

Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council (SNSC) Ali Shamkhani in a Message Said The Successful Return of Iranian Oil Tankers Indicates the Effectiveness Of Active Resistance Strategy

IRAN NEWS

Iran Central Bank of Iran Says It Had Ordered the Banks Across The Country to Process Requests By Individuals Who Want to Declare Carrying Forex Above 10,000 Euros Or Their Equivalents

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Rabiei: Economic Record Is Good

IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK

TEHRAN – Government spokesman says considering impacts of sanctions on our economy, Iran's record is good and we will pass the critical stage at the future.

Ali Rabiei on Monday at his weekly press conference told reporters, "Given the economic situation caused by the sanctions, which many predicted that Iranian economy would collapse to the sanction and the following aftermath of Corona, fortunately, Iran's record is good."

He went on to point out to the limitations of Corona, saying that the implementation of restrictive policies on society at the time of Corona outbreak which has made it difficult for all economies, said: With the cooperation and training of the people, observing social distancing, efforts to keep jobs and caring people's lives simultaneously, we will pass this critical stage.

He said, "Considering that the corona and the resulting crisis will continue, we have considered five tasks for ourselves to reach this stage."

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No Escape From Justice for Fugitive Corruption Suspects



IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK

TEHRAN - Judiciary Chief has ordered the serious pursuit of financial corruption suspects who have fled the country, warning that they will not be spared prosecution no matter where they have run to.

Ebrahim Raisi served Attorney General Mohammad Ja'far Montazeri and the Judiciary's Deputy for International Affairs Ali Baqeri with the directive on Monday, ordering diligent efforts to have those on the run brought to justice, Tasnim News Agency reported.

The directive advised "those who are subject to accusations to surrender themselves to justice, and know this that they will not be able to escape the grasp of justice."

The order came as some of those suspected by Iranian authorities of involvement in corruption cases have reportedly fled to Western countries such as Canada. Pictures have emerged apparently showing the suspects going about their daily affairs in those countries, outraging authorities and the public alike.

Raisi asked how come some of the countries that lay claim to fighting organized corruption and money laundering have come to provide refuge to criminals and corruption suspects.

He called the trend one of the examples of "injustice and oppression against humanity."

He also urged the West to put an end to injustice, reiterating that suppression of people is futile. Raisi also blasted the international communities for their silence against suppressing the protests in the U.S. and some European states, noting that it is strange that those who claim they are flag-bearers of human rights and cry foul for transfer of a prisoner from one prison to another prison have remained silent on the murder of George Floyd and arrests of thousands in the U.S.

He reiterated that cry for justice is heralded in any part of the world and it is paving the ground for a universal movement against tyranny and injustice and it can be a beginning for the collapse of the arrogance.

Raisi added the Supreme Leader is the flag-bearer of justice-seeking and he follows the late Imam Khomeini's path.

He also pointed to the Judiciary's measures to stop corruption and offences in its body, adding that the number of offences in the Judiciary has dropped to less than one percent as the Judiciary is serious in fighting any corruption and offence in its body to gain people's trust.

Opportunists Seeking To Sabotage Tehran-Kabul Relations

KABUL (IRNA) - Opportunists in both Iran and Afghanistan have rolled up their sleeves to damage Tehran-Kabul under different pretexts.

Recently, three illegal Afghan refugees were killed and four others wounded during a car accident in the central Iranian province of Yazd, the accident which went viral after being poisoned by some opportunists who are against cordial ties between Iran and Afghanistan.

Police will naturally shoot at a car when its driver ignores warnings, Jafar Atai, an Afghan media activist said.

Afghan social media are muddying the waters, Atai added.

Referring to remarks made by Afghanistan's Ambassador to Iran Abdulghafour Lival talking about the incident, the author said the car accident occurred due to the reckless performance of traffickers who were traveling in the car.

He went on to point out that these remarks have been quoted as saying by one of the refugees in the car.

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Iran Academics Voice Solidarity With U.S. Protesters

TEHRAN (PressTV) - Iranian academics have paid tribute to George Floyd, the most recent victim of racism in the United States, voicing solidarity with the thousands of American protesters who have taken to the streets in the aftermath of Floyd's gruesome murder.

The Iranian professors and personalities remembered the victim during ceremonies held across various representative offices of the country's academic society.

Seven candles were lit during the ceremonies to mark the seven minutes that it took for Floyd to die at the hands of the police in Minneapolis on May 25. The unarmed victim died of asphyxia after a white police officer pinned him to the ground and pressed his knee to his neck during all those minutes. The memorial events featured reading out of a letter addressed to the American people in recognition of their suffering as a result of successive US administrations' actions.

The signatories clearly noted how the atrocity carried out against Floyd saw "the suppressive capitalist machine throwing away its mask of democracy" and denying the victim his basic right to life.

"We heard, with a painful and suffering heart, the justice-seeking voices of the oppressed people in various U.S. states in the face of the totalitarian capitalist American establishment," the letter read.

"We stand with the oppressed Americans in the cause of rescuing the humanity that has been taken captive by the evil American rulers," the signatories said. The letter hailed that the resulting protests that have engulfed the US was giving rise to a "great social movement."

The movement, it added, pursues one's most basic right, namely the right to existence that is being denied by the American police from the likes of Floyd and the 99 percent movement that has been demanding equality for all Americans.

The Americans should accept the harsh reality that they have to fight for their right to "breathing," and "struggle to change their destiny," it said.

The signatories also reminded that the suffering that was imposed on Floyd has likewise been visited on people in all the places that have undergone US intervention, such as Palestine, Iraq, and Afghanistan.

As another case in point, the letter named the Iranian people as "one of the biggest" victims of aggression by the United States that has been denying Iranians their basic needs through illegal sanctions. "Today, there is not a single spot across the world, where a human being has not been denied his/her right to live under the pressure of the US administration's knees," it noted.

Venezuela Hails Iran, Russia, China, Cuba As True Friends

CARACAS (Dispatches) - Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro has hailed Iran, Russia, China, and Cuba as real friends of Caracas and expressed gratitude for their humanitarian aid.

"Humanitarian aid is coming from China, Russia, Iran and Cuba. They are true friends," Maduro said in a televised speech on Sunday.

He also rebuked the U.S., saying Washington had promised \$20 million in aid, "but not a single dollar came through".

The United States has over the past few years imposed harsh economic sanctions on the oil-rich South American country to pressure the country's President Maduro to step down, forcing millions of Venezuelans to abandon their homeland due to a lack of basic food and necessities.

The sanctions, which include the illegal confiscation of Venezuelan assets abroad and an economic blockade, have caused enormous suffering for millions of people in the country.

Last month, Iranian tankers delivered much-needed gasoline to the Latin American country facing a fuel crisis.

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Iranian Doctor Back Home After Release From U.S. Jail

IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK

TEHRAN - An Iranian doctor who had been imprisoned in the U.S. for 16 months has arrived back home after being released.

Taheri arrived in Tehran early Monday, and was welcomed by Deputy Foreign Minister Hossein Jaber Ansari at the airport.

The Iranian doctor, who had spent nearly 16 months in U.S. jails for allegedly violating the U.S. sanctions on Iran, told reporters at the airport that charges against him were false and unfair.

He said he was jailed for helping Iranian researchers at the University of Tehran develop an anti-cancer vaccine.

Taheri thanked Iranian officials and the government, especially Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif for securing his release.

Iran has stressed no direct talks had taken place between the Islamic Republic and the United States over the release, saying the process was facilitated by the Swiss Embassy.

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Iranian Assets in U.S., UK, Not out of Reach

TEHRAN (MNA) – Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister for Legal & Intl. Affairs Mohsen Baharvand said that Iran's assets in the United States, UK and Canada are not 'out of reach' but the country has a problem in money transfers due to banking sanctions.

Regarding the retaking of Iranian property and assets kept in the countries including the United States, Canada, and the UK in legal terms, he said, "the property and assets are in the possession of the Islamic Republic of Iran and it is not the case that someone has seized these assets and/or has taken these assets out of Iran's control."

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State Printing Office of Iran (SPOI)

Tender of purchasing 90 Kg Silk printing ink for PC sheets

Tender NO :2099001065000020

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م.الف: ۷۰۰

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Leader Thanks Crew of Oil Tankers Carrying Fuel to Venezuela

TEHRAN (MNA) – Leader of Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei appreciated the efforts of the oil tankers' crew that delivered Iranian fuel to Venezuela.

In a message on Monday, Ayatollah Khamenei hailed the 'jihadi' act of oil tankers' crew and captains for delivering fuel to Venezuela.

He described the delivery of fuel to the sanction-hit country as a 'great job'. The Leader also noted the act has led to enhancing the country's pride. He further wished the crew more success.

Iran Export on Growth Track After Pandemic

TEHRAN (MNA) – Caretaker of Iranian Ministry of Industry, Mine and Trade Hossein Modarres Khiabani on Monday said that Iran's export is on the growth track after the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic.

Trade and business activity has been halted around the world after the spread of the coronavirus global pandemic, he emphasized.

Turning to Iran's export activities, the minister added that Iran's export is returning to its growth path after the pandemic, Khiabani stressed.

Promoting export and controlling imports is one of the strategies of the ministry, he said, adding, "in the current situation and given the situation of oil revenues and oil price in the international markets, relying on meeting country's foreign exchange demands to the export revenues has increased, so that the issue of export of non-oil commodities is no longer considered as a ceremonial choice, rather promoting export of non-oil commodities is a must."

Considering the above issues, the country needs to move towards developing and growing non-oil commodities, he underscored.

In the current year named after 'surge in production', the Ministry of Industry, Mine



and Trade will take giant strides towards promoting export of non-oil commodities in the international markets, he reiterated.

Elsewhere in his remarks, he pointed to the spread of the COVID-19 and its effect on the export of non-oil commodities and added, "given the closure of borders and health protocols defined for Iranian exporters for exporting their goods to target markets, export of the country has faced considerable decline."

According to the official statistics, global trade and business volume has experienced up to 32 percent decline due to the outbreak of coronavirus, Modarres Khiabani added.

Shiraz to Host 14th International Oil, Gas, Petrochemical Exhibition

IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

TEHRAN - The 14th International Oil, Gas and Petrochemical Exhibition will open in the southern Iranian city of Shirza, June 22, a local official said.

Managing Director of Fars International Exhibitions Company Mahmoud Mousavi said in a news briefing on Sunday that the four-day event aimed at boosting production, supporting industries, attracting domestic and foreign investments and using and transferring modern technologies is one of the main and biggest industrial, commercial and economic events in south of the country.

He further noted that all the halls will be sanitized prior to the commencement of the event and all health protocols will be respected during the exhibition.

Commenting on the reason why the event is held in Shiraz, he said that in view of its special geographical location and access to the southern ports of the country, Fars province has long been considered the first center for the import and distribution of imported goods as well as the last place for export preparations and one of the important oil and gas logistics centers in the south.

Meanwhile, organizer of the exhibition, Javad Moradpour said that the event will present latest achievements and capabilities of the Iranian and foreign companies in the fields of oil, gas and petrochemicals.

Since Iran is the second largest oil producer in the world and Fars province plays a significant role in the field of oil and gas products, this exhibition is a great opportunity for real and legal persons involved in this industry to display their achievements, he said.

Palestinian Resistance Lost a Candid, Precious Element



TEHRAN (IFP) - Leader of Iran's Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei has offered condolences on the death of former leader of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad Movement Ramadan Abdullah Shalah, saying the Palestinian resistance has lost a sincere and valuable figure.

In a message on Monday, Ayatollah Khamenei sent his condolences to the Palestinian nation, to all sympathizers of the issue of Palestine, to the "devoted organization of Palestinian Islamic Jihad Movement", and to the family of Ramadan Abdullah on the loss of the "hard-working and resisting brother".

"The Palestinian resistance current has lost a very candid and precious element," the Leader noted.

Ayatollah Khamenei also expressed hope that the strenuous efforts made by the competent successors following the path of figures like Fathi Shaqaqi and Ramadan Abdullah with the assistance of God would compensate for the loss.

The former head of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad movement died at age 62 in a hospital where he was receiving medical treatment.

Shalah was born in Gaza in 1958 and became the head of the movement in 1995 after the assassination of Fathi Shaqaqi.

Ziad al-Nakhala was chosen to lead the Palestinian Islamic Jihad Movement in 2018 because of Shalah's illness.

Zarif, Iraqi New FM Discuss Mutual Ties on Phone

TEHRAN (ILNA) - Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif over a telephone conversation with Iraqi Foreign Minister stressed the need to implement the agreements reached during the visit of the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Iraq.

Zarif congratulated Fuad Hussein on his assumption of the post of Foreign Minister of the Republic of Iraq and expressed his satisfaction with the formation of the cabinet of the new Iraqi government.

In this phone conversation, Iran's Foreign Minister stressed the need to implement the agreements reached during the visit of the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Iraq.

During a historic and important trip after 5 years, on March 11, 2019, the President of Iran visited Iraq, the holy shrines, and met with high-ranking Iraqi officials.

At that time, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said his visit to Iraq was a turning point in bilateral relations between Tehran and Baghdad.

European, U.S. Companies Heading to Shiraz for Intl' Agri Expo

SHIRAZ (IRNA) - The 16th International Exhibition of Agricultural Machinery, Agricultural Inputs, and Irrigation Equipment which will start here in the south of the country today has attracted the participation of 79 companies including those from European and US countries.

The head of the public relations department of the Fars Province Agricultural Organization Jihad Alireza Vahedipoor said on Monday that the exhibition will be held at the permanent location of Fars International Exhibitions in four indoor halls of Sarv, Bahar, Narges and Mulla Sadra with an area of about 5,000 square meters.

Announcing the participation of representatives of foreign producers from Spain, Turkey, USA, China, Poland, India and Oman he added that Iranian companies are coming to the event from other provinces like Tehran, Fars, Isfahan, Qazvin, Yazd, Khorasan Razavi, Markazi, Bushehr, Qom, Ardebil, Golestan, Semnan and Kordestan.

He stated that 32 pavilions in the field of irrigation, 21 pavilions in the field of machinery and 26 pavilions in the field of agricultural inputs will be in this exhibition.

Defense Ministry to Boost Iranian Police Capabilities

TEHRAN (Tasnim) – Under a cooperation agreement signed on Monday, Iran's Defense Ministry will improve the operational capabilities of the Police forces.

Defense Minister Brigadier General Amir Hatami and Police Commander Brigadier General Hossein Ashtari signed the cooperation agreement to extend the capabilities of the law enforcement forces in carrying out various operations.

Hailing the Police for ensuring security and order in the country, General Hatami said his ministry will spare no effort to support the Police by employing all industrial, scientific and technological capacities.

Iran owes its current exemplary security to the sincere efforts made by the Police personnel, the defense minister added.

For his part, General Ashtari thanked the Defense Ministry for its backing for the Police, saying the top priority at present is to promote advanced technologies for smart Police operations and enhance the capabilities in the fight against drug trafficking and smuggling of commodities and currency.

Iran Ready for Any Cooperation With Iraq's New Gov't

BAGHDAD (IRNA) - Iran's Ambassador to Baghdad Iraj Masjedi voiced his country's readiness for promoting collaboration with the Iraq's new government in all fields.

He made the remarks in a meeting with Iraqi Labor and Social Affairs Minister Adil Hashush on Sunday when he congratulated him on his appointment to the post and wished him success. Masjedi also voiced Tehran's readiness for enhancing bilateral relations during the tenure of the new Iraqi government.

Over the past month since the formation of the Al-Kadhimi government, Masjedi has met with the new prime minister, interior, defense, transportation, labor and social affairs, finance and higher education ministers to help strengthen political, economic, cultural and social ties between Iran and Iraq. The Iraqi minister, for his part, stressed the need for broadening mutual cooperation and Baghdad's sharing experiences of Tehran.

Iran, Brazil Urged to Compensate Economic Damages in Post-Coronavirus Era

TEHRAN (IRNA) - Iran's Ambassador to Brasilia stressed Monday the need to develop relations between Iran and Brazil to repair economic damages caused by the coronavirus pandemic which has killed over 400,000 across the world.

Hossein Qaribi made the remarks at a conference held online to mark the 60th anniversary of opening of Iran's Embassy in Brasilia.

In the ceremony, which was held by Iran's initiative, a number of Iranian and Brazilian officials took part online.

Iran has been the first country which moved its embassy from Rio de Janeiro to Brasilia in June, 1960.

Qaribi described Iran's move as an important event that should be kept alive and taken as an opportunity to strengthen solidarity between the two countries and develop mutual cooperation.

He further highlighted 117 years of diplomatic relations between Iran and Brazil,



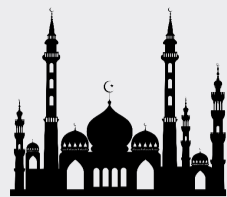
calling for fostering friendly ties which have always been based on mutual respect.

For his part, Brazilian Ambassador to Iran Rodrigo de Azeredo Santos who was also present in the ceremony appreciated Tehran's initiative, saying that the two countries enjoy cordial ties which are based on mutual respect and seek to serve national interests.

There are considerable capacities that can be used to expand bilateral relations, the ambassador noted.

He further hoped that the two would resume exchange of economic delegations after improving the critical conditions created due to coronavirus pandemic worldwide.

The deadly coronavirus which has radiated from Wuhan, China, in December 2019, affected over 7,100,000 people across the world, and killed more than 406,000. The number of the dead in Iran and Brazil is over 8,200 and 37,000, respectively.



PRAYER TIME

■ Noon (Zohr)	13:03
■ Evening (Maghreb)	20:40
■ Tomorrow's Dawn (Fajr)	04:01
■ Tomorrow's Sunrise	05:48

60. When it is said to them, "Adore ye ((Allah)) Most Gracious!", they say, "And what is ((Allah)) Most Gracious? Shall we adore that which thou commandest us?"

Surah 25. The Criterion, The Standard (60)

Iran's Non-Oil Exports Tenfolded in Past 17 Years

IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

TEHRAN – The CEO of Export Guarantee Fund of Iran (EGFI) Afroz Bahrami says Iran's non-oil exports in the past 17 years have been ten-folded and hit \$42b.

Speaking to Fars news agency, Ms. Bahrami said that Iran's non-oil exports have increased in recent years as the exports have been ten-folded in the past 17 years by reaching \$42b.

On the current condition of exports in the world, she said the trade war between the U.S. and China had a destructive effect on the international trade last year, adding that the outbreak of the Coronavirus has deepened the worst recession of recent years in the global economy.

She noted according to the WTO prediction, the world trade will shrink by 32 percent in 2020 and some statistics show that the condition in some countries like India and Turkey regarding their exports is worse than predictions.

On Iran's exports, she said due to the closure of borders, the country has unintentionally witnessed decline in its non-oil exports in the first two months of current year, adding that the 71 percent increase in weight and 60 percent increase in value of exports in the second month are some signs of revival in exports which have been seen and by reopening of the borders, the condition would improve.

Bahrami noted that in the past 17 years, the country's non-oil exports have grown 16 percent on average per annum and the figure has jumped from \$4b in 2003 to \$42b till the end of last year.

She admitted that Iran has lost some part of its target market in some countries and studies show that few countries have higher shares of Iran's exports. She deplored that the number of some countries which accounted for 80 percent of Iran's exports



has declined from 23 countries in 2001 to 9 countries in 2017.

Bahrami noted that in 2018, out of 147 countries, only China, the UAE and Iraq accounted for Iran's 54 percent of its export revenues. She noted that of course the fund and industry ministry are working on diversification of exports and creating value-added in exports.

On Surge in Production slogan of the year, she said surge in national production will be only possible through exports, and all monetary, financial, forex and trade policies of the country should be at the service of developing exports and surge in production.

She also pointed to the mission of the fund in line with materializing the slogan of the year, adding that in current condition, trade and political risks can create headaches for exporters and in case one of those risks happens, the country's exports may come to a halt.

She noted that one of the problems and risks, threatening the exporters, is to return money resulted from exports and the fund actually covers that risk.

KSC's Priority Is to Launch Sangan Plant

IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

TEHRAN – The CEO of Khorasan Steel Company says the company's priority is to launch its concentrate production plant with production capacity of 2.5m tons in Sangan in Khaf county.

Mr. Kasra Ghafoori on Sunday visited the construction process of limestone production plant in Attar Neishabour Industrial Park and during his visit said that every day of delay in the launch of the project inflicts billions of tomans of damage on Khorasan Steel Company and some 20,000b rials is needed for Sangan Khaf Complex project in the framework of completing the production chain in the company.

He added that the projects had been delayed for years due to different reasons but after the shareholders' agreement, the project began and it goes with full speed ahead.

Ghafoori added that lime is one of the essential needs of Khorasan Steel Company and for this reason, construction of lime plant with support of Fooladjar Cooperatives Company for sustainable provision is the essential need and a lime mine has been bought worth of 32b rials and it is in its last stage of ownership transfer.

He added that speed of inflation is more than the progress of the projects and for this reason, the company should complete the projects as soon as possible by providing timely necessary liquidity.

Ghafoori added that infrastructures and weaknesses of Khorasan steel should be paid more attention comparing to other steel complexes in the country, noting that currently 90 percent of needed parts and equipment of the company is provided by domestic producers.

He reiterated that in projects that Khorasan Steel Company is involved, there should be no concern for shortage of liquidity and soon problems will be solved.



Mehran Border Crossing With Iraq Reopened

TEHRAN (RNA)- Iran's Customs Administration spokesman Rouollah Latifi said on Monday that Mehran crossing on the border with Iraq was reopened and operates on Monday and Wednesday.

Latifi said that Mehran border crossing was reopened on Monday after continued talks with Iraqi officials and now trading is in processing by transshipment through this crossing.

He said that the crossing would be open on Monday and Wednesday this week and the cargo of 500 trucks, some previously unloaded, would be moved. The official also noted that the crossing would be open on Sundays and Wednesdays from next week allowing 500 trucks to move weekly. Health protocols are strictly applied on Mehran crossing, having all workers use protective equipment and the area and cargo continually disinfected, according to Latifi.

The CEO of Doodeh Sanati Pars Co. stated:

Efforts to Promote the Presence of Doodeh Sanati Pars Company in Global Markets



Industries Investment Company (PIIC), it was presented to TOPICO and SHASTA for approval. After the final approval of the design processes, the supply of equipment and installation will begin and with proper financing, it will be launched after two years. Studies show that the project is economical, and the return on investment will be achieved in less than three years. One of the advantages of this design is that in the main time of its implementation, both production lines of soot and softwood continue to work and production does not stop. We will have to stop the lines for about two months just for the final part and do some communication and final connections. According to Majid Mohammadi, initial steps have been taken to make these changes and updates, and it is hoped that the implementation of these updates will begin in the second half of this year. He also talks about the increase in production after the implementation of this plan: after the implementation of this plan, the company's production grade will double and will increase from 10,000 tons to 20,000 tons, which will increase the company's profit in the market due to increasing customers and rising prices. "One point in the soot market is the increase in demand for soot," he said. By implementing this plan and with a little change in the existing soft line, it is possible to create the ability to produce soot by using the existing hard drive reactors in the soft line, and then when there is more demand for soot in the market, it is possible to produce soot in the existing soft line. In this plan, in order to prevent the cessation of production, only the modern reactors have been renovated. At present, it is not possible to produce 200th soot series in Pars Industrial soot plant.



In addition to increasing the plant's nominal capacity to 35,000 tons per year, such a plan would reduce the cost of the product and produce 200th soot series as a new product. In general, not only will the bargaining power and competitiveness of Pars Industrial soot increase in the domestic market, but sales in the global market will resume, which will increase the company's profitability. Regarding the company's share in the domestic market, the CEO of Pars Industrial Soot emphasizes: Last



year, with the planning and interactions with rubber companies, the price, quality and delivery time of many lost markets were recouped by making the three components competitive. At the same time, we intend to compete in global markets by improving technology and preparing a new line. According to the plans, we are trying to gain 30% of the domestic market this year and prepare the surplus of production for export. Pars Industrial soot has been exported to 35 countries in the past, but over the years, due to the entry of Chinese and Indian competitors into the market, part of the export of this product has fallen out of the company's hands, which requires proper planning to regenerate international markets. Turkey has the largest export of soot, and the company is trying to fully identify the Turkish consumer market. Turkey's consumer market is 180,000 tons of soot per year, while the total production capacity of Iran's industrial soot is 140,000 tons, of which 5,000 tons are domestically consumed and the rest is exported. After the Turkish market, India, Pakistan and East Asia, such as Korea, Japan, the Philippines and Vietnam, are the target markets and consumers of industrial soot, and industrial soot is trying to introduce its products to them by attending virtual exhibitions. African countries like Kenya also need industrial soot. Attending exhibitions due to the presence of customers and producers at the same time in a particular place is a great opportunity to attract the market, however, in recent years due to the activity of virtual networks and fast information in this space, attending exhibitions has diminished. According to the CEO of Pars Industrial soot, this space can be used for more constructive interaction between producers and customers; Doodeh Sanati Pars Company also tried to fully update its site and participate in virtual exhibitions. The CEO of Doodeh Sanati Pars Company believes: "To enter the global market of industrial soot, we need to improve the quality of products and we must try to increase the quality and variety of the product by improving our technology, because we are not talking about the cost price. In terms of price, our products are competitive with foreign models."

Doodeh Sanati Pars Co. is a subsidiary of Petrochemical Industries Investment Holding Company with a nominal capacity of 30,000 tons in two lines, including a solid grade line and a soft graft line with full capacity. This company is one of the most important soot production companies in Iran, which is located in Kaveh industrial town, Saveh city, and its products are suppliers of raw materials for tire manufacturers, rubber manufacturers and parts manufacturers. Pars Industrial Soot is the second largest producer of soot in the country, dating back 25 years. Last year, Doodeh Sanati Pars Company was able to surpass the sales of the last 25 years by breaking the record and increasing the sales in 2019 to 27,000 tons. The company's most significant achievements in 2019 included a 5% increase (26,000 tons) in production compared to 2018, a 57% increase in net profit, the use of production capacity to reduce unabsorbed costs, an increase in profit margins, and an improvement in the balance sheet structure and shareholder's equity. The board of directors of Pars Industrial soot has decided to take action in 2020, which has been named as the year of production progress, to achieve a greater share in domestic and foreign markets. In this direction, further transparency of the process of purchasing raw materials and selling products through commodity exchanges, cost management in all sectors and optimal use of human capital, as well as equipment and financial resources are other main axes of soot industry this year. Meanwhile, Pars Industrial Soot has made many plans to upgrade the company's production line system. The CEO of Doodeh Sanati Pars Company emphasizes in this regard: Last year, the technical issues of modernization of soot and dry reactors were investigated with the help of Kimia Design and Process Consulting Engineers Company; According to the technical reports of this consultant, the economic studies report of Hard reactor modernization was prepared again and after approval by the board of directors of Pars Industrial soot and the board of directors of Petrochemical

Violence Against Protesters, Press Unacceptable

PARIS (Reuters) - Violence against peaceful protesters and journalists is unacceptable, whether in the United States or elsewhere, France's foreign minister Jean-Yves Le Drian said in a newspaper interview published on Sunday.

Asked about protests and rioting that have swept across U.S. cities since the death of unarmed black man George Floyd in police custody in Minneapolis, Le Drian told Le Telegramme that it was necessary to let people demonstrate freely. "Any act of violence committed against peaceful protesters or journalists is unacceptable, in the United States or elsewhere," he told the Brittany regional newspaper.



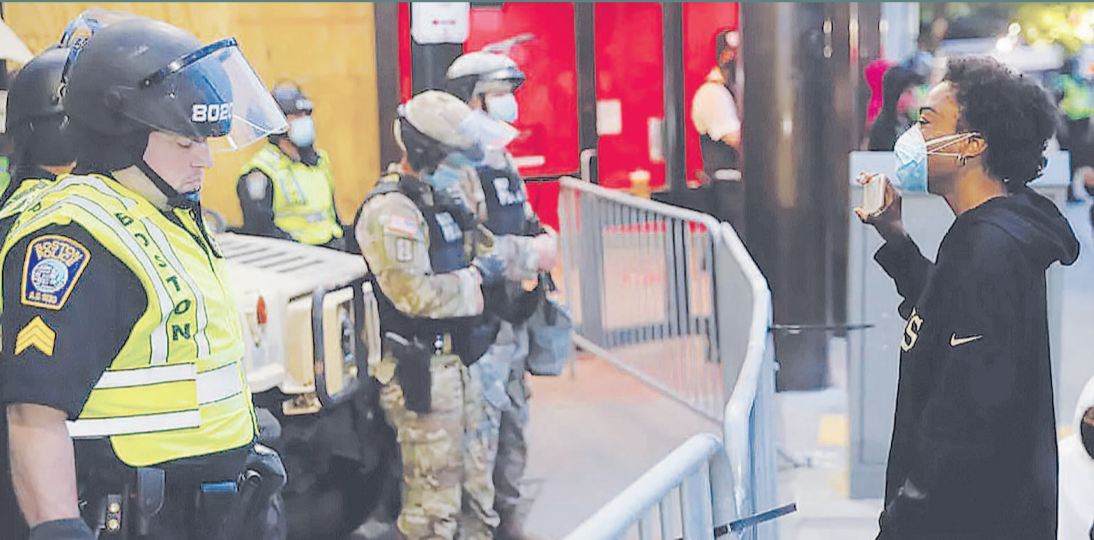
UK to Prevent Foreign Takeovers Posing National Security Risk

LONDON (Reuters) - British Prime Minister Boris Johnson is preparing to announce tough laws to prevent foreign takeovers that pose risks to national security amid growing concern about the influence of China, The Times newspaper reported.

The prime minister is said to be pressing for legislation to make it mandatory for companies to report attempted takeovers which could give rise to security risks, backed by the threat of criminal sanctions, according to the newspaper. Companies that fail to report takeovers or ignore conditions imposed by the UK government after takeovers could see their directors jailed, disqualified or fined, the newspaper said.



New Round of Street Protests Over Racial Inequality in U.S. Cities



NEW YORK (Dispatches) - A relaxed confidence infused a new round of street protests in New York and other major cities on Sunday, a day after some of the largest demonstrations since the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis police custody unfolded with no major violence.

The near-festive tone of many of the weekend's major U.S. rallies stood in sharp contrast to scenes of clashes, looting and vandalism earlier in the week that authorities and activists blamed largely on outside agitators and criminals.

The outpouring of outrage and demands for sweeping police reforms followed the May 25 killing of Floyd, a 46-year-old black man who died after being pinned by the neck for nine minutes by a white officer's knee.

A bystander's cellphone captured the scene as Floyd pleaded with the officer, choking out the words "I can't breathe." Two other policemen helped hold Floyd down while a fourth stood watch between onlookers and the other officers.

Almost two weeks of U.S. demonstrations also inspired anti-racism marches around the globe, as protesters from Brisbane and Sydney in Australia to London, Paris and other European cities embraced the Black Lives Matter message.

The change in the tenor of the demonstrations this weekend may reflect a sense that the demands of protesters for sweeping police reform are resonating.

In a step that would have seemed unthinkable just two weeks ago, a majority of the Minneapolis City Council pledged on Sunday to disband the police department in favour of a community-led safety model, the New York Times reported.

"A veto-proof majority of the MPLS City Council just publicly agreed that the Minneapolis Police Department is not reformable and that we're going to end the current policing system," Alondra Cano, a member of the Minneapolis council, said on Twitter.

In New York, at least half a dozen loosely organized groups of protesters marched through midtown Manhattan in bright sunshine on Sunday afternoon carrying handmade signs with slogans including "Defund the Police, Fund Schools." One crowd gathered in Bryant Park, behind the New York Public Library, then marched down 42nd Street past Grand Central station to U.N. headquarters on the East River. Another group marched toward Times Square but was turned aside without incident by police who blocked access to the famous "Crossroads of the World," best known for the annual New Year's Eve ball drop. The area remained cordoned off by police hours later.

It was a far cry from the scene in the city on some recent nights, when some officers in riot gear resorted to heavy-handed tactics as they sought to enforce a curfew, and live TV images showed looters running rampant on main avenues.

New York Mayor Bill de Blasio said the curfew was being lifted on Sunday, a day ahead of schedule.

Criticized by activists who say he should have reined in NYPD officers during recent demonstrations, he also announced a series of reforms he said were designed to build trust between city residents and the police department.

In response to growing calls to defund police in many cities, de Blasio told reporters he would shift an unspecified amount of money out of the police budget and reallocate it to youth and social services in communities of color.

He said he would also take enforcement of rules on street vending out of the hands of police, who have been accused of using the regulations to harass minority communities.

In the nation's capital on Sunday afternoon, thousands of protesters took a knee on 16th Street facing the White House, chanting: "I can't breathe," according to social media posts.

The newly erected fence around the White House was decorated by protesters with signs, including some that read: "Black Lives Matter" and "No Justice, No Peace."

A common theme of weekend rallies was a determination to transform outrage over Floyd's death last month into a broader movement seeking far-reaching reforms to the U.S. criminal justice system and its treatment of minorities.

Powell Accuses Trump of Drifting From Constitution

NEW YORK (Dispatches) - Colin Powell, who served as America's top military officer and top diplomat under Republican presidents, said Sunday he will vote for Democrat Joe Biden, accusing Donald Trump of drifting from the U.S. constitution.

In a scathing indictment of Trump on CNN, Powell denounced the U.S. president as a danger to democracy whose lies and insults have diminished America in the eyes of the world.

"We have a constitution. We have to follow that constitution. And the president's drifted away from it," Powell said.

A former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Powell was the latest in a series of retired top military officers to publicly criticize Trump's handling of the mass anti-racism protests that have swept the United States since the police killing of George Floyd, an unarmed black man, in Minneapolis.



India, China Seek to Peacefully Resolve Border Face-Off

NEW DELHI (AFP) - India and China have agreed to "peacefully resolve" a latest border flare-up that has heightened tensions between the nuclear-armed neighbors, New Delhi said Sunday, after a high-level meeting between army commanders.

Tensions have flared in recent weeks between the two regional powers over their 3,500-kilometre (2,200-mile) frontier, which has never been properly demarcated.

Thousands of troops from both countries are involved in the face-off concentrated in India's Ladakh region, just opposite Tibet.

"Both sides agreed to peacefully resolve the situation in the border areas in accordance with various bilateral agreements," the foreign ministry said in a statement.

The ministry added that the commanders agreed an "early resolution" was "essential" for bilateral relations between the world's two most-populous nations.

"Accordingly, the two sides will continue the military and diplomatic engagements to resolve the situation and to ensure peace and tranquility in the border areas," the statement said.

There have been numerous face-offs and brawls between Chinese and Indian soldiers at the frontier, but they have become more frequent in recent years.

On May 9, several Indian and Chinese soldiers were injured in a high-altitude cross-border clash involving fists and stone-throwing in Sikkim state.

Indian officials said that within days, Chinese troops encroached over the demarcation line in the Ladakh region, further to the west.

India moved extra troops to positions opposite.

The talks, which took place in the Chushul-Moldo region between the two commanders, is believed to be the highest-level meeting since the Sikkim exchange.

India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping have sought to ease the tensions at summits over the past two years when they agreed to boost border communications between their militaries.

Republicans Growing Pessimistic About Country's Direction

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Republicans are more pessimistic about the country's direction than at almost any other time during Donald Trump's presidency, as a trio of crises - the coronavirus pandemic, an economic downturn and mass protests over police brutality - buffets his administration.

Only 46% of Americans who identify as Republicans say the country is on the right track, according to a Reuters/Ipsos poll conducted last week. It is the first time that number has fallen so low since August 2017, when a rally organized by white supremacists in Charlottesville, Virginia led to violent clashes with counter-protesters.

As recently as early March, before the novel coronavirus forced widespread shutdowns across the country, about 70% of Republicans said they were optimistic about the country's direction. Trump's approval rating remains resilient at around 40%, with a large majority of Republicans still approving of his overall performance.

But sustained pessimism among Trump's supporters could portend potential weakness ahead of November's election, when he will face Democratic former Vice President Joe Biden, experts said.

Thirty-seven percent of Republicans said the

country is on the wrong track; 17% of those said they would vote for Biden if the election were held now, while 63% still plan to cast ballots for Trump.

In an election most analysts believe will come down to a handful of closely divided states such as Michigan, Pennsylvania and North Carolina, even minor defections or a dip in turnout among the Republican ranks could imperil Trump's chances.

"It probably should be concerning for the president, even though it's reasonable to say he still maintains strong support among Republicans," said Kyle Kondik, an elections analyst at the University of Virginia.

Republicans believe an economic rebound in the fall would bolster his prospects. Friday's jobs report showed more than 2.5 million jobs were added last month during the thick of the coronavirus pandemic. Trump touted the gains as the "greatest comeback in American history."

Trump campaign spokeswoman Erin Perrine said in a statement, "Polling is notoriously wrong. We are five months from the election and any polling now is not a clear indicator of election results. Pollsters were very wrong in 2016 and underestimate voters' enthusiasm for President Trump every time."



North Korea's Kim Stresses Self-Sufficient Economy

SEOUL (Reuters) - North Korean leader Kim Jong Un focused on domestic economic issues at a meeting of the politburo of the country's ruling Workers Party, state media said on Monday, as the North ramped up pressure on South Korea over defector activities.

The two-day politburo meeting comes at a time of economic uncertainty amid the global COVID-19 pandemic that is putting additional pressure on the North's economy, already battered by international sanctions aimed at stopping its nuclear program. The meeting discussed "crucial issues arising in further developing the self-sufficient economy of the country and improving the standard of people's living," state news agency KCNA said.

Kim did not mention the North's increased criticism of South Korea or of the North Korean defectors who call it home.

For several days, North Korea has lashed out at South Korea, threatening to close an inter-Korean liaison office and other projects if the South does not stop defectors from sending leaflets and other material into the North.

On Monday, North Korea did not answer a routine daily liaison phone call from South Korean officials for the first time in since 2018, South Korea's Unification Ministry said. The ministry has said South Korea remains committed to following inter-Korean agreements, and it is considering proposing legislation to ban groups from sending material into North Korea.

KCNA's report on the 13th political bureau meeting focused on domestic economic issues, including the chemical industry and fertilizer production as "a major thrust front of the national economy."

The meeting also emphasized construction of residential houses as a way to better North Korean's standard of living. Kim has made an unusually small number of outings in recent months, with his absence from a major holiday prompting speculation about his condition, as Pyongyang has stepped up measures against the COVID-19 pandemic. Although North Korea says it has no confirmed cases of the novel coronavirus, South Korea's main intelligence agency has said an outbreak there cannot be ruled out.



Zaferanieh Apt (\$2200)
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S/p, Sauna
J, balcony
marble fl
pkg, & F.F

Shanon (adviser)

Niavaran Villa (\$4000)
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4bdrs, S/p
S, Jacuzzi
green yard
pkg, & F.F

Parsian

Farmanieh (\$1800) 180sq.m, 3bdrs, F.F
Fereshteh (\$2000) 200sq.m, 3bdrs, F.F
Gheitarieh (\$2300) 220sq.m, 3bdrs, F.F

Kamranieh Apt (\$2700)
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Emirates, Etihad Extend Temporary Salary Cuts to September

DUBAI (Reuters) – Persian Gulf carriers Emirates and Etihad Airways are extending the period of reduced pay for their staff until September as they try to preserve cash during the global coronavirus pandemic.

The aviation industry has been among the worst hit by the outbreak, which has dented travel demand and forced major airlines to lay off staff and seek government bailouts.

State airlines Emirates and Etihad have operated limited, mostly outbound services from the United Arab Emirates since grounding passenger flights in March.

They are due to restart some connecting flights this month after the UAE last week lifted a suspension on services where passengers stop off in the country to change planes, or for refuelling.



China Imports Plunge, Exports Fall On Virus Hit to Global Growth

BEIJING (Dispatches) - China's exports and imports fell in May as the economic slowdown abroad started to take its toll, and after a surprise jump driven by increased demand for anti-epidemic supplies, official data showed Sunday.

With consumer demand muted and key overseas markets suffering downturns, imports saw their sharpest on-year fall in over four years, even as the country worked to restart its economy after bringing activity to a standstill to curb the coronavirus.

Exports from the manufacturing powerhouse fell 3.3 percent on-year last month, better than the 6.5 percent slide expected by a Bloomberg poll of analysts. But the return to negative territory came after a surprise 3.5 percent jump in April, which was partly due to medical exports.

Analysts have warned of signs that a larger downturn awaits. Customs data released Sunday also showed a larger than expected drop in imports on-year, which were down by 16.7 percent and at a four-year low.

Part of the plunge in the value of imports could be explained by falling commodity prices worldwide, said Rajiv Biswas of IHS Markit. Iris Pang, ING chief economist for Greater China, told AFP another reason was likely a drop in parts bought for re-exports -- imported goods that are shipped out after further processing -- due to the uncertainty of global demand.

Medical exports supported Chinese shipments in April and May, with shipments of textile yarns, fabrics and products rising 21.3 percent for the first five months on-year. Analysts expect this boost to fade however, as the virus situation improves worldwide.

"Export growth rebounded in March and April, even as lockdowns came into effect abroad, because of a backlog of orders that had piled up while Chinese factories were shut in February," said Julian Evans-Pritchard of Capital Economics in a recent report.

But he noted the Purchasing Managers' Index, a key gauge of factory activity, still pointed to "a deep downturn in exports that has yet to materialise" as activity in China's major export markets remains subdued.

Saudi Arabia to Keep Buying Arms Despite Austerity

RIYADH (Dispatches) - Saudi Arabia's vast appetite for western weaponry and defense equipment appears undiminished despite sweeping austerity measures unveiled by the government last month, buoying its US and British suppliers.

"I was fully expecting there to be a cut, but the information from very senior levels and princes is 'no, we're not going to do it. In fact, don't come and ask me if your program is going to slip, keep working hard at it, because we are just carrying ahead,'" said one western arms industry executive based in the Persian Gulf. "We've got a large number of requirements popping in through the door."

Two days after Riyadh announced the austerity measures, the defense wing of Boeing was awarded contracts worth \$2.6bn to supply the kingdom with more than 1,000 surface-to-air and anti-ship missiles. Experts say while that was part of long-term agreements, the fact that it is proceeding is a sign that one of the world's biggest arms importers is still spending on defense.

Lockheed Martin, the U.S. arms manufacturer which supplies THAAD missile defense systems to the Saudi government said it had "not seen a backing off of expenditures on defense" by any of its main Middle Eastern customers.

Robert Harward, chief executive of Lockheed's Middle East unit, said it was too early to know if budget pressures would filter through to defense, but said he expected that customers, including Saudi Arabia, "will continue with their procurement".

"Regional threats are not receding and are more unpredictable than ever," Mr Harward said.

"Countries will have to make choices on budgets, as countries always have to do." Another Persian Gulf-based defence executive said his company had not witnessed "any shift in attitudes from the customers" but suggested that could still change. "I think that's because the implications of what's going on has not quite filtered down to that level."

If cuts have to be made, analysts predict that new big-ticket arms sales, which have helped Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman ingratiate himself with U.S. president Donald Trump, will be most vulnerable to belt-tightening. When Mr Trump hosted Prince Mohammed at the White House in 2018 he held up a board displaying \$12.5bn in "finalized" arms sales to Saudi Arabia, including aircraft, tanks and naval ships.

"It seems inevitable that the [government spending] cuts will start to feed through to defense, and to the discretionary part of spending -- investment in new programs and procurement activity," said Fenella McGerty, senior fellow for defense economics at the International Institute for Strategic Studies. "Anything that is beyond a critical requirement, including those that relate to mitigating specific threats like Iran, is at risk."

The Saudi finance ministry told the Financial Times that the kingdom would "continue to support our military needs and spare no resources to defend our people and our territory".

Mexico to Sit Out Extension of OPEC+ Oil Output Cuts



MEXICO CITY (Reuters) - Mexico will not join other top oil producers in extending through July output cuts aimed at propping up the price of crude, Energy Minister Rocio Nahle said.

Made up of OPEC members and allies led by Russia, the group known as OPEC+ agreed in April to cut oil supply by 9.7 million barrels per day (bpd) in May and June to support prices.

Under that deal, Mexico pledged to reduce its crude output by 100,000 bpd in May and June, after resisting pressure from other oil producers to make cuts of 400,000 bpd.

The cuts had been due to taper to 7.7 million bpd from July to December, but on Saturday, OPEC+ agreed to extend the production cuts until the end of July.

Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, who has vowed to ramp up the country's crude oil production, said on Friday that Mexico was not in a position to make additional cuts on top of what it had agreed in April.

His energy minister Rocio Nahle confirmed Mexico would not participate in the fresh cuts agreed on Saturday.

"There are other countries that extended their cuts to July, in this case we said no, we'll stick to the agreement that we signed in April," she told reporters in the eastern state of Veracruz. "There's no problem."

Mexico's unwillingness to go as far as other OPEC+ countries in making output cuts caused friction with Saudi Arabia in April. Agreement was reached after Mexico said the United States would help make up the difference.

OPEC, Russia Extend Record Oil Cuts to End of July

MOSCOW (Reuters) - OPEC, Russia and allies agreed on Saturday to extend record oil production cuts until the end of July, prolonging a deal that has helped crude prices double in the past two months by withdrawing almost 10% of global supplies from the market.

The group, known as OPEC+, also demanded countries such as Nigeria and Iraq, which exceeded production quotas in May and June, compensate with extra cuts in July to September.

OPEC+ had initially agreed in April that it would cut supply by 9.7 million barrels per day (bpd) during May-June to prop up prices that collapsed due to the coronavirus crisis. Those cuts were due to taper to 7.7 million bpd from July to December.

"Demand is returning as big oil-consuming economies emerge from pandemic lockdown. But we are not out of the woods yet and challenges ahead remain," Saudi Energy Minister Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman told the video conference of OPEC+ ministers.

Benchmark Brent crude climbed to a three-month high on Friday above \$42 a barrel, after diving below \$20 in April. Prices still remain a third lower than at the end of 2019.

"Prices can be expected to be strong from Monday, keeping their \$40 plus levels," said Bjornar Tonhaugen from Rystad Energy. Saudi Arabia, OPEC's de facto leader, and Russia have to perform a balancing act of pushing up oil prices to meet their budget needs while not driving them much above \$50 a barrel to avoid encouraging a resurgence of rival U.S. shale production.



State Printing Office of Iran (SPOI) Tender of purchasing 90 Kg Silk printing ink for PC sheets Tender NO :2099001065000020

State printing office of Iran intends to purchase the aforementioned inks through a public tender. Therefore ,participants in the tender should first receive their tender documents from Jun. 6-2020 to 12:00 hours on Jun.11-2020 in the Governmental portal address at : www.setadiran.ir and after register needed documents in mentioned address, physically submit envelopes A,B and C to the secretariat of the company before the end of administrative hour(12:00 PM) on Jun.27-2020.Tender documents presented after the stated deadline will not be accepted.

The guaranteed amount for participating in the tender is 625/000/000 Rials (3325 EURO) and should be presented in the form of a bank guarantee in envelope A.

All stages of bid , including receiving tender documents ,submitting price proposal of tenders and opening the envelopes ,will be done through the portal of Government's electronic procurement system at the following address : www.setadiran.ir.

It is necessary that tenders , if not taken membership previously , should carry out the registration stages in the mentioned website and receive the signed and sealed electronic certificate for participating in the tender. For more information , please contact the governmental portal phone numbers at 41934 ,registration office Tel: 88969737 and 85193768.Envelopes opening date is on Sunday Jun.28-2020 at 11:00 AM in Transactions Commission Room of State Printing Office of Iran.

Meanwhile ,the cost for publishing the advertisement shall be borne by the tender winner.

Address : State Printing Office of Iran, No: 29,Next to Khayyam Park, Igbal Lahouri St., Imam Husein Square,Tehran, Iran,Postal code : 1714744153,Tel : 33349079

م.الف: ۷۰۰

Pakistan Saw Highest Inflation In World During 2020

DUBAI (Dispatches) - With the emergence of the coronavirus pandemic, the entire economic scenario was turned upside down.

For Pakistanis residents, fiscal year 2020 was the worst year as they witnessed highest inflation in the world forcing policy makers to increase interest rate, according to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP).

"Pakistan witnessed highest inflation not only in comparison with the developed economies but also with emerging economies," said the Inflation Monitor for April issued by the SBP on Saturday.

The SBP pushed up interest rates to cool down the inflationary pressure during the fiscal year but high rates proved counterproductive as they further increased inflation while the private sector stopped borrowing costly money hampering industrial growth and services, reports Dawn news.

January witnessed 12-year high inflation at 14.6 per cent. In response to the rising prices, the SBP rose the interest rates to 13.25 per cent.

However, with the emergence of the coronavirus pandemic, the entire economic scenario was turned upside down as demand contraction lowered inflation forcing the SBP to cut down interest rates to 5.25 per cent within just three months.

The rate cut announcement came as inflation slowed down, falling to 8.2 per cent in May, much lower than the SBP projections for the month.

The July-May inflation for the current fiscal year slipped below to the State Bank's earlier projection of 11 per cent to 10.94 per cent. The number is expected to drop further in June.

Official Slams U.S., Zionists for Creating Decade-Old Crisis in Libya

TEHRAN (MNA) – Hossein Amir-Abdollahian, the Iranian parliament speaker's special adviser on international affairs, strongly criticized the U.S. and the Zionist regime for causing a decade-old crisis in Libya.

In a tweet late on Sunday, Amir Abdollahian said, "For about a decade, the US, Zionist-led crisis has put Libya on fire."

Referring to the importance of Libya's peace and stability for the region, the Iranian official added, "Safeguarding national unity, territorial integrity as well as restoring sustainable peace and stability of this key Arab Muslim state would serve the interests of Muslim World and the region."



European Economy Through the Worst But Activity Still Depressed

LONDON (FT) - Europeans have begun to return to work, shopping and dining out, suggesting the worst of the economic damage inflicted by coronavirus pandemic lockdowns has passed, but overall activity remains well below normal standards, pointing to the long haul back to recovery the region faces.

High-frequency data indicators such as mobility and consumer spending suggest that the sharp economic contraction that has gripped major European economies since March began to ease in May and early June.

The figures are more up to date than official economic indicators, which have only been published up until April, although they are also experimental and the extent to which they reflect the subsequent trends documented in official data is variable.

"There is some evidence that European economies are through the worst of this really sharp fall in output," said Neil Shearing, group chief economist at Capital Economics. "Things are starting to bottom out... but I think the recovery is going to be extremely weak."

For many economists the data support the view that the pandemic has deepened the divide in economic performance between northern and southern European countries.

Eurozone shoppers bought fewer goods in April than in any other month since record began in 1995, according to official figures. Yet, since lockdowns began to relax in May, trips to shops, bars and restaurants have started to increase again, particularly in France and Italy, according to Google Mobility data.

Spain and the UK lag behind, while Germany and other northern European countries experienced a milder contraction and smaller differences with pre-crisis levels, largely reflecting less stringent restrictions.

EU car sales dropped by an annual rate of 76 per cent in April, according to sector data. But internet browsing, a forward-looking indicator of spending, points to some normalisation in consumer demand. Visits to car sales websites increased by early June as showrooms began to reopen, according to web tracking company SimilarWeb. Europeans also showed renewed interest in buying furniture and houses.

Chart showing that online interest in airlines and live events remains severely depressed, but there has been an uptick in interest in buying big ticket items such as cars and furniture, and there are tentative signs of a recovery in interest in booking trips and accommodation. High-frequency data indicate "that the recovery took off midway through May, with Germany leading the pack", said Claus Vistesen, chief eurozone economist at Pantheon Macroeconomics.

But economists warn the recovery will be gradual across the region, particularly in countries and sectors where lockdowns were more stringent or hampered by some continuing restrictions, as well as low consumer and business confidence.

Bert Colijn, senior economist, at ING, warned that "a lot of the restrictions are going to stay with us for quite some time which means [activity] will take longer to recover to the level where it was before the crisis".

Figures to be published this week are expected to show that in April, industrial production in the eurozone experienced the largest contraction since records began in 1992. But Google Mobility data suggest that the decline in trips by Europeans to factories and offices eased in May. The same pattern is replicated in road and public transport data.

Nikola Dacic, a Goldman Sachs economist, said that mobility indicators should be



"highly informative about the pace at which activity is rising in the initial phases of recovery" as the crisis was primarily caused by restrictions on movement.

New job openings remain subdued, however, even in less-affected economies such as Germany. High unemployment and falls in household income are also likely to contribute to the continued economic drag. Rosie Colthorpe, an economist at Oxford Economics, said that across Europe "high uncertainty and a weak outlook for employment means that consumers may choose to save rather than spend".

European governments and central banks have supported the economy with large stimulus packages but some economists fear the support might run out before activity is strong enough to support more hiring. "We suspect that a fragile recovery will require steady interventions for some time," said Nadia Gharbi, Europe economist at Pictet Wealth Management.

Travel and tourism is one of the hardest-hit sectors of the economy and continues to show little improvement. By June 2, the number of flights landing and departing in Europe was down 90 per cent compared with the same day last year and was largely unchanged over the past month, according to FlightAware, an aviation software and data company.

Europe's hotel occupancy rates were stuck at one-tenth of capacity by late May, according to STR, a hotel data company — worse than 30 per cent for the U.S. and 40 per cent in China.

Bangladesh GDP Growth Rate May Come Down to 2.50%



DHAKA (Dispatches) – Bangladesh's Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), a leading think-tank of the country, projected that the growth rate of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) would be 2.50 per cent in the current fiscal year (FY20) due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

"CPD estimates suggest that the GDP growth in FY20 was likely to come down to about 2.5 per cent under the most optimistic scenario if further 'general holidays' are not announced or stricter measures are not enforced during the rest of days of the fiscal year," said the organization on Sunday while releasing the final interim IRBD report for FY20. CPD organised a virtual media briefing on 'State of the Bangladesh Economy in FY2019-20 and Budget Challenges' on Sunday morning to present the key features of the report.

"Given the unprecedented nature of the Covid-19 pandemic, the decline in economic growth should not be perceived as something unexpected and exceptional," said the report.

"Countries across the globe, developed, developing and least developed, have been experiencing lower, and at worst, negative growth rates," it added.

CPD also mentioned that World Bank forecasted that the economic growth of Bangladesh in FY20 will be between 2.0-3.0 per cent while International Monetary Fund (IMF) projected this to be 3.8 per cent. "The general consensus is that the GDP growth rate will be significantly lower than the planned target of 8.20 per cent," it added.

Earlier, Policy Research Institute of Bangladesh (PRI), another leading think-tank of the country, projected that GDP would post mere 2.25 per cent growth in FY20 due to big disruption of economic activities amidst the coronavirus pandemic. "Even if the government's claim of 8.0 per cent growth in the first eight months of FY20 is accepted, a conservative assessment of a negative growth of (-) 9.0 per cent for the remaining period will yield an overall growth 2.25 per cent for the entire fiscal year," said PRI in a policy brief in April.

India's Biggest Asset Sale to Attract China-Wary Oil Majors

NEW DELHI (Dispatches) -

The growing disquiet over China could see oil investors headed to India, said a top executive at a refiner that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government has put up for sale.

"The choices of investing in oil sector will be limited when the world becomes normal and India will be the only happening alternative," N. Vijayagopal, finance director at Bharat PetroleumNSE 3.46 % Corp. said in an interview from Mumbai. "Most of the Western countries will be very afraid of getting into China. So, where else they can go?"

Many nations, including the U.S. are coming together to counter what they say is China's growing threat to global trade, security and human rights. That gives an opportunity for India to attract investments and push some of its state-run assets such as Bharat Petroleum, known as BPCL, to global investors when the world emerges from the coronavirus pandemic.

"Global companies are cutting down on capex, preserving cash now, but Exxon Mobil, Shell, BP or Saudi Aramco aren't going to perish," Vijayagopal said. "When they come back after demand picks up, they would have cash available with them to invest."

India, the world's third-biggest oil consumer with a population of over 1.3 billion, offers an attractive alternative to China for big oil companies looking for a stable market



to expand. Some have already indicated interest in BPCL.

Still, almost every big oil company from Exxon Mobil Corp. to Royal Dutch Shell Plc have investments across China's energy chain, with newer commitments coming in from companies such as Saudi Aramco to tap the world's biggest energy consumer.

In India, a nation feted for its ever-rising oil appetite, fuel demand took a major hit from a national lockdown, declared in March, to control the virus outbreak. However, a series of relaxations helped it recover much of the lost demand within a short span although a return to growth is still a long way off.

Refineries, including BPCL, that had slashed processing are now ramping up capacities. "My refineries are running at almost 83% of normal capacities and our sales were about 76% of normal sales in May," he said. "So, there's no reason for us to be pessimistic about our capability to come back to normal."

Indian refiners, which came under the twin assaults of oil price volatility and demand destruction due to the pandemic, saw their share prices tumble. The value of BPCL was about \$7.4 billion in early February has now fallen to about \$5.7 billion.

Iranian Doctor...

FROM PAGE 1

Meanwhile, Hossein Jaber Ansari, who was at airport, told reporters he and the foreign ministry officials are happy that after months of intensive follow-ups, the Iranian doctor is free.

"Today, another case of the American oppression against the government, the nation and the citizens of Iran came to an end fortunately, due to the unilateral and cruel U.S. sanctions, the some Iranian citizens, including Dr Taheri, were subjected to false accusations," added Jaber Ansari.

Iranian Assets...

FROM PAGE 1

Elsewhere in his remarks, Baharvand pointed to the transfer of assets and added, "we only face problem on the transfer of assets due to the banking sanctions imposed against Iran, so, this property and asset belongs to the Islamic Republic of Iran and any country, which incurs any damage on these assets, will not remain immune in terms of international law."

The Deputy Foreign Minister for Legal and International Affairs Mohsen Baharvand said that Iranian Foreign Ministry is taking effective measures in order to use these assets and property for the country's foreign trade.

Rabiei...

FROM PAGE 1

He also elaborated these 5 tasks as providing health needs and Establishment of several laboratories; Continuation and expansion of essential community services; Supply of essential goods; and at the end Avoiding shocks against new waves of corona outbreak.

The official stated Iran took many measures to contain the coronavirus and has acted perfectly despite imposed sanctions. The government is trying to get people's life to normal and meets their necessary needs, he added.

Coronavirus has impacted the global economy and its growth but Iran tries its best by anticipating measures to decline economic losses stemming from the disease, spokesman highlighted.

Iran has repatriated its three U.S.-jailed scientists; the government spokesman said.

One of the cores of the government's activities is exchanging Iran-U.S. prisoners, added Rabiei.

He added the U.S. is responsible for any delay to exchange prisoners.

Recalling that Iran's decision is not based on the U.S. election and who will be elected, but on the basis of national interests, Rabiei said, "There must be signs that we do not see in the statements of the President of this country. We have already said that if the United States is eager to talk to Iran, it must return to the JCPOA agreement."

He said Mr. Trump's invitation to negotiate and reach an agreement was nothing more than a political show and that I was not optimistic about it. We have repeatedly stated that we have lost our confidence over the honesty and seriousness of the U.S., as well as the effectiveness of the negotiations, so the United States must rebuild everything it has destroyed.

Opportunists Seeking...

FROM PAGE 1

This is an accident that should be followed up, but people should know that they cannot change others' behavior via damn words and ballyhoo, Atai said advising [Afghan people] to find proper language to express their demands if they expect Iranians to take human behavior.

He further criticized the Afghan social media for choosing a hostile language to express their demands.

In a related development, the Afghan ambassador to Tehran, too, talked about the issue, saying that Iranian officials have been committed to identify the culprits behind the incident and punish them.

Lival has stressed that the driver and drug traffickers are the ones who caused such a car accident.

However, certain characters, covering up as civil activists have aided enemies in deteriorating ties between the two neighboring countries.

Of course, such destructive moves have strongly been criticized by Afghan people.

Another Afghan correspondent too believes that both Afghan and Iranian officials should take more serious measures to review affairs related to refugees who are after finding jobs.

Experts believe that smugglers are behind happening of such tragic events because they are just after serving their interests without caring about the lives of their compatriots.

Tens of people may daily lose their lives in deserts and mountains as those places are routes for traffickers to transport drugs and refugees.

Meysam, a social media activist, has written that although people have legal right to call for punishment of those who caused the incident, the demands should be asked through the right ways not gathering after organized plans in front of an embassy just under the name of so-called national solidarity.

Now the question is that where were those who gathered in front of the Iranian Embassy when some innocent Iranians were burnt in the Taliban's fire in Ghazni, the center of Afghanistan.

Venezuela...

FROM PAGE 1

Upon the arrival of the first Iranian tanker, Venezuelans stormed Twitter to express gratitude towards Tehran for the shipments.

The shipments have stirred the wrath of the US administration in Washington as both Iran and Venezuela are under illegal sanctions imposed by the White House.

The administration of President Donald Trump, which has returned .U.S sanctions against Iran after leaving a historic nuclear accord between the Islamic Republic and world powers, said last month that it was considering "measures" in response to the shipments.

Barcelona Ready to Get Serious About Aubameyang

LONDON (Dispatches) - Barcelona are ready to get serious about Arsenal striker Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang. As negotiations with Inter Milan for Lautaro Martinez continue to drag on, Barca are beginning to look elsewhere and their enquiries have led to Arsenal and Aubameyang. With a year to run on his current deal, Aubameyang could be cashed in by the Gunners this summer - particularly as he continues to resist discussing a new deal.

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Ajax Accept Man Utd Offer for Van de Beek

LONDON (Dispatches) - Manchester United have struck terms with Ajax for Donny van de Beek, it has been sensationally claimed. De Telegraaf says United have agreed a €50m (£44.5m) fee with Ajax for Van de Beek. Real Madrid have long been linked with the midfielder, but United are looking to steal a march on their rivals and hope Edwin van der Sar's position as Ajax sporting director will help in their favour.

No Tennis Until It's Completely Safe

MADRID (Dispatches) - Rafael Nadal insisted that tennis "cannot resume until the situation is completely safe", adding that he would not take part in the US Open if the Grand Slam tournament was being played this week.

The world number two, who won his fourth U.S. Open and 19th Grand Slam at last year's event, said he remained convinced the COVID-19 pandemic still casts huge doubts over the tennis calendar which has been suspended since mid-March.

"We cannot resume until the situation is completely safe and fair in terms of health in that all players, wherever they come from, can travel and play tournaments in safe conditions," Nadal told reporters in a video conference call.

"If you told me to play the US Open (scheduled to start on August 24) today, I would say no."

"We have to wait for people to return to normal life. And when it does, wait to see how the virus evolves and how the situation is going to be in New York in a couple of months. Because, of course, New York has been one of the places that have been very strongly hit by the virus. So let's see."

The ATP and WTA schedules have been suspended since March, with action not set to resume until the end of July at the earliest.

Wimbledon was cancelled for the first time since the Second World War, while the French Open has been shifted to September.

The U.S. Open remains on the schedule but there are doubts over whether or not it should take place, with New York being the epicenter of the COVID-19 crisis in the United States.

"I miss playing tennis. I miss playing the tournament that I love the most," Nadal said. "But at the same time, my mind is not thinking about that. My mind is focused on trying to recover the normal life. The first thing we have to do is recover the normal."

Meanwhile Alex de Minaur will aim to make it three wins from as many matches at his competitive return to tennis at a round-robin exhibition event in Spain.

De Minaur defeated Pablo Carreno Busta 7-5, 6-4 on Saturday to follow up his impressive 6-2, 6-3 win over Pablo Andujar on Friday in his first match since the coronavirus pandemic shut down professional tennis in March.

Alex de Minaur is aiming for a perfect three from three results.

The highest-ranked Australian male will face world No.12 Roberto Bautista Agut



on Sunday with both unbeaten after their respective matches at the Region of Valencia Tennis Challenge.

World No.26 De Minaur has been in quarantine in Alicante during the COVID-19 shutdown and is the only non-Spaniard involved at Cumbres del Sol Sports Club, as a major sport was played in the country for the first time since March.

De Minaur gave up a break against Carreno Busta in the opening set before he regained the advantage to take the opener and needed a lone break in the second to seal victory.

He was more dominant against Andujar and showed few signs of rust despite his long layoff between matches.

Playing under strictly controlled conditions at the claycourt venue, matches were conducted with no fans and only an umpire overseeing proceedings - no line umpires or ballkids.

The event is being held over what should have been championship weekend of the French Open, which has been rescheduled to commence in September.

Kane Hopes Spurs Can Be Single-Minded In Euro Chase

LONDON (Dispatches) - Harry Kane hopes Tottenham can benefit from focusing solely on the Premier League when the battle for a place in next season's Champions League resumes.

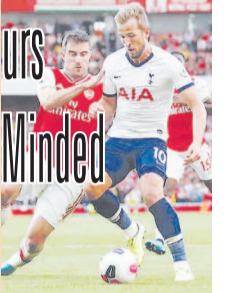
The English top-flight is set to restart on June 17, with Jose Mourinho's Spurs hosting his former club Manchester United two days later.

Tottenham have nine games to try and force their way into the Champions League places. Mourinho's men are seven points off the top four, but fifth could be enough if Manchester City's appeal against a two-season European ban is rejected.

Win their first game back and Spurs would be just a point behind fifth-placed United.

All of Tottenham's rivals also have other things to play for with Manchester United in the FA Cup and Europa League, Chelsea in the FA Cup and Champions League, Wolves in the Europa League and Sheffield United in the FA Cup.

"From our point of view we are not in any of the other competitions so we have got nine games to concentrate on picking up as many points and try and get into the Champions League spots," Kane told Sky Sports News.



Virus-Hit Asian Tour To Restart in September

LONDON (Dispatches) - The Asian Tour announced on Sunday plans to restart its coronavirus-ravaged season in September after a six-month suspension, but players may have to travel alone despite restrictions beginning to ease across the world's most populous continent.

The tour, which has been suspended since American Trevor Simsby won the Malaysia Open on March 7, told AFP it aims to tee off again at the Shinhan Donghae Open from September 10 to 13 in South Korea, the first of three events in consecutive weeks.

The \$1.181 million tournament at Bear's Best Cheongna Golf Club, Incheon, will be played under COVID-19 travel and distancing protocols which could mean few spectators and players using local caddies.

"We are targeting between 10 to 12 events from September to December," Asian Tour Commissioner and CEO Cho Minn Thant told AFP, with the tour calendar almost certainly extending into the new year before transitioning into the 2021 season.

"Unlike domestic markets, we understand international travel will slowly restart in phases and the ultimate lifting of quarantine periods will determine the tour's ability to resume full-scale operations," Cho added.

"If we need to minimise the number of foreign travellers travelling into a host country, we may have to do without private caddies, entourages, and support staff," admitted Cho.

"It is possible that only players and essential staff are permitted to travel."

The last of golf's three leading men's circuits to announce a return to action, the Asian Tour is faced with a complex international schedule that necessitates players from more than 25 countries crossing borders for each tournament.

The US PGA Tour will make an eagerly anticipated return on Thursday, without spectators but with a star-studded field including the world's top five players, at the Charles Schwab Challenge in Fort Worth, Texas.

The European Tour has announced a six-event "UK Swing" to begin next month with the British Masters.

Joshua Hits Out at Virus of Racism

NEW YORK (Dispatches) - World heavyweight champion Anthony Joshua told a Black Lives Matter march on Saturday that protesters were the "vaccine" to the "virus" of racism. "The virus I am referring to is called racism," he said, comparing its effects to the damage done by COVID-19.

Meanwhile the British boxer asked: "How long are we going to allow racism to spread through our communities?"

Worldwide protests under the banner of Black Lives Matter took place Saturday in response to the death of George Floyd, a black American man who died in Minneapolis last month while being arrested by police officers. "You are the vaccine, I am the vaccine," the 30-year-old Joshua told a rally in his home town of Watford. "Killing a person outright is unforgivable, but stripping them of their human rights, oppressing them, mocking them, insulting them, placing glass ceilings above them... is just a slower way of killing them and taking the life out of their soul."



Joshua was on crutches at times on Saturday and was also seen wearing a knee brace, but a spokesperson insisted that was just a "precautionary measure".

Joshua, the reigning WBA, IBF and WBO title-holder, felt a "slight twinge" in his left knee in a training session earlier this week. But his camp insisted there was no cause for alarm.

Man City Face Critical Appeal Against European Ban

LONDON (Dispatches) - Manchester City's appeal against a two-year ban from European competition will be heard by the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) from Monday in a case of wide-reaching repercussions.

City are accused of overstating sponsorship revenue to hide that they had not complied with UEFA's financial fair play (FFP) rules between 2012 and 2016 and were also handed a 30 million euro (\$34 million, £27 million) fine.

UEFA's case was prompted when German magazine Der Spiegel published a series of leaked emails in 2018 that purported to show how City manufactured extra sponsorship revenue from a series of companies with connections to the club's Abu Dhabi-based owner Sheikh Mansour.

Under the Sheikh's ownership, City's fortunes have been transformed from perennially living in the shadow of local rivals Manchester United to winning four Premier League titles in the past eight years.

However, billions of investment in players and managers has not yet been able to deliver the club's first ever Champions League title.

City are still involved in this season's competition and will be allowed to compete should the 2019/20 edition of Champions League return in August no matter the outcome of the appeal.



Schalke Draw at Union Berlin to Stretch Winless Run to 12 Games

BERLIN (Reuters) - Schalke 04 equalled a club record by going 12 consecutive league matches without a win as they rescued a 1-1 draw at Union Berlin on Sunday, scoring for only the second time in their last five Bundesliga games.

The Royal Blues, who were battling for a Champions League spot midway through the season, have now failed to win since Jan. 17, equalling the club's worst ever winless run set in the 1993/94 season. They stayed in 10th place on 38 points. Union, who have gone seven games without a win, climb up to 13th on 32, four points above the relegation playoff spot. Both teams' players as well as the match officials went down on one knee before kickoff in tribute to George Floyd, an unarmed black man whose death in U.S. police custody has triggered protests around the world.

Some 30 Union fans had gathered outside the stadium, empty of spectators due to coronavirus restrictions, chanting and cheering but they kept to social distancing rules.

The hosts got off to a strong start and had carved out three good chances before Robert Andrich was sent clear by Anthony Ujah in the 11th minute to beat keeper Alexander Nuebel. It was Andrich's first goal of the season from his 48th shot.

Union still had Schalke on the backfoot when the visitors equalised against the run of play thanks to a low drive from Everton's on-loan fullback Jonjoe Kenny.

