

Our Dear Guest

Your blood will not be trampled

Ismail Haniyeh
(1963-2024)

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Over 76m tons of goods loaded, unloaded at Iranian ports in 4 months

TEHRAN – Based on the latest data released by the Iranian Ports and Maritime Organization (PMO), some 76,330,052 tons of goods were loaded and unloaded at the country's ports in the first four months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20- July 21).

As reported, during the mentioned four months more than 8.949 million tons of oil products and over 17.484 million tons of non-oil goods were unloaded at the Iranian ports, while the loading of oil products in ports was reported to be 25.4 million tons, and the loading of non-oil goods was 24.494 million tons.

Totally, more than 26.434 million tons of oil- and non-oil goods were unloaded at the Iranian ports in the said four months, and over 49.896 million tons of oil- and non-oil products were loaded.

During the said period, loading and unloading operations in the container sector reached 924,886 TEUs, which was four percent more than the 886,378 TEUs in the first four months of the past year.

While Iran is combating the U.S. unilateral sanctions on its economy, the country's ports as the major gates of exports and imports play a significant role in



this battle. This role makes all-out support to ports and more development of them serious and vital.

Such necessity has led the government to define projects for more development of the ports and also take some measures to encourage investment making in ports, in addition to facilitating the loading and unloading of goods, especially basic commodities, there.

It is worth mentioning that Iran's Ports and Maritime Organization has defined a high number of projects to develop and improve the country's ports, as the country aims to double the capacity of its ports in five years.

Ports and Maritime Organization has put it on the agenda to attract 300 trillion rials (about \$600 million) of investment from the private sector in the country's ports by the end of the current Iranian calendar year (late March 2025).

As reported by the PMO portal, the mentioned investment is going to be used to develop the infrastructure and operational capacity of the country's ports.

Earlier this month, PMO Head Ali-Akbar Safaei said over the past few years the organization has managed to attract nearly \$1.7 billion of foreign and domestic investment in the country's ports and maritime sector.

Speaking in a press conference

on July 10, Safaei said some 620 trillion rials (about \$1.24 billion) of domestic investment and \$470 million of foreign investment have been attracted in the mentioned sectors.

"The attraction of this amount of private sector investment is significant compared to the total budget of the government in the sea and port sectors," he said.

According to the official, regarding the foreign investment, PMO has signed contracts with five countries including India which has so far invested \$120 million in the port sector and \$250 million in the rail, roads and infrastructure sector.

Referring to the growth of maritime trade in the country, Safaei continued: "Maritime trade increased from 215 million tons in [the Iranian calendar year] 1401 (2022-2023) to 237 million tons last year (ended on March 19, 2024)."

"In the first quarter of the current year, 60 million tons of maritime trade was recorded, which shows a 10 percent growth compared to the same period last year, and even a 70 percent growth was recorded in some ports of the Caspian Sea," he added.

Over 600 units active in medicinal plants processing, packaging

TEHRAN- The director of Iran's Agriculture Ministry's medicinal plants national plan announced the activity of three refineries and more than 600 processing and packaging units of medicinal plants in the country to prevent sales of raw materials.

Hossein Zeynali has announced that Iran exported over 100,000 tons of medicinal plants in the past Iranian calendar year (ended on March 19).

He said the Office of Medicinal Plants has registered more than 60 tariff codes in the last three years in order to monitor the amount of export and even import of medicinal plants by intercepting these tariff codes on the customs website.

According to Tarahom Behzad, the director-general of the pasture affairs office of Natural Resources and Watershed Management Organization, 14 natural climates are known in Iran, and it is the breeding ground of all kinds of medicinal plants.

So far, about 8,600 plant species have been identified in Iran, of which 2,300 species are medicinal and are directly used in the field of medicine, health and food supplements, the official added.

He said benefitting from a special climate and the area of about six million hectares of medicinal plant habitats is a very suitable opportunity for Iran for proper exploitation, more serious entry into the field of processing, creating employment, more specialized exports in the field of processed products, and earning foreign currency.

Although, problems such as not allocating an independent line of credit for the protection and modification of medicinal plants and boosting production of these plant, and the lack of

necessary and expert personnel have caused the valuable and hidden capacities of this field to remain stagnant, the official lamented.

According to the published statistics, 400,000 people are working in the production of medicinal plants in Iran.

Also, 32,000 people are working in packaging of these plants.

As stated by an official with the Ministry of Health, Iran holds some 40 percent share of the market for medicinal plants in the neighboring countries.

"A large volume of pharmaceuticals, supplements, food products, and beverages are exported to Iraq, Turkey, Georgia, Armenia, and Afghanistan," IRNA quoted Hamidreza Banafsheh as saying in late October, 2023.

Iran is among the leading countries in the field of medicine and health technology, supplying 98 percent of pharmaceutical items to the domestic market, the official noted.

"Nearly 450 out of 1,400 knowledge-based companies are active in the field of herbal medicines, biotechnology, and food industries."

He went on to say that the National Institute for Medical Research Development aims at expanding exports of medicinal products.

Since most of the raw materials for the production of herbal medicines are native to the country, these products can internationally compete with those of the other countries, he added.

Besides, some 15 to 20 percent of Iran's herbal medicines are unique in the world. Iran has the capacity to introduce new herbal medicines to the world, he highlighted.

Producing and commercializing pharmaceutical plants are the best ways to introduce the rich



resources of herbal medicines which, in addition to making foreign currency revenues for the country, will lead to the scientific authority of Iran in this field, he concluded.

According to the chairman of the Union of Medicinal Plants Exporters of Iran, the country's export of medicinal plants can be increased through compliance more with the world standards.

Mohammad-Ali Rezaei Kamal-Abad stated that world standards are increasing due to the health-oriented consumption of herbal products, and failure to comply with these standards will lead to the return or destruction of these products.

"In the past years, poisons have entered the country, which are not only not used in other countries, but have also caused water and soil pollution in our country," he lamented.

Referring to the importance of agricultural product export standardization, he added: "Standardization is done in our country, but this standardization is not up-to-date. With the coordination of ministries, expenditure and updating of information can help to standardize agricultural products and develop the export of these products," he commented.

He said that having more than 11 climates out of 13 climates, Iran has 8,000 varieties of medicinal plants, which is at least twice as much as Europe.

TEDPIX falls 5,200 points on Wednesday

TEHRAN- TEDPIX, the main index of the Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE), fell 5,210 points to 2,068,322 on Wednesday, which is the fifth day of the Iranian calendar week.

TSE is one of the four Iranian stock exchanges, and the most important one. 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).

The head of Iran's Securities and Exchange Organization (SEO) has said that the capital of the companies active in the stock market increased

by 5.0 quadrillion rials (about \$10 billion) in the previous Iranian calendar year (ended on March 19). According to Majid Eshqi, the capital of listed companies increased from 15 quadrillion rials (about \$30 billion) two years ago to 20 quadrillion rials (about \$40 billion) in the previous year, IRNA reported.

15 airport projects to go operational in Iran by late March 2025

TEHRAN - The head of Iran Airports Company (IAC) has said 15 airport development projects are going to go operational in the country by the end of the current Iranian calendar year (late March 2025), Tasnim News Agency reported.

According to Reza Nakhjavani, 21 airport projects with a total investment of 60 trillion rials (about \$120 million) are currently underway across the country of which 15 will be completed in the current year.

The mentioned projects include improvement of the runway, terminal and flight lines, wall covering, renovation of heating and cooling facilities, construction of warehouses and

sheds, construction of domestic and foreign flight terminals, landscaping, renovation of radar sites and flight control towers, construction of police unit premises, as well as protection and cultural complexes and ground safety equipment, the official said.

He stated that now 56 airports of the country are under the supervision of Iran Airports Company, adding: "After going through legal procedures, three important projects namely completing the new terminal of Shiraz Airport, draining and striping the runway of Sari Airport and completing the flight control building of Mehrabad Airport have reached the stage of concluding contracts with private sector contractors."

ICCIMA calls for FTA with Brazil to boost trade



ICCIMA Head Samad Hassanzadeh (R) meets Vice-President of Brazil Geraldo Alckmin in Tehran on Wednesday.

TEHRAN – The head of Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA) has called for signing free and preferential trade agreements with Brazil to improve the trade relations between the two countries.

Samad Hassanzadeh made the remarks in a meeting with Vice-President of Brazil Geraldo Alckmin in Tehran on Wednesday, the ICCIMA portal reported.

The ICCIMA head pointed to the lack of free and preferential trade agreements between Iran and Brazil as an obstacle to the development of economic relations between the two countries, saying that the governments of Iran and Brazil should consider measures to solve the monetary and banking problems between the two countries.

"Another obstacle to the development of economic relations between the two countries is the problems of money transfer and banking

relations, which the governments of Iran and Brazil must eliminate this problem as soon as possible with their own measures," he noted.

Referring to the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the two countries for easing the export and import of agricultural products between the two sides, he continued: "Despite the signing of this memorandum, unfortunately it has not been implemented in the last 10 years and the businessmen of both sides have not been able to benefit from it."

Hassanzadeh further considered the membership of Iran and Brazil in BRICS as a very suitable capacity for the development of economic cooperation between the two countries and said: "Unfortunately, the two countries have not been able to make much use of this opportunity."

Exchanging business delegations between Iran and Brazil can increase the level of economic relations through raising awareness about the potentials and fields of cooperation, he said.

The official invited the head of the Brazilian Chamber of Commerce to visit Iran with a business delegation and said: "Considering Iran's capabilities in the fields of medical and pharmaceutical, renewable energies, oil, gas and petrochemicals, automobile industries, food and agricultural industries, and technical and engineering services, there are suitable fields for joint cooperation."

In this meeting, Alckmin stated that he has a mission from the President of Brazil to take the necessary measures to strengthen the relations between the two countries as much as possible.

CBI provides \$5.1b in subsidized foreign currency for imports of basic goods

TEHRAN - The Central Bank of Iran (CBI) has provided \$5.1 billion in foreign currency for importing basic goods and commodities since the beginning of the current Iranian calendar year (March 19, 2024) up to July 28, IRNA reported.

Based on the CBI data, the government had allocated €13.6 billion for the imports of basic goods in the current Iranian year and considering the targeted figure for the current year, the provided amount is in accordance with the government plans.

As reported, the average monthly foreign currency quota for the imports of basic goods in the current year is about \$1.25 billion, therefore, the allocation and supply of foreign currency in the mentioned period has been done in accordance with the determined foreign currency exchange quota.

Back in March, Iran's Expediency Discernment Council authorized the government and the state management apparatuses, including the CBI, to spend 13.6 billion euros at a preferential exchange rate for the import of basic items such as agricultural products, medicine, and its raw materials as well as medical equipment.

Council members took the decision on the import fund allocation while meeting under the chairmanship of Ayatollah Amoli Larijani to discuss and review the budget for the current financial year.

They stressed that the government would offer preferential rates for clearing or exchanging foreign resources resulting from the export of oil, gas, and gas condensates for the import of "only basic agricultural goods and medicine", the list of which was approved by the Council of Ministers at the end of April.

The imports are overseen by a working group consisting of the first vice president, the head of the central bank, the head of the country's planning and budget organization, the minister of economic affairs and finance, the minister of agriculture as well as the minister of industry, mining, and trade.

The Minister of Health along with other relevant bodies are also required to implement and monitor the allocation, distribution, and use of currency for medicine and equipment.

In addition, the central bank is obliged to prepare monthly reports on the implementation of Clause 4(A) of the Budget Law.

Invitation to creditors (private joint stock)

The Iranian and French Automobile Company in liquidation (private joint stock) registration No: 95179 and national ID. No: 10101392440 (3 times)

For the implementation of Article 225 of the amendment to the Commercial Law, all the creditors of Iran and France Automobile Company (SIFA) in liquidation process with registration No: 95179 and national ID. No: 10101392440, whose liquidation notice was placed in the official Gazette of the country of Iran No: 22930 dated 1/Oct/2023, are invited to submit their supporting documents regarding their claims within a maximum period of 6 months from the date of publication of the first advertisement, to the liquidator, Mr. Mohammad Javad Piran with phone No: 09122651348 and at Domicile: legal deputy of Iran Khodro, Sarir Building, Tehran – Karaj high way kilometer 14, and postal code : 1495613311. It is obvious that the company and the liquidator are not responsible for any probable claims that is reflected to the company outside of the above period.

Mohammad Javad Piran

Liquidation manager of Iran and France Automobile Company (private joint stock) in liquidation

