the past week.

The number and value of traded securities dropped 20.8 percent and 13 percent, respectively, and the number of deals fell 19 percent in the past week from the preceding week.

The first market's index dropped 26,458 points (2.45 percent) and the second market's index lost 32,298 points (1.14 percent).

TSE is one of the four Iranian stock exchanges, the other three ones are Iran Mercantile Exchange (IME), Iran Energy Exchange (IRENEX), and Iran's over-the-counter (OTC) market, known as Iran Fara Bourse (IFB).

Stock market analyst Mostafa Safari believes that global economic stagnation and inflation have negatively affected stock markets all around the world including the Iranian capital market.

According to Safari, the outlook, however, is positive for the next two years and the Iranian

stock market is expected to get back on track and continue its upward trend within the next two years.

"It seems that for the next two years, we will see an upward trend in the capital market; Because some statistics show that the market follows a two-year pattern; it has been facing two years of recession from August 2019 to August 2022, now it is time for the market to experience two years of prosperity," he explained.

The expert said the capital market needs

political and economic stability for growth, which can be achieved by restoring the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

"We should not expect the economic impact of the nuclear deal in the short term, and it may take more than a year for the positive effects to be manifested in the market," he stressed.

According to the expert, global inflation, the increase in interest rates, as well as the inflationary pressure caused by increasing costs, have all resulted in the stock markets across the world facing serious challenges.

Thousands of U.S. nurses walk out

From page 1 ▶ The union says it has been negotiating for an agreement for months now, and that nurses have been working without a contract for weeks. "Hospital executives have already driven nurses away from the bedside by their refusal to solve the crises of staffing and retention in our hospitals," the union's negotiating team said in a statement, adding that nurses were "understaffed and overworked."

Veteran U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders backed the protest and called for fairness, writing on social media "nurses are the backbone of our health care system."

Strike protests have been occurring regularly in the U.S. over the past year, with employees said to be exhausted by working during the pandemic and now struggling with inflation.

Industrial action by nurses takes place as 100,000 railroad workers are preparing for strike action, 6,000 teachers are on strike in Seattle, and all sections of workers are seeking a way to fight against soaring inflation and increasing inequality.

The strike action by exhausted nurses reflects the mood of health care workers and a battered American health sector.

There are signs the nurses' strike action, which has been months in the making, could influence health workers in other states. Earlier this month, four thousand nurses with the Michigan Nurses Association voted to authorize a strike over understaffing concerns.

This comes as 7,000 health care workers in Oregon have also called for a similar strike. Nurses in Wisconsin narrowly averted a strike this week. Health care workers in Hawaii and California are in the fourth week of what has become the longest running mental health care strike over staff shortages.

For a while now hospitals in the U.S. have been facing problems with inadequate staff.



Higher demand on the medical sector and more safety risks for nurses during the pandemic have made the problem worse. The number of healthcare workers is nowhere near the pre-pandemic level, having gone down by 37,000 workers compared with February 2020, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

At the same time, demand for health care services shot up during the pandemic, with a backlog of patients who delayed their care and are now seeking treatment.

In Minnesota, the nurses union registered a 300 percent hike in nurses' reporting unsafe staffing levels on their shifts since 2014.

A Minnesota Department of Health survey found 19 percent of nurses in the state said last year they plan to leave the profession in five years.

Nurses are quitting and retiring early in large numbers following the covid pandemic which was the deadliest in the U.S. in terms of deaths. But the nurses, who faced death during the pandemic, are leaving now because of increased workloads caused by short staffing and extremely busy work hours.

Nurses argue this is having a disastrous effect on patients who face high costs for treatment, something they are struggling to afford and is believed to be the primary reason Americans do not get the health care they need.

Polls show the cost of treatment is having a burden on families and factor into decisions about insurance coverage and care seeking. Health care costs also rank as a top financial worry.

About half of U.S. adults say they have difficulty affording health care costs while about four in ten U.S. adults say they have delayed or gone without medical care in the last year due to the price.

A substantial number of adults has reported difficulty paying for various aspects of health care.

The cost of health care has also been found to often prevent people from getting needed care or filling prescriptions. About a quarter of adults say they or their family members have not filled a prescription, cut pills in half, or skipped doses of medicine in the last year because of the cost, with larger shares of those in households with lower incomes, Black and Hispanic adults.

High health care costs disproportionately affect uninsured adults, Black and Hispanic adults, and those with lower incomes. A larger percentage of American adults in each of these groups report difficulty affording various types of care and delaying or forgoing medical care due to the cost.

Even those who are covered by health insurance are not immune to the burden of health care costs. About one-third of insured

adults worry about affording their monthly health insurance premium, and 44 percent worry about affording their deductible before health insurance kicks in.

Healthcare debt is also a burden for a large number of Americans. About four in ten adults report having debt due to medical or dental bills including debts owed to credit cards, collections agencies, family and friends, banks, and other lenders to pay for their health care costs, with disproportionate shares of Black and Hispanic adults, women, parents, those with low incomes, and uninsured adults saying they have health care debt.

Affording gas and transportation costs is now a top worry for Americans followed by unexpected medical bills. While the worry over gasoline and transportation costs has risen markedly since 2020, significant numbers of adults still say they are worried about affording medical costs such as unexpected bills, deductibles, and long-term care services for themselves or a family member.

While the U.S. spends \$4 trillion on healthcare each year, many Americans still lack access to good, affordable care which is one of the, if not the most expensive in the world and the suffering of the country's medical workers is set to make matters worse.

Ukraine's deputy PM says counter-offensive is 'turning point of the war'

A lightning Ukrainian counter-offensive has recaptured 6,000 square kilometres of territory in the country's northeast and south since the start of September, according to President Volodymyr Zelensky.

In an interview with FRANCE 24, Olga Stefanishyna, Ukraine's deputy prime minister for European and Euro-Atlantic integration, said that this advance was the turning point, not only of the Russian invasion that started on February 24 but also "of the war that started in the spring of 2014".

The deputy prime minister admitted that her country was "preparing for the worst-case scenario" in terms of Russian retaliation but that until now, Ukraine had not been taken by surprise.

Stefanishyna said Russian officials had reached out to Ukraine to negotiate in recent days but that her country now had more leverage and would only talk once it had reached its military goals. She noted that the Russians were offering talks now in order to stop the Ukrainian advance.

Stefanishyna expressed confidence that the Donbas region and annexed Crimea would come back under Ukrainian control. She urged European leaders to slap more sanctions on Russia, stating that the European need for gas and energy resources is also a Russian weakness and that those sectors should be targeted.

Finally, the deputy PM stressed that Ukraine had now clearly demonstrated it was a legitimate candidate for EU membership.

UN chief says 'fossil fuel free-for-all' must end as report warns world heading in 'wrong direction'

The impacts of climate change are "heading into uncharted territories of destruction," UN Secretary General António Guterres warned on Tuesday on the release of a multi-agency scientific report reviewing the latest research on the subject.

The report, led by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), warns that the world is "going in the wrong direction" on climate change.

With greenhouse gas concentrations continuing to rise in the atmosphere and world leaders failing to adopt strategies to hold global warming below 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial temperatures, the Earth is inching closer to dangerous climate tipping points, the United in Science report says.

Already, extreme weather

events are more frequent and more intense.

"Heatwaves in Europe. Colossal floods in Pakistan ...There is nothing natural about the new scale of these disasters," Guterres said in a video message.

"The current fossil fuel free-for-all must end now. It is a recipe for permanent climate chaos and suffering," he added.

Despite a dip in emissions during coronavirus lockdowns, planet-warming emissions have since soared beyond pre-pandemic levels. Preliminary data reveal that global carbon dioxide emissions in the first half of this year were 1.2% higher than during the same period in 2019, the report finds.

The past seven years were the warmest on record.

The global average temperature has already warmed 1.1 degrees Celsius above the pre-industrial average. And scientists expect the annual average could be anywhere between 1.1C and 1.7C warmer up to 2026 — meaning there's a chance we could pass the 1.5C warming threshold in the next five years.

The report also said that the world was way off track in containing warming to 1.5C. Ambitions for emissions cuts by 2030 need to rise seven-fold to keep the goal in reach.

By the end of the century, without aggressive climate action, global warming is estimated to reach 2.8C. But even at the current level of warming we could pass several climate tipping points.

The ocean current that moves heat from the tropics into the

northern hemisphere, for example, is now at its slowest in 1,000 years — jeopardizing historic weather patterns, says the report, which includes contributions from the UN Environment Programme and UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Nearly half the world's population is considered highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change -- floods, heat, drought, wildfires and storms.

By the 2050s, over 1.6 billion city-dwellers will regularly swelter through three-month average temperatures of at least 35C (95F).

To help communities cope, the WMO has promised to put every person on Earth under the protection of an early warning system within the next five years.

(Source: CNN)

WORLD HEADLINES

Armenian PM says 49 people killed in Azerbaijan's attack



Armenia's Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan told the country's parliament that 49 people had been killed in Azerbaijan's attack.

"Currently, according to the Defense Ministry, we have 49 people killed, however, this is not the final figure," he said at the parliament during an emergency address.

Pashinyan specified that Azerbaijan had attacked Armenia's borders in seven directions. "At midnight, Azerbaijan attacked in four directions, then two-three more directions were added," he said.

According to the prime minister, a meeting of the Permanent Council of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) is currently underway.

a number of members of the Russian delegation to the 77th session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA) have obtained their U.S. visas to travel to New York, where the UN headquarters is located, the Russian Foreign Ministry told TASS on Tuesday.

"Today, visas were issued to Lavrov and some members of his party," the diplomatic agency noted. That said, the ministry is hoping for the swiftest issuance of visas to other delegation members as well as a quick resolution to logistics issues.

Turkey calls on Armenia to choose peace with Azerbaijan



Armenia should stop its provocations along the border with Azerbaijan and instead make peace, the Turkish foreign minister said on Tuesday.

In the wake of Azerbaijan's response to these provocations, "Armenia needs to learn its lesson and seek peace," said Mevlut Cavusoglu.

Speaking at an event in the Black Sea province of Kastamonu, Cavusoglu cited the promise of Azerbaijan's comprehensive peace proposal, while "Armenia, on the other hand, burned and destroyed everything while withdrawing from Lachin," a strategic city recently returned to Azerbaijan.

"They laid mines everywhere, pursued evil," he said.

S. Arabia arrests man over pilgrimage for Queen Elizabeth

Saudi police arrested a Yemeni man this week after he advertised on social media his pilgrimage to Mecca, where he paid tribute to the memory of Queen Elizabeth II.

The pilgrim, who was not identified by name, had posted footage earlier this week that showed him holding a banner honoring the late queen from inside the courtyard of Mecca's Grand Mosque.

Justice Department subpoenas 30 in Trump's orbit in January 6 probe

Top officials from Donald Trump's political fundraising and former campaign operation are among dozens of people in the former President's orbit who received grand jury subpoenas in recent days -- as the Justice Department intensifies its criminal investigation into January 6, 2021, according to multiple sources familiar with the matter.

Among them are former Trump campaign manager Bill Stepien and Sean Dollman, who worked for Trump's 2020 presidential campaign as chief financial officer, sources familiar with the matter tell CNN.

Dan Scavino, Trump's former deputy chief of staff, also recently received a subpoena, according to a source familiar with the matter. Scavino did not respond to a request for comment.

In total, more than 30 individuals with connections to Trump have received subpoenas in recent days, according to two sources familiar with the subpoena targets. The subpoenas seek documents and in some cases testimony before a grand jury in Washington, DC.

S. Korea warns of tough response if North uses nukes

South Korea on Tuesday warned that any attempt from North Korea to use nuclear weapons would face a tough response and could be "self-destruction," local media reported.

Col. Moon Hong-sik, the deputy spokesperson for the Defense Ministry, said the South Korean-U.S. alliance would respond to any attempt.

"We warn that should North Korea attempt to use nuclear arms, it would face the overwhelming response from the South Korea-U.S. alliance, and its regime would enter a path of self-destruction," Yonhap News Agency quoted Moon as saying during a regular press briefing.

Argentina's president says he was next target for assassination



Argentina's President Alberto Fernandez said on Monday that those behind the recent failed assassination attempt against Vice-President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner also wanted to kill him.

Fernandez told the Spanish TV channel Telecinco that he came to this conclusion after investigators obtained new information.

"The culprits' conversations became known and they said that the next one is me," he said, referencing suspects Fernando Sabag Montiel and Brenda Uliarte, who have been indicted.

Lavrov, several Russian delegates obtain US visa to attend UN General Assembly

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and

Sassanid palace to welcome sightseers

TEHRAN—A restoration project is planned to be commenced on a UNESCO-registered Sassanid palace in Sarvestan, Fars province to prepare it for public visit, the provincial tourism chief has said.

The project will involve landscaping, strengthening the structure, repairing its dome, and removing moisture from the foundation, Seyyed Moayyed Mohsen-Nejad explained on Tuesday.

The project aims to prepare the palace for public visits, the official added.

It is, however, necessary to promote and introduce the palace as a tourist destination, he noted.

Located about 70 km to the southeast of Shiraz and very close to the city of Sarvestan, this monument is one of the most significant constructions of ancient Iran in that it displays an array of both pre-Islamic and Islamic architectural features.

The monument, along with several counterparts, is altogether inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage list under the name "Sassanid Archaeological Landscape of Fars Region."

The ensemble embodies political, historical, cultural, and artistic developments of the mighty Sasanian Empire (224-651), which was a leading world power alongside its neighboring



arch-rival the Roman-Byzantine Empire.

It comprises eight archaeological sites situated in three geographical parts of Firuzabad, Bishapur, and Sarvestan. It reflects the optimized utilization of natural topography and bears witness to the influence of Achaemenid and Parthian cultural traditions and of Roman art, which later had a significant impact on the architecture and artistic styles of the Islamic era.

The Sassanid era is of very high importance in the history of Iran. Under Sassanids, Persian art and architecture experienced a general renaissance.

Architecture often took grandiose proportions, such as palaces at Ctesiphon, Firuzabad, and Sarvestan, which are amongst the highlights of the ensemble.

Private investors to liven abandoned caravanserai up



TEHRAN—The deserted caravanserai of Hajib in Qazvin province is planned to be temporarily ceded to the private sector with the aim of higher productivity and better maintenance, the provincial tourism chief said.

The historical inn will be handed over to the private sector through a tender process in the near future, CHTN quoted Alireza Khazaeli as saying on Monday.

The Safavid-era (1501-1736) caravanserai stands tall. However, it needs some restoration and rehabilitation works; the official added.

The monument is in good condition and it only needs minor repairs and restorations due to its poor appearance, he explained.

Handing over historical buildings to the private sector could lead to job generation as well as economic prosperity, he mentioned.

Over the past couple of years, tens of

historical places and monuments have been provisionally ceded to the private sector under the supervision of the Revitalization and Utilization Fund for Historical Places.

Affiliated with the tourism ministry, the Fund is in charge of concession with the aim of historical sites receiving better maintenance by repurposing them into thriving boutique hotels, eco-lodges, traditional restaurants, or other profitable niches.

The country boasts hundreds of historical sites such as bazaars, museums, mosques, bridges, bathhouses, madrasas, mausoleums, churches, towers, and mansions, of which 26 are inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage list.

Caravansary (also Caravanserai) is a building that served as the inn of the Orient, providing accommodation for commercial, pilgrim, postal and especially official travelers.

The earliest caravanserais in Iran were built during the Achaemenid era (550 - 330 BC). Centuries later, when Shah Abbas I assumed power from 158 to 1629, he ordered the construction of a network of caravanserais across the country.

For many travelers, staying in or even visiting a centuries-old caravanserai can be a wide experience; they have an opportunity to feel the past, a time travel back to a forgotten age.

From page 1 ▶ Qeshm, the largest of the Iranian islands, has caught enormous attention to itself throughout Persia's history.

Iranians typically see the island as one of the best trading centers in the country to buy goods at reasonable prices and get better deals, and hence you will see many Iranians going shopping on their journey to this beautiful island.

Quite interestingly, Qeshm may be chosen as the last or the first stop on a very stunning road trip route through Iran, starting from the northern coast of the Caspian Sea and going to the coast of Bandar or vice versa. From the shores of the Persian Gulf, a small boat can transport people and cars to the island, making a trip to Qeshm even more appealing as it includes both land and sea travel.

Kish Island

Talking about being unknown and mysterious, nothing about this island is unknown, at least to the Iranian people.

The island, which is a free-trade zone as well, is situated close to the strategic strait of Hormuz. In fact, Kish has put irreplaceable memories in many Iranians mind, or other globe-trotters invested in going on an excursion on this visually blessed island.

The reason behind it is that Kish has always been a place for more sightseeing, nightlife, public shows, and massive entertaining programs.

Visitors have fun taking a dip in crystal-clear water or enjoy exalting marine sports. Kish has been the central hub for trade ships that brought themselves new culture and commodities to the region.

Kish is also packed with mind-blowing natural landscapes and man-made scenic sites—a double feature for tourists. There are quite a few exciting

On Iranian islands, long walks, bike rides and amazing sceneries



places to go through, but we'll keep it short for you.

Hengam Island

This tiny isle is situated in the southern part of Qeshm island in the Persian Gulf. Aside from the natural beauty of this wondrous land, there are tons of fun activities you can engage in while having fun on Hengam Island.

Probably the most entertaining thing to do during your stay on this island is to watch the precious Persian Gulf dolphins hop out of the crystal-clear waters of the sea and dive back beak-first into it; a rare sight, not to be found so easily on other islands. And even might fight an opportunity to swim with them.

There is no entry fee to watch the show of the nature. There's

the slightest possibility that no dolphins would be around to put on a natural display for you. To increase the chances of watching these beautiful, smart creatures, try to arrange your sea voyage to the island sometime in the morning and between October to May or just head out for a boat ride early in the morning after you're situated on the island.

As one of the top five Iranian islands, Hengam Island is packed with wildlife. Some rare animals like the native Persian Gazelle, lizards, and Hawksbill sea turtle are the species that live on the island, same as crabs.

A memorable finish to your excursion on Hengam Island can be a tour through the local bazaar and buying some

traditional souvenirs for your family and friends.

Larak Island

Larak is bestowed with some profound features as an untouched paradise with few inhabitants, most of them fishers, turning it the dream-spot for travelers seeking out the tranquility of vastly empty beaches.

The second half of the Iranian year is the best time to visit the unspoiled beaches of this island since its warm weather makes a balance with the cold of winter and takes a rest at the beach more rewarding.

Hormuz Island

Situated on the west side of Qeshm, Hormuz Island is gifted with so many natural coastal and mountain landscapes and man-made settings that a one-day excursion trip across the island won't just cut it.

It is highly famed as the rainbow island of Iran, always inspires awe out of unaware local and international tourists.

The depth of the sea on the island of Hormuz is sufficient for huge oil tankers to quickly leave the Persian Gulf. The salty island is like an oyster in the blue waters of the Persian Gulf.

A stunning coastal road surrounds the island, so you will see many natural attractions such as colorful sandy roads while you are walking or biking on this road.

By walking and laying on the shores of Hormuz Island, you will see historical ruins and natural sceneries surrounded with native and migratory birds, and turtles that give you unworldly excitement and pleasure.

Hormuz Island is an excellent choice for those who are interested in recreational activities, such as swimming and water sports. Its rainbow mountains are alone enough for Hormuz to secure a place in our top five Iranian islands.

Iran ready to help restore Yerevan mosque



TEHRAN - Tehran's cultural office in Yerevan has announced readiness to help restore a mosque that Iranians constructed centuries ago in the Armenian capital.

The Qajar-era (1789-1925) Abbasqoli Khan Mosque in the Armenian capital of Yerevan is planned to undergo some rehabilitation works, IRNA reported on Tuesday.

Located in Kond, one of the oldest neighborhoods in Yerevan, the mosque was fully operational until 1840.

After the separation of Yerevan from Iran

with the Treaty of Turkmenchay in 1828 and the gradual migration of mostly Azari-speaking Iranians from it, this mosque gradually lost its use.

The mosque was later converted into the residence of several families — up to 15 families at one time — following the Armenian massacre and mass migration of Armenians to Armenia.

As a result of lack of maintenance and residential use, this structure has changed from one of the old mosques of Yerevan to ruin with few signs of a mosque in its current state.

A few remnants of the mosque were also destroyed by earthquakes in 1988 and 1997.

Now, to host a three-day festival in the area and attract visitors, the Armenian tourism authorities decided to restore the mosque.

With the cooperation of the Yerevan Municipality and the Goethe Institute in Armenia, the mosque is planned to be

renovated.

Also known as Thapha Bashi Mosque or Kond mosque, the historical structure with two small and big domes is one of the largest of the few mosques in the area.

The mosque, as well as its neighboring religious structures, had been closed by the militantly Atheist Soviet authorities, its Persian worshipers having long since left. It was converted into housing for refugees from World War I. Their descendants are often still living within the structure.

Even as a ruin, this building is impressive. It boasts some of the best architectural and design elements Persian-style mosques are known for. Some of the frescoes have survived the ages intact.

Kond is known as one of Yerevan's oldest continuously inhabited neighborhoods. Despite its strong Armenian character, however, its central square contains a cluster of non-operating mosques dating back to the 17th and 18th centuries.

Baneh meeting explores ways to boost urban tourism

TEHRAN—On Sunday, a meeting in Baneh discussed ways to develop urban tourism in the western city.

The city of Baneh has many attractions in the fields of historical tourism and culture, so these gifts need to be utilized appropriately, the deputy provincial tourism chief said during the meeting.

An effort is being made to identify

the urban structure in Baneh and keep alive the concept of urbanization, Mohammad Aminian added.

People, NGOs, and the private sector must work together to develop Baneh tourism, the official noted.

Ways to revive the historical core of the city and protect the natural heritage of the region were also discussed during the meeting.

One of the border cities between Iran and Iraq, Baneh is located in the western province of Kordestan. The city is located 20 kilometers from the Iranian-Iraqi border, 60 kilometers southwest of Saqez, and 70 kilometers southeast of Sardasht.

The city is known for its large and natural oak forests.

In 1984, Iraqi planes bombed Baneh

and some nearby settlements during the Iran-Iraq war (1980-1988).

Arzan village, Shevi cave, Baneh Dam, Sorin complex are among the city's tourist attractions. However, most of its reputation comes from its border malls and its status as a trade center.

Local people speak Kurdish with Slemani accent.

Khuzestan village undergoes restoration

TEHRAN—The historical core of the small village of Bonevar in the southwestern Khuzestan province has undergone some rehabilitation works, the deputy provincial tourism chief has said.

The village has several historical buildings and valuable monuments, which need restoration and protection, Gholamreza Salmanpur explained on Tuesday.

A budget of 3.5 billion rials (\$11,700) has been allocated to the project, the official added.

The village's indigenous and special architecture attracts many tourists, researchers, and anthropologists every year, so the restoration and organization of its historical core will increase tourism in this area, he noted.

Khuzestan is home to three UNESCO World Heritage sites of Susa, Tchogha Zanbil, and Shushtar Historical Hydraulic System, yet it is a region of raw beauty that its visitors could spend weeks exploring. The province is also a cradle for handicrafts and arts whose crafters

inherited from their preceding generations.

Lying at the head of the Persian Gulf and bordering Iraq on the west, Khuzestan was settled about 6000 BC by a people with affinities to the Sumerians, who came from the Zagros Mountains region. Urban centers appeared there nearly contemporaneously with the first cities in Mesopotamia in the 4th millennium. Khuzestan, according to Encyclopedia Britannica, came to constitute the heart of the Elamite kingdom, with Susa as its capital.

KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA TEHRAN EMBASSY OF INDIA SCHOOL EMPLOYMENT NOTICE

The following Teaching staff purely on contractual basis is required for the Academic Session 2022-23:
(i) Qualified Teachers in Mathematics, Biology, Economics and Physical Education for Sec./ Sr. Secondary Classes with at least 50% marks and B.Ed.
(ii) Proficiency to teach through English Medium is essential and working knowledge in Computer is desirable.

Walk in Interview is on 24/09/2022 (Saturday) from 9.00am onwards.

Along with Bio data (available on www.kendriyavidyalayatهران.ir), original certificates have to be produced at the time of interview.

Tel. 77520242/09129053299

PRINCIPAL

5-year residence permit issued for foreign entrepreneurs

TEHRAN – The cabinet of ministers has approved granting residence permit to non-Iranian experts and entrepreneurs for a period of five years.

Vice Presidency for Science and Technology, by implementing the "Cooperation Program with International Experts and Entrepreneurs", seeks to connect the capabilities and expertise of these people to the ecosystem of technology and innovation and benefit from their expertise.

Under this program, more than 450 non-Iranian specialists in the country have been identified and nearly 300 applicants have received the mentioned support.

In this program, "research and motivational support for non-Iranian experts", "facilitating processes for granting citizenship services", "creating motivation in public sector managers to ease business obstacles for foreigners", and "obtaining a license for office establishment" are also defined.

Considering that Iran has been hosting a large population of immigrants from different countries for many years; can with the help of these programs; use their knowledge and expertise for the scientific and technological development of the country.

Moreover, foreign experts in-



terested in starting technological businesses in Iran, in addition to residency support, benefit from the support of knowledge-based companies.

Iranian science and technology visas will be granted to idea owners and technologists who can enter Iran for three to six months, and then on the basis of the existing accommodation system for foreign specialists and non-Iranian experts, residence permits will be obtained.

The knowledge-based ecosystem is a newly-emerged ecosystem but has so far been able to solve many of the country's problems.

Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei designated the Iranian New Year (1401) as "The Year of Production: Knowl-

edge-Based and Job-Creating".

Strengthening knowledge-based companies is on the agenda, raising hope for reducing obstacles on the path to development.

The Leader has called on all Iranians, including citizens and government officials, to work hard to boost knowledge-based production and create new jobs.

Iranian experts return

Iran has also implemented a plan to return experts from the top 100 universities in the world. Through a national model, the facilities are provided for their return by creating technology parks, innovation centers, and factories.

The plan was able to bring back 2,510 Iranian specialists and graduates from 720 prestigious and top

universities in the world.

About 500 Iranian researchers have returned home over the past four years to transfer their knowledge and expertise to the country's universities, according to the vice presidency for science and technology.

With the support of the National Elites Foundation and Science and Technology Vice Presidency, universities, knowledge enterprises, technology parks, and incubators launched a plan titled 'cooperation with Iranian expatriate entrepreneurs and experts' in 2015.

The plan aims to attract Iranians abroad to share knowledge in different forms including postdoctoral research, research opportunity, and visiting fellows, in addition to being faculty members.

About 500 Iranian researchers have returned home over the past four years to transfer their knowledge and expertise to the country's universities.

Environment houses to be developed nationwide

TEHRAN – The Department of Environment (DOE) plans to launch environment houses across the country, Seyyed Abolqasem Mousavi, the director of the people's participation office of the DOE, has said.

Under the plan, a house in each province is considered as a gathering place for environmental activists in different age groups, to be trained by related organizations, he explained, adding that students are prioritized and are the most important age group under education.

There is no capital more precious than the environment so NGOs should be supported, considering their help to the gov-

ernments to support the natural and valuable resources of the country, he highlighted.

Both people and NGOs have an effective role in the protection of the environment.

President Ebrahim Raisi has highlighted the importance of environmental protection, emphasizing that the preservation of the environment is prior to every development.

Environmental protection will lead to power, security, investment, and production growth in the country, he said.

Both people and NGOs have an effective role to play in the protection of the environment, and they should be given chance to play their role, he added.

The need to use new technologies and the ability of knowledge-based companies in the field of environment, solving issues and problems related to legal proceedings, attention to domestic and international diplomacy in the field of environment, attention to water transfer in the country from one region to another, attention to the dangers of trawling, attention to environmental water rights and also attention to land management were among the topics that were discussed in this specialized meeting.

On the occasion of National Tree Planting Day, March 5, Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Ali Khamenei warned against "the great blight" of the ongoing process of environmental degradation, urging both people and officials to resist natural resource destruction.

Iran, Syria ready to develop educational, research co-op

TEHRAN – Syrian Minister of Higher Education Bassam Ibrahim and Iranian Ambassador to Damascus Mahdi Sobhani discussed joint cooperation on education and scientific research.

In a meeting held in Damascus on Tuesday, Ibrahim emphasized the need for implementing the memorandums of understanding signed between the two countries, holding joint seminars, and conferences as well as exchanging experiences, scientific visits, and joint scientific projects between Iranian and Syrian universities.

Sobhani, for his part, expressed readiness to strengthen scientific cooperation between the two countries and start joint work and activities in precise scientific fields and form joint committees to pursue all issues that serve the

interests of the two countries.

Science diplomacy at the highest level

Data from the Scopus International Citation Database show that Iran's scientific diplomacy has reached more than 34 percent since the beginning of 2021, the highest level in the past 20 years.

Science diplomacy is the use of scientific collaborations among nations to address common problems and build constructive international partnerships. It is a form of new diplomacy and has become an umbrella term to describe a number of formal or informal technical, research-based, academic, or engineering exchanges, within the general field of international relations.

Comparing the rate of 2020 with 2019, Iran with a growth of 12.5 percent and with a slight difference from India has gained second place in the world in terms of the growth of world science diplomacy, Mohammad Javad Dehghani, head of the Islamic World Science Citation Center (ISC), said.

In 2011, the share of Iranian articles with in-

The two sides highlighted holding joint seminars and conferences as well as joint scientific projects.

Environmental literacy key to protecting nature

From page 1 ▶ The Department of Environment's new approach is to boost people's participation in environmental protection.

Nourollah Moradi, the deputy of education and public participation of the DOE, told IRNA that today, environmental literacy is recognized as one of the important tools and basic requirements of environmental management.

Environmental literacy has a fundamental but subtle difference from environmental education, while environmental education is process-based, environmental objectives are based on output, and environmental literacy is understanding the relationships between natural systems and human social systems, he explained.

In various definitions, four components of knowledge, skill, desire, and behavior have been listed for environmental literacy, he stated.

The processes that are the basis of environmental awareness are divided into different degrees, which include broad knowledge and understanding of environmental concepts, issues, and cases, a set of cognitive and sensory tendencies, and a set of cognitive skills and abilities.

In this way, environmental literacy includes practices, activities, and feelings that are rooted in familiarity with the environment and detailed knowledge of it, as for literate people, the ability to read and write affects their identity, citizens with environmental literacy also internalize the ability to interpret and act in favor of the environment.

On this basis, environmental literacy has entered production through the path of research and new environmental technologies, which leads to employment and sustainable use of resources by increasing productivity (production with less resource consumption and creating less waste), he stated.

Iran's environmental approach

"Improving environmental performance indicators by at least five steps per year" was approved by the Expediency Council a month ago.

Iran has been ranked 133 based on the Environmental Performance Index (EPI) index in 2022, he noted that to upgrade at least five steps from the annual ranking based on the latest ranking of 2022 means to climb five places annually from the 133rd rank in 2022, which is not scientifically



meaningful.

Based on this index, countries are ranked in 11 issues of air quality, water resources management, water and wastewater, heavy metals, climate change management, habitats and biodiversity, ecosystem services, fishing, agriculture, acid rain, and waste management.

Inger Andersen, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), has praised Iran's approach toward environmental protection.

Endangered environment

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.

Environmental measures and protection of natural resources, waste management, and other measures show Iran's environmental approach, she further noted.

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.



ternational participation was about 16.5 percent, which increased to 19.7 percent in 2016 and gradually in the following years, so that in 2020 and 2021, reached 30.5 and 34.2 percent, respectively, he added.

The share of Iranian articles with international participation has had significant growth of 209 percent during an eight-year period (2013-2020), becoming the Islamic world's leading country in science diplomacy, according to the Scopus International Citation Database.

ENGLISH IN USE

LEARN NEWS TRANSLATION

\$22m earmarked for equipping technical-vocational schools

A total budget of 900 billion rials (nearly \$22 million) has been requested to develop and equip technical-vocational high schools across the country in the current Iranian calendar year (ending March 20, 2019), Mohsen Hosseini, an official with the Ministry of Education has announced.

Describing some of the programs and priorities of the technical and vocational training organization affiliated to the Ministry, Hosseini pointed to improvement of technical and vocational training plans as the Ministry's main priority.

Competency-based education and assessment is among the most important programs of the technical and vocational organization, which must be well implemented in all career and technical education high school, he added, Mehr reported on Wednesday.

تخصیص ۹۰ میلیارد تومان اعتبار برای تجهیز هنرستان های کشور

مدیرکل فنی و حرفه‌ای دفتر متوسطه وزارت آموزش و پرورش از تخصیص ۹۰ میلیارد تومان اعتبار برای تجهیز هنرستان‌های کشور در سال جاری خبر داد.

به گزارش خبرگزاری مهر، سیدمحسن حسینی مقدم در دیدار با مدیران هنرستان‌های فنی و حرفه‌ای شهر شیراز و برخی از مناطق استان فارس با تشریح برخی از برنامه‌ها و اولویت‌های وزارت آموزش و پرورش در بخش فنی و حرفه‌ای، گفت: کیفیت‌بخشی برنامه‌های دفتر فنی و حرفه‌ای اولویت اصلی آموزش و پرورش است.

حسینی‌مقدم اظهار کرد: آموزش و ارزشیابی مبتنی بر شایستگی از مهمترین برنامه‌هایی است که در آموزش‌های فنی و حرفه‌ای دنبال می‌شود و باید این شیوه آموزش به خوبی مراقبت شده و در همه هنرستان‌ها اجرا شود.

COVID-19 UPDATES ON SEPTEMBER 13

New cases	618
New deaths	22
Total cases	7,540,316
Total deaths	144,221
New hospitalized patients	187
Patients in critical condition	466
Total recovered patients	7,317,290
Diagnostic tests conducted	53,946,758
Doses of vaccine injected	154,585,977



SEPTEMBER 14, 2022

GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

A wise man first thinks and then speaks and a fool speaks first and then thinks.

Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times » Noon:13:00 Evening: 19:33 Dawn: 5:22 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 6:47 (tomorrow)

Morteza Momayyez, pioneer of Iran's modern graphic art

Part 4

Under his tutelage the Society became an active non-governmental organization (NGO) in the arts and provided assistance to many designers, particularly those at the beginning of their artistic careers.

The 5,000 and 10,000 Rial banknotes, in use in Iran for several years after the 1979 Revolution, were designed by Momayyez.

Momayyez's fame traveled outside Iran's borders. From 1968 onwards, his works were repeatedly published in such distinguished magazines as Novum, a monthly journal of graphic design (Germany); Modern Publicity (London); Projekt (Poland); Graphic Design (Japan); Letterhead Annuals (USA); and Graphics: The International Journal of Visual Communication, which was first published in 1944 by Walter Herdeg (1908-1995) in Zurich, and later emerged as a reference tool for graphic designers from all over the world.

In 1977, at the suggestion of several prominent graphic designers and artists, including Milton Glaser (b. 1929), American graphic designer and founder of New York Magazine, and Roman Cieslewicz (1930-1996), Polish designer and graphic artist, Momayyez was made a member of the Alliance Graphique Internationale (AGI), a club of the world's leading graphic artists and designers.

He was in contact with many internationally acclaimed designers, such as the Polish poster designer Jan Lenica (1928-2001), Japanese sculptor and graphic artist Shigeo Fukuda (b. 1932), and German lithographer and graphic artist Holger Matthies (b. 1940), and exhibited their works in Iran.

Momayyez was amongst the one hundred poster designers whose works were displayed at an exhibit, entitled "A Tribute to Toulouse Lautrec," at Centre George Pompidou in Paris.

He took part in many international exhibits in Europe, United States of America and Asia, the last one of which was "Graphic Designers of Three Continents," held at the Tehran Museum of Contemporary Arts in 2004.

Honors conferred upon him by the international community include the Desinnaire Poète Award at the Internationale d'Affiche de Film (Cannes, 1975); the "Best Work" award at the International Logo & Trademarks of the 1980's Exhibit (1990); and the Icograda Achievement Award for life-long professional achievement (2003).

His work was included in a collection of works for the Brussels International Trademark Center in 1991.

To commemorate his 70th birthday, shortly after his death, Neshan, a graphic design quarterly first published in 2003 under Momayyez's supervision, printed posters by forty one designers from all over the world, including works by such artists as Seymour Chwast (b. 1931), American designer and founder of The Push Pin Graphic, Alan Gerard Fletcher (1931-2006), prolific British graphic designer, Massimo Vignelli (b. 1931), Italian public signage designer, as well as Shigeo Fukuda, and Milton Glaser, among others.

Momayyez died on November 25, 2005, having battled prostate cancer for ten years, and was buried in Dehkordan Cemetery, in a village near Karaj.

Many of his friends, students and admirers participated in his memorial ceremony. He was remembered as an artist who played a major role in the development of graphic design in Iran, and one whose "too early death is a severe blow to the international design community."

His obituary published in the Center for Iranian Studies' Newsletter, portrayed Momayyez as an artist who "played a leading role in the establishment and development of graphic arts, and in the training of top artists and designers in Iran."

His deathbed wish to be remembered has been honored by the establishment of a foundation dedicated to the preservation and propagation of his work, overseen by his second wife, Afsaneh, and a number of former colleagues.

Source: Encyclopedia Iranica
Concluded.

Iran: history of drama

Part 1

Drama, in formal Western terms a relatively new art form in Persia, though various types of dramatic performance, including religious plays and humorous satirical skits, have long been a part of Persian religious and folk tradition.

Tazieh is a form of Persian religious drama that developed in the 16th century and commemorates the suffering of Shia martyrs; it is usually presented in verse and is the only traditional form of Persian drama in which written texts are used.

Traditional comic entertainments are usually presented on special occasions like weddings; they include baqqal-bazi, ruhozi or takht-hozi (usually performed over a courtyard pool covered with boards to make a stage), siah-bazi (in which the central comedian appears in

blackface), khial-bazi (shadow play), kheimeh-shab-baazi (marionette show), and arusak-bazi or arusak-e posht-e parda (puppet show).

Most of these plays have stock characters and involve domestic quarrels, lovers' conflicts, and relations between rich and poor.

Traditionally they were not written down. Professional performers followed standard plots, improvising the dialogue from performance to performance. These performances were often used as vehicles for social criticism, particularly of high officials, the rich, and clerics.

Both traditional religious drama and comedies have continued to evolve to the present day, and modern Persian dramatists have drawn on them for their own works.

To be continued.

Tehran, Kashan to host Japan Culture Month

TEHRAN – Tehran and the central Iranian city of Kashan will be playing host to a month-long Japanese cultural festival entitled "Japan Culture Month".

The Embassy of Japan will organize the festival, which is scheduled to open in Tehran on September 19, with contributions from the Japan Foundation, University of Tehran and several other Iranian cultural centers, the embassy announced on Monday.

The festival will go on with a seminar on the history and culture of Kimono "Kumejima Tsumugi", which will be held the next day at the Aseman Art and Culture Center.

The embassy plans to invite three experts from Okinawa island to Iran to give lectures on the history and culture of the Kimono.

"Kumejima Tsumugi" provides historical evidence that Japan has been trading with China and Southeast Asia since the 14th century.

Kumejima-tsumugi is the Japanese craft of silk cloth practiced in Kumejima, Okinawa Prefecture. It is the oldest type of tsumugi in Japan, out of the approximately two hundred forms of tsumugi,



A poster for the Japan Culture Festival.

and is the oldest kasuri fabric. It is recognized as one of the important intangible cultural properties of Japan.

Silk production has been practiced in Kumejima since the 15th century, after a local, having studied sericulture in Ming Dynasty China, transmitted the techniques. Mulberry plants, the

primary foodstuff of silkworms, is said to grow particularly well on the island.

By the 17th century, kumejima-tsumugi formed part of the tribute paid to the Ryukyu Kings, and it was transported to Edo via the Satsuma Domain.

An exhibition of the kumejima-tsumugi kimono collection and

the photos of Okinawa's beautiful landscape will be organized on the sidelines of the seminar.

The Aseman center will host part one of a Japanese film festival, however, there was no film lineup listed in the embassy announcement.

The second and third parts of the film festival will be held at the Embassy of Japan on September 26, and the fourth part will be organized on October 3 at the Molavi Hall at the University of Tehran.

A manga exhibition is another part of the Japan Culture Month, the first part of which will be held at the Embassy of Japan on September 28 and 29.

Manga are comics or graphic novels originating from Japan. Most manga conform to a style developed in Japan in the late 19th century, and the form has a long prehistory in earlier Japanese art. The term manga is used in Japan to refer to both comics and cartooning. Outside of Japan, the word is typically used to refer to comics originally published in the country.

The Japan Culture festival will wrap up with a second part of the manga exhibition, which will be held on October 8 and 19 at Kashan University.

"The Dream of a Horse", "Seven Symphonies of Zagros" to compete in Belgrade ethnological filmfest

From Page 1 ▶ "Seven Symphonies of Zagros" narrates the philosophy of seven musical maqams of the ancient Kurdish wind instrument, shamshal, in the life of the people in the Zagros region. The film is also the monologue of an old man who spent 65 years of his life playing shamshal. The story of the film is character-oriented and the philosophy of the seven maqams in his life is implied. Seven is regarded as a sacred number in different religions, and the content of the film is related to this issue.

A jury comprised of anthropologist and filmmaker Peter I. Crawford, director Vlado Zrnec and history scholar Maja Novakovic will

choose the winners.

Organized annually by the Ethnographic Museum in Belgrade, the festival aims to contribute to raising public awareness of the importance of cultural heritage for the beneficial development of human communities.

Its mission is to foster research and creative approaches to ethnographic documentaries, educate the public on diverse local cultural traditions, as well as to raise a voice addressing the problems of modern society, which often neglects the values of cultural heritage.



"The Dream of a Horse" by Marjan Khosravi.

"Little King Kalle Wirsch" rules over Kanoon bookstores

TEHRAN – Iran's Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults – Kanoon has published German author Tilde Michels' "Little King Kalle Wirsch" ("Kleiner König Kalle Wirsch") in Persian.

Originally published in 1969, the book was translated by Mehdi Shahshahani into Persian.

Kalle Wirsch, king of the earth manikins, rules over the 5 peoples: Wirschs (blond), Wolds (blue-eyed), Gilchs (two little plaits), Trumps (green and black-haired) and Murks (red plaits).

Zoppo Trump, chief of the Trumps, wants to challenge Kalle Wirsch for a duel for the kingdom. According to earth manikin laws the royal dignity



Front cover of the Persian edition of Tilde Michels' book "Little King Kalle Wirsch".

appertains to the winner. The fight shall be fought at full moon at the earth manikin's stronghold Wiwogitrumu castle.

Zoppo Trump wants to gain royal dignity without a fight. So he tries to thwart Kalle Wirsch from reaching the fighting ground by setting several traps.

The plans for the traps are made by Rat, whom Zoppo promised a ministerial portfolio. The plans are conducted by awkward Trumps, Querro and the Spider.

The conspirators of Zoppo kidnap Kalle to the earth's surface where he is baked into a garden gnome.

Thanks to human children Jenny and Max, he is freed

from his incarceration. With the root Raxel, the kids are shrunk to follow Kalle into the inner recesses of the earth.

During the journey to the earth manikin's stronghold, Kalle and the children escape further traps and obstacles.

Kalle even has to vanquish Murrumesch the Dragon before he can reach the stronghold in the belly of a fireworm. To Zoppo's dismay, the fight happens. The fight consists of three challenges. Despite an injured hand, Kalle wins.

In 1970, the story was adapted into a German children's television series by the Augsburger Puppenkiste marionette theater company.

"The Babysitter" published in Persian



Copies of the Persian edition of "The Babysitter: My Summers with a Serial Killer".

TEHRAN – "The Babysitter: My Summers with a Serial Killer" by Liza Rodman and Jennifer Jordan

has been published in Persian.

Kerasesh is the publisher of the book translated by Hossein Masudi Ashtiani.

This chilling true story — reminiscent of Ann Rule's classic "The Stranger Beside Me" — follows a little girl longing for love who finds friendship with her charismatic babysitter, unaware that he is a vicious serial killer.

Growing up on Cape Cod in the 1960s, Liza Rodman was the lonely little girl. During the summers, while her mother worked days in a local motel and danced most nights in the Provincetown bars, her babysitter — the kind, handsome handyman at the motel where her mother worked — took her and her sister on adventures in his truck.

But there was one thing she didn't know; their babysitter was a serial killer.

Some of his victims were buried in pieces right there, in his garden in the woods. Though Tony Costa's gruesome case made screaming headlines in 1969 and beyond, Liza never made the connection between her friendly babysitter and the infamous killer of numerous women, including four in Massachusetts, until decades later.

Haunted by nightmares and horrified by what she learned, Liza became obsessed with the case. Now, she and co-writer Jennifer Jordan reveal the chilling and unforgettable true story of a charming but brutal psychopath through the eyes of a young girl who once called him her friend.