

According to Reports,
South Korea's Hyundai Has Quietly
Removed From Its Main Website
The Details of Two Companies
That Represent It in Iran

IRAN NEWS

Trade Bank of Iraq Does Not
Cooperate With Us to Use Iran
Resources in Iraq to Buy Basic
Commodities," Spokesman of the
Iranian Oil, Gas and Petrochemical
Products Exporters' Union Said

VOL. XXVI, No. 7000 TEHRAN Price 40,000 Rials

www.irannewsdaily.com

WEDNESDAY JULY 22, 2020 - MORDAD 1, 1399

2

DOMESTIC

Gov't Policy Is to Back
Exports to Boost
Domestic Production
> SEE PAGE 2



3

DOMESTIC

Iran Foreign
Trade Down by 44%
> SEE PAGE 3



4

INTERNATIONAL

EU Leaders
Compromise on Linking
Funds to Rule of Law
> SEE PAGE 4



8

SPORTS

Djokovic Returns to
Training After Recovering
From COVID-19
> SEE PAGE 8



Iran Interested in Buying New Russian Weapons

MOSCOW (Dispatches) - Iran is interested in buying new Russian weapons to enhance its defense capacities, Iranian Ambassador to Russia Kazem Jalali said in an interview with the Kommersant daily.

"Indeed, it is so," he said answering the question if Teheran was interested in Russia's new weapons.

"We will hold consultations with Russia on what we need to enhance our defense capacities. The Russian government and the Russian people have always been by our side in times of trouble. Russia is our priority partner in this sense," he stressed.

Jalali also called for setting up a club of countries which have been hit by the US sanctions.

He proposed the creation of a club of countries that have been hit by the US sanctions.

Countries, that are at the targets of pressure from sanctions imposed by Washington, can consolidate their efforts to counter U.S. policy, he emphasized, noting that major powers such as Russia, Iran, and China can work together to counter U.S. sanctions policies.

See Page 7

Record-High Number of Iranians Die of COVID-19 In 24 Hours

IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK

TEHRAN - Iran has confirmed 229 COVID-19 fatalities in the past 24 hours, an all-time high number of deaths caused by the novel coronavirus since the beginning of the outbreak in the Islamic Republic.

Health Ministry spokeswoman says the new fatalities raise the overall death toll to 14,634. In her press briefing on Tuesday, Sima-Sadat Lari also confirmed 2,625 new cases of COVID-19 infection, increasing the total number of infections to 278,827.

According to the spokeswoman, 242,351 patients have so far recovered from COVID-19, while 3,589 are still in severe conditions of the disease.

She said so far 2,201,958 COVID-19 tests have been taken across the country. Lari added that Khuzestan, Kerman, Ilam, West Azarbaijan, East Azarbaijan, Alborz, Golestan, Zanjan, Lorestan, Mazandaran, Fars, and Khorasan Razavi are considered as "red zones".

See Page 7

Tehran, Baghdad Aim To Boost Trade to \$20b



IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK

TEHRAN - President Hassan Rouhani on Tuesday said that Iran and Iraq are determined to carry out the provisions of both sides' latest visit.

President Rouhani welcomed Iraqi Prime Minister Mustafa Al-Kadhimi here in Tehran on Tuesday.

The formal ceremony was held and President Rouhani and the Iraqi PM reviewed the guard of honor and introduced the high-ranking delegations.

In a joint press conference with Iraqi PM, President Rouhani expressed content about the improvement of economic ties between Tehran and Baghdad.

Rouhani informed that he has discussed regional health issues under the outbreak of Covid-19 with Al-Kadhimi.

"I assure the Iraqi nation that Iran will stand beside them by supplying the required health products and medicine in the fight against the coronavirus," the Iranian President said.

The Iranian President added that Iran-Iraq trade ties are planned to hit 20 billion per annum in the future.

He also paid tribute to both countries' commanders, Lt. Gen. Soleimani and Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis, who was martyred by the direct order of the US President in Baghdad, in January 2020.

Rouhani also reiterated Iran's readiness to ensure security and stability in Iraq.

Al-Kadhimi, for his part, named expansion of mutual ties with Iran as the main purpose of his visit to Tehran. He said Tehran-Baghdad ties are historic.

He vowed that his country will not allow any threat against Iran from the Iraqi soil. He said Iraq is in need of cooperation with Iran to overcome challenges put forward by the COVID-19 outbreak and the slump in oil price.

Underlining the significance of preserving peace and stability in the region, he said Iraq will never forget Iran's support in its combat with the ISIL and terrorist groups. Iraq accordingly stood beside Iran to help it overcome economic challenges, he added. He hoped that Iran-Iraq cooperation will end in overcoming regional challenges, as well.

Rouhani welcomed Al-Kadhimi at Tehran's Islamic Summit Conference Hall on Tuesday. The two officials held a private meeting before attending the press conference.

On the sidelines of the meeting, an official from the Central Bank of Iran (CBI) informed that Iraq and Iran are on the verge of finalizing a foreign currency agreement which will inundate Iran's market with several million U.S. dollars in the near future.

As Hamid Ghanbari said, the two neighboring countries are to expand foreign currency and banking ties.

Ghanbari, who accompanied Iranian FM Zarif into his recent visit to Iraq, added that in this visit the two sides have negotiated on various cooperation fields and all the accorded issues will be finalized during the current Iraqi PM visit to Iran.

Almost a year ago, Iran and Iraq inked a banking agreement and the CBI governor made a trip to Iraq almost a month ago.

The meeting was held at the presence of Iranian Minister of Health and Medical Education Saeed Namaki, Iranian Defense Minister Brigadier General Amir Hatami, Iranian oil minister Bijan Namdar Zanganeh, Iranian Minister of Roads and Urban Development Mohammad Eslami, Caretaker of Iranian Ministry of Industry, Mine and Trade Hossein Modarres Khiaabani, and The Governor of the Central Bank of Iran (CBI) Abdolnaser Hemmati.

Later yesterday, Supreme Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei received Iraqi Prime Minister.

Iran to Continue Cooperation With India on Chabahar Line

NEW DELHI (Dispatches) - In the latest twist to Iran's Chabahar-Zahedan railway project, Iran's Railway Minister said Iran and India are "determined to continue" cooperation on the railway line. The remarks contradict Iranian officials who had previously said India was not a part of the project.

"Considering the history of cooperation between the two countries and the existing potentials and capacities, Iran and India are determined to continue their cooperation in the field of rail transport, especially the Zahedan-Chabahar railway, because the development of cooperation between the two countries in this area," said the Iranian Railways head Saeed Rasouli, after a meeting with Indian Ambassador to Iran Gaddam Dharmendra on Monday, in a statement reported by the official agency, Railnews.

As The Hindu had reported last week, Iranian railways had, on July 7, inaugurated the track laying operations for the 628 km line from Chabahar port to Zahedan on the border with Afghanistan, without Indian railway construction company IRCON's participation. When asked why India had not been a part of the inauguration, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson had said last Thursday that India had not heard back from Iran on a request to "finalise outstanding technical and financial issues" since December 2019.

See Page 7

ViewPoint

By: Hamid Reza Naghashian



The U.S. Loses, Iran Wins

Nowadays you cannot find any media in the West either in Persian language or local languages that it has not covered Iran-China strategic agreement. More important than the media it is the security officials in the Western countries who have pointed to this agreement one after the other that they have encouraged Iranian people to revolt against the agreement or they have become more realistic and have pointed to the trend of effects of the agreement and the conditions after its implementation and have called it a way for passing through the barbed wires of the Western sanctions against Iran.

For example, Former U.S. Acting and Deputy Director of CIA Mr. Michael Morell in his twitter account wrote, "China and Iran win and we lose." He criticizes the West's policies especially the White House's for pulling out of the nuclear deal with Iran, the JCPOA, and writes, "This is a direct result of our go-it-alone policy on Iran. This is a key reason why so many, including Tillerson and Mattis, were against the U.S. withdrawal from the Iran nuclear deal. Policy missteps have real consequences."

Former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations in her twitter accounts writes, "China partners with Iran ending Iran's global isolation. The partnership ... would vastly expand Chinese presence in banking, telecommunications, ports, railways and dozens of other projects."

Apart from the Western officials, most Western analysts believe that the goal behind the agreement is that both Iran and China want to show that they have other alternatives than the West even some of their projects do not come on stream.

These reports and assumptions are published that the agreement has not been sealed yet and all these speculations and analyses are based on a publication of the initial draft of the agreement as the proposed document.

American newspaper Wall Street Journal in a report on the comprehensive agreement between Iran and China writes, "Iran and China are seeking to cement a wide-ranging partnership that would deflect U.S. economic pressure and ease Tehran's global isolation. And according to the agreement which should be approved by Iran's parliament, China can take advantage of Iran's oil resources and in return, Iran will enjoy China's investments. Iran and China's partnership can help both countries to fight with U.S. pressures on both states."

See Page 7

Seoul Calls in Iranian Envoy Over Threat To Sue S. Korea

SEOUL (Yonhap) -- The foreign ministry called in Iran's top envoy in South Korea on Tuesday to lodge a protest over Tehran's reported threat to take a legal step against Seoul over the freeze last year of the country's assets in line with U.S. sanctions.

Koh Kyung-sok, director-general in charge of African and Middle Eastern affairs, voiced regrets to Iranian Ambassador Saeed Badamchi Shabestari, as Tehran's foreign ministry spokesperson has told Iranian media that the case could be referred to the International Court of Justice unless the assets are released.

"The official in charge called in the ambassador and expressed regrets over the inappropriate remarks," Kim In-chul, the ministry's spokesperson, told a regular press briefing.

"The Iranian side called for understanding and stressed that it was not the official position of the Iranian government," he added.

Iran's assets at two Korean bank accounts -- known to be worth up to US\$7 billion in total -- have been frozen since September last year when Washington's sanctions waiver for South Korea's imports of Iranian oil expired.

See Page 7



Advertisement Department
021-44253335-39

www.irannewsdaily.com
info@irannewsdaily.com

@irannewsdaily @irannewsdaily

British Visa Center in Tehran To Reopen on July 26

TEHRAN (IP) - The British ambassador to Iran announced the reopening of the country's visa issuance center in Tehran from next Sunday, July 26, and emphasized that to obtain a visa, no intermediary or broker is required and all the required information is online and all the appointments would be given every week.

"I know many people in Iran want to travel to the UK despite the challenges of the Coronavirus," Robert Macaire said in a video posted on his official Instagram account on Tuesday adding: "Many people contacted us or posted messages on our social media asking about when the Visa Center would reopen."

Gov't Policy Is to Back Exports to Boost Domestic Production

TEHRAN (IP) - Referring to the need to develop relations and strengthen border and trade exchanges with neighbors, President Hassan Rouhani stressed the government's support for exporters, stating that the diversity of exports of non-oil goods reduces the vulnerability of the country's economy.

Speaking in a meeting held for removing barriers and facilitating exports, President Rouhani stressed providing a basis for increasing exports of Iranian goods to neighboring target countries, as well as the need for exporters to return the currency from exports to the country's economic cycle.

Referring to the dangers of single-product exports to the country's economy, the President called for an effort to create diversity and trust in Iran's exported products and described it as a necessary and valuable step so as to strengthen exports and help the country's economy prosper.

Pointing to the problems caused by Iran's simultaneous confrontation with oppressive sanctions and the outbreak of the coronavirus on the country's economy, Rouhani expressed, "In recent months, due to the coronavirus pandemic, border exchanges and exports and imports with neighboring countries have faced problems, which with gradual resolution of the coronavirus problem and reopening of borders in accordance with health protocols, exchanges with neighbors have resumed, and we must seize this opportunity".

The President reiterated the government's support for exporters as those who are at the forefront of the enemy's economic war, saying: "Export boom is one of the main priorities of the government and we support exporters with all our might".

The President called the strengthening of non-oil exports to supply the currency needed by the country as one of the main policies in the field of economy and added: "This way, neighboring countries are the first priority of economic relations and the government's policy is directed towards developing relations, especially economic and trade relations with the neighbors, and the export of technical and engineering services and the creation of joint industrial parks will deepen these relations".



Rouhani also stressed the need for more active joint economic commissions with countries, especially neighbors, saying, "We should use all tools and capacities for economic growth and the development of exports".

Stating that according to statistics, the country's economic growth rate has been positive without oil last year, Rouhani said, "Positive economic growth despite sanctions and unprecedented economic pressure is an important thing that we must do our best to continue this year".

Rouhani also expressed that the government will do its best in the remaining year of its office to realize the slogan of 'Surge in Production', adding: "The prosperity of production has no choice but to develop non-oil exports and to boost domestic production, and we must seek the development of export and identify foreign markets to export our products to".

In this regard, Rouhani called for strengthening the position of border provinces in the development of non-oil exports and the need to organize some border terminals as regional export empowerment centers.

The President also pointed out that the government has engaged all the facilities and capacities to manage the country's economy without oil revenues in the conditions of sanctions and coronavirus, adding, "In the economy without relying on oil revenues, the governing model of relations between the three sides of production, export and oil has changed in favor of 'production for export'".

Spokesman Welcomes Efforts to Mediate Between Tehran, Riyadh



TEHRAN (IFP) - Spokesperson for the Iranian government has underlined Tehran's determination to enhance relations with the neighboring countries as a main priority, saying Iran would welcome any initiative for the promotion of amity with the other countries, except the US.

Speaking at a weekly press conference on Tuesday, Ali Rabiei said one of the government's main priorities is to work in cooperation and expand relations with the neighbours in all fields.

He pointed to Iraqi Prime Minister Mustafa al-Kadhimi's ongoing trip to Tehran, expressing hope that the two sides would hold effectual dialogue with the purpose of deepening Tehran-Baghdad ties.

The Iraqi prime minister's visit to Tehran is in line with the plans for the promotion of Iran-Iraq relations, the spokesman noted, adding that the main issues to be discussed in the meetings would include the fight against terrorism, the common environmental issues, and the border trade.

Rabiei further made it clear that Iran is willing to cooperate with every country that is determined to cooperate and has goodwill, including Russia.

Tehran welcomes any initiative with the purpose of promoting amity, but the US is an exception, he added.

The spokesman further pointed to the falling price of foreign currency in the Iranian market, saying the administration expects to increase the currency incomes with the gradual removal of the coronavirus-related restrictions.

The currency price is moving towards its real rate, he added.

Rabiei then called on people to keep observing the health protocols to tackle COVID-19, saying if 95 percent of people wear face masks, the positive results will outperform an economic shutdown.

Iran-Russia Relations as Strategic

MOSCOW (IRNA) - Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif on Tuesday described Iran's relations with Russia as strategic, adding that given the speed of regional and international processes the need for an ongoing conversation between Iran and Russia is going to increase.

In an interview upon his arrival in Moscow, Zarif said that renewing the 20-year agreement with Russia is on the agenda of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Zarif said that "I have visited Moscow today (Tuesday) following the talks between Iranian President Hassan Rouhani with his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin".

"I stress that Iran and Russia relations are strategic. Besides, in the prevailing situation where significant developments are taking place at the international level, there is a necessity for regular conversation between the two countries and with other friends," he added.

The Iranian foreign minister went on to say that during his visit he will discuss bilateral relations and the JCPOA. Iran's top diplomat arrived in Moscow on Tuesday to hold meetings with senior Russian officials.

During his stay in Moscow, Zarif is supposed to hold talks with Russian officials.

Iran-China Cooperation Document, a Threat to U.S.

TEHRAN (MNA) - Former Iranian Ambassador to the People's Republic of China said that signing a 25-year cooperation document between Iran and China is a threat to the United States.

Javad Mansouri said that the proximity of Iran and China with each other as two independent states is clearly a threat to the U.S. hegemony.

Regarding Tehran-Beijing talks for concluding a comprehensive cooperation document, he said, "the two governments of Iran and China, given their historical background and commonalities, are considered as two influential governments in East and West Asia. Naturally, there are many areas for bilateral cooperation."

Iran and China have many fields for cooperation at the international level, he said, adding that ties between the two countries witnessed significant growth especially after the glorious victory of the Islamic Revolution in 1979 so that the Islamic

Republic has maximum relations with China in various fields at the present time.

Since China has had a growing trend in economic and technological terms and also plays a more effective role in the international arena, most countries in the world are planning to expand their relations with Beijing, Mansouri stressed.

"The issue of long-term cooperation between the two countries is not confined to Iran only. Different countries in the world forecast that China will play a much bigger role in the future than today, and therefore, they feel the need to achieve a framework for establishing long-term cooperation with this country and plan for it."

It is natural that Iran, like all countries in its interactions with other countries, should expand its relations exactly on the basis of equal position, mutual interests and use of potentials and actual capabilities, Iran's former envoy added.

Some 1,044 Centrifuges Enrich Uranium at Fordow

TEHRAN (IRNA) - Spokesman of Majlis National Security and Foreign Policy Commission said on Monday that some 1,044 centrifuges are enriching uranium at Ahmadi-Rowshan Nuclear Site in Fordow.

He said that Members of Parliament are keen on cooperation with Organization of Iran Atomic Energy to promote the country's nuclear achievements.

Abulfazl Amouei said that a number of lawmakers visited Ahmadi-Rowshan and Shahid Ali Mohammadi nuclear sites on Monday to examine latest developments in the country's nuclear activities.

At Shahid Ali Mohammadi site in Fordow, some 1,044 centrifuges in six cascades of first-generation uranium centrifuges enrich uranium by 4.5 percent, he said.

"At Shahid Ahmadi Roshan Nuclear Site in Natanz, we saw first, second and fourth generation centrifuges put in the enrichment chain," Amouei said.

Currently, the process of research and development of new generations of centrifuges, including "IR 6", "IR 8" and "IR 9" centrifuges are underway, and legislators saw the activities of young nuclear scientists on research and development on the centrifuges at the site, he said.

Outsiders Seeking to Sell Arms in Middle East

TEHRAN (PressTV)- Iran's Embassy in Kuwait has hit back at the U.S. envoy to the Arab country over her criticism of Tehran's regional role, saying the outsiders do not care about the Middle East's stability and are only there to sell their arms.

Tehran's mission in Kuwait City highlighted the significance of maintaining security in the region, saying this can solely be ensured through cooperation among the region's countries.

"No country is more sympathetic towards regional security and stability than the region's own countries," it said in a tweet. Drawing attention to Washington's interventionist policies in the region, the Embassy said, "Those who have come from thousands of kilometers away are here to sell weapons and make money."

The tweet came in response to recent remarks by U.S. Ambassador to Kuwait Alina Romanowski, who reportedly described Iran's role in the region as evil.

The Iranian mission further blasted Americans for assassinating Iran's top anti-terror commander Lieutenant General Qassem Soleimani and Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis, the second-in-command of Iraq's Popular Mobilization Units (PMU).

It is in fact those who killed popular anti-terrorism military commanders in the region who are playing an evil role in the region, the tweet said. "The children of this region will never forget such evil role."

The Iranian mission in Kuwait also slammed Washington for violating UN Security Council Resolution 2231 by leaving a 2015 multilateral nuclear deal between Tehran and world states, describing the move as an instance of "unilateralism and evil role in the world."

"The evil role means that for the first time in the history of the United Nations, a permanent Security Council member violates the resolution adopted by the Council and punishes the states that have complied with it," the Embassy said.

Financial Channel for Transfer of Humanitarian Aid to Iran to Be Launched

TEHRAN (IRNA) - Head of Iranian Red Crescent Society Karim Hemmati on Monday announced launch of a financial channel for transfer of international humanitarian aid to Iran.

Hemmati made the remark in a meeting with the IRNA Managing Director Mohammad Reza Norouzpour on Monday.

During the meeting, he said that after meetings with influential European ambassadors in Tehran, it was agreed that there should be a secure financial channel for the Red Crescent that can benefit from the financial benefits the others provide to the Red Crescent.

After the Red Crescent corresponded with the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, he had correspondence with the US Treasury and Diplomacy Division, and fortunately, with the follow-up of the Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the efforts of the Red Cross, the U.S. finally surrendered and a few days ago, correspondence was made by the US Treasury Department, according to which an opportunity will emerge in the discussion of the transfer of humanitarian aid to the Iranian Red Crescent Society, Hemmati said.

He further noted that according to these correspondences, if assistance is provided to the Iranian Red Crescent Society by individuals or legal entities, provided that one of the parties should not be American, the U.S. Treasury Department will not object to sending it.

As part of this decision, in the past few days, sections of the aid that had been reserved for the Red Crescent and could not be transferred to Iran for several years entered the country, he said.

"We should try to use this channel properly for the issues of medicine, food, and other facilities that the Red Crescent needs, and with the consultations that are taking place, we can solve some of the country's problems in this way."

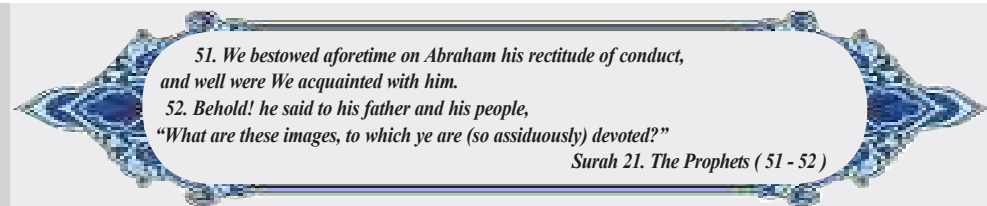
The head of the Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran did not mention the exact amount of aid to be received in the form of foreign exchange funds, but experts predict that significant amounts of foreign exchange will enter the country in the near future.





PRAYER TIME

■ Noon (Zohr)	13:10
■ Evening (Maghreb)	20:36
■ Tomorrow's Dawn (Fajr)	04:26
■ Tomorrow's Sunrise	06:06



Iran Foreign Trade Down by 44%

IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

TEHRAN - Head of Tehran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (TCCIMA) Mr. Masoud Khansari says the country needs foreign investment especially in mine, oil, gas and steel sectors as the country is facing with more poverty and currently 6 deciles of the society are living under the poverty line.

During yesterday meeting of TCCIMA, Mr. Khansari said that Iran's revenues in exporting oil, gas and condensates witnessed \$32b decrease last year comparing to its preceding year.

He noted that according to Iran Customs Administration reports, the foreign trade in the first quarter of the current year stood at \$13.98b as \$6.4b was the share of exports and \$7.6 was imports' share which shows 44 percent decline in the foreign trade volume. He reiterated that at the same time, the liquidity has soared and the total volume of liquidity last year was over 2470b toman which shows 31 percent growth and statistics in the first quarter of the current year indicate that if this trend continues, the country will see 32 percent growth in liquidity and by the yearend, the figure will stand at \$3200b.

Khansari also noted that according to the World Bank forecast, Iran's economic growth has been predicted at minus 5.3 percent and by the yearend it will rise to minus 17 percent.

He then pointed to some inflammation in gold, housing and forex market, adding that the officials should pay close attention to this point otherwise the country will face super inflation.

Tehran, Baghdad Aim to Boost Trade To \$20b a Year

TEHRAN (IRNA) - Head of Iran-Iraq joint chamber of commerce says the two countries will review ways to enhance level of trade to 20 billion dollars a year in the course of visit to Tehran of Iraqi Prime Minister Mustafa al-Kadhimi.

Al-Kadhimi's Tehran visit will be effective in development and strengthening economic cooperation, Yahya Al-e Eshaq said.

Economic issues form the centerpiece of bilateral talks, the official noted.

He further said that implementing mutual agreements, removal of obstacles in the way of economic cooperation and payment of three billion dollars arrears by Iraqi Government will also be discussed.

Referring to the international lockdown in the aftermath of coronavirus pandemic which has created major problems for global trade since December 2019, the official hoped that the visit of Iraqi prime minister to Iran would lead to accelerate reopening of border customs offices to improve international trade.

Iran's exports to Iraq stood at nine billion dollars in the past Iranian year which ended on March 21, 2020. Meanwhile, despite the lockdown, Iran has exported five million tons of commodities worth of 1.45 billion dollars to Iraq over the first three months of the Iranian year.

Iran to Attract Millions of Chinese Tourists

TEHRAN (MNA) – Iran's ex-ambassador to Beijing said that according to the 25-years comprehensive document, Iran will become one of China's tourist destinations so that millions of Chinese tourists would be attracted to the country annually.

Speaking in the TV program, Mahdi Safari said that the 25-year Comprehensive Cooperation Document between Iran and China is a comprehensive one in various fields including energy, industry and mining, power stations, tourism, health, environment, security, military, defense, and political issues.

Pointing to the fact that some 200 million Chinese tourists visit different countries annually, he said "according to this agreement Iran will become one of the Chinese tourist destinations so that Iran can attract one to two million Chinese tourists to the country."

"This tourist attraction will create a transformation in Iran's tourism industry as well as creating jobs and a large market for the handicrafts industry of the country", he added.

Elsewhere he added that "One of the clauses of this document is that Iran commits to sell oil to China for 25 years and instead china vows to buy Iran's oil during this time."

The former diplomat continued to explain that this agreement would help Iran to guarantee a large amount of its oil market, and in return, the Chinese side will be assured of its energy sector."

In reaction to rumors on selling oil to china bellow the price, he said that the Oil Industry of the Islamic Republic of Iran, has its special rules and contracts and the price of oil would be at the market price.

"China supplies 80% of the world's raw materials for medicine production" he also said, adding that we must seize this opportunity to meet the country's need in this field.

China is also making the most modern medical equipment so that Iran can obtain these products at a reasonable price, he noted.

Over 1m Tons of Steel Exported in Q1

TEHRAN (MNA) – Domestic steelmakers exported 1,041,000 tons of steel ingots (billet, bloom and slab) to target markets in the first three months of the current Iranian calendar year (from March 21 to June 20).

According to the Iranian Steel Producers Association (ISPA), 1,425,000 tons of steel ingots were exported in the country in three months of the previous Iranian

calendar year (from March 21 to June 20, 2019).

Steel production volume in the first quarter of the current year hit 7,135,000 tons, showing a three percent growth as compared to the last year's corresponding period.

Based on ISPA statistics, although the production volume of steel ingots (billet and bloom) in the first three months of the current year decreased, the total production of intermediate steel in the country registered a three percent growth as compared to the same period of last year.

Some 837,000 tons of billets and blooms were exported from the country in the first quarter of the current year, accounting for 80 percent export share of total steel ingots, ISPA added.

Statistical tables indicate that the total export volume of steel productions in the country hit 388,000 tons, showing a 49 percent decline as compared to the last year's corresponding period.

Chadormalu Co. Saves \$17b For Steel Industries

IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

TEHRAN – The CEO of Chadormalu Mining and Industrial Company Eng. Naser Taghizadeh says the performance of the company has saved some \$27b for the steel industry in the country.

Speaking in an interview, Mr. Taghizadeh defended the stand of iron ore producers in the country for adjustment of price of raw material for steel industry, adding that national steel industries produce their products based on the direct reduction system and last year they bought some 5m tons of dry iron ore concentrate and some one million ton of pellet from Chadormalu.

He added that the average price of each ton of iron ore of Chadormalu was around 6.2 rials and the average price for Chadormalu's pellet was around 9.2m rials per ton.

Mr. Taghizadeh reiterated that if the steel-making companies wanted to import those pellets and iron ore concentrate, the price of each ton of iron ore concentrate based on CFR delivery at Iranian ports would have been around \$125 per ton and \$15m per pellet.

He added that with a simple calculation of other charges for loading the vessels and customs cost, the average cost of each ton of iron ore concentrate could be 15.82m rials and the average price for imported pellet could be around 19m rials per ton.

Taghizadeh reiterated that the balance between the imported raw material and Chadormalu's supply stands at 9.5m rials per ton for iron concentrate and 9.82m rials per ton of pellet.

He added that on the whole, steel producers in the country last year purchased their raw materials from the domestic iron ore producers at a price almost half of the international price and exported their products at the international price.

He noted that steel-makers profit two times more than iron ore producers and called for adjusting prices.



Isfahan Electricity Consumption Reaches New Peak

IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK

ISFAHAN – The director of Isfahan City Electricity Distribution Company says

due to the rise in summer heat, the electricity consumption has reached a new peak, adding that according to the weather forecast, it will get some degrees hotter next week and through managing consumption, the city can pass the current 1180 megawatt electricity of peak consumption.

Hamid Reza Pirpiran also pointed to the peak time of electricity consumption in the city which is between 12:00 to 17:00 hrs and urged subscribers to observe the consumption pattern till late September in order the company avoids forcing electricity outage in Isfahan.

He also urged the subscribers to use electric apparatus like washing machine and dishwashing machine in the non-peak hours and called them to adjust their air conditioners at lower degrees in order to lower consumption.

He reiterated that all sectors have their own shares of managing consumption and some 115 megawatts will be saved by industry, agro and state-offices.

Isfahan City Electricity Distribution Company serves some 1.2m subscribers.



Iran, Afghanistan to Strengthen Medical Cooperation

TEHRAN (MNA) – Iran University of Medical Sciences and Khatam al-Nabieen University of Afghanistan signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on medical cooperation.

The MoU, which was signed by the chancellors of both universities, is aimed at enhancing scientific, educational, and research relations between the two universities. Holding training courses, joint projects, scientific, educational, information and research exchanges, as well as bilateral meetings of academics and taking advantage of special potentials in medical and paramedic fields are among the most important spheres of cooperation between the two universities.

Previously, it was announced that Afghanistan and Iran would further increase academic exchanges in the field of medical sciences, after the Chancellor of Qom University of Medical Sciences Mohammad Reza Qadir and the Chancellor of Khatam Al-Nabieen University Vahid Binesh in Qom signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) and discussed the ways to expand scientific and academic cooperation during the meeting.

According to available statistics, 40,000 Afghan university students are studying in Iranian universities at different levels of education, especially in technical engineering fields.

Golgozar Co. Sells Over 4,000b Tomans of Products in Q1

IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

TEHRAN – Golgozar Mining and Industrial Company enjoyed a successful season in the first quarter of the current Iranian year and sold over 4392b toman of products which shows 37 percent of growth comparing to the same period last year.

According to the public relations of Golgozar Company, the company which is the biggest iron ore producer in the country accounts for producing 32 percent of iron concentrate and some 29 percent of pellet in the country.

The company is determined to implement its developmental projects in iron ore processing and it intends to continue its production chain till the final steel product, namely, sheet. It has also had comparatively good performance in sales and its production in the first quarter of the year despite

problems like the pandemic has faced no plausible change.

Golgozar Company has produced over 3m tons of iron concentrates, over 3m tons of pellet and over 30,000 tons of pellet in three months and its total production stood at over 6m tons in the first quarter. The company also managed to sell over 3m tons of pellets, over 38,000 tons of pellet and over 389,000 tons of concentrate in the same period.

The total value of company's sales in the first quarter exceeded over 40392b rials in the first quarter. So in the first quarter, the company experienced 47 percent growth in sales of pellet, 300 percent in sales of fine pellet and 24 percent fall in sales of concentrate and the total growth of its sales was 37 percent.



Floods Kill Scores in India's Tea-Growing Assam

GUWAHATI (Reuters) - Intense rain and floods in the Indian state of Assam have killed at least 84 people and displaced more than 2.75 million since May, authorities said on Monday, as they tried to collect the bodies of nine rare rhinos drowned in the past 10 days.

Rescue teams were facing a double challenge of rising flood waters amid the novel coronavirus as villagers driven from their homes huddle in shelters. "It's hard to enforce social distancing when people are being ordered to move away from the rising waters," said Sanghamitra Sanyal, a member of the northeastern state's flood management force.

"We're urging people to at least cover their mouth and nose with a piece of clean cloth."



U.S. Blacklists Chechen Leader for Rights Abuses

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The U.S. State Department placed Chechen Republic leader Ramzan Kadyrov on its blacklist of human rights violators Monday for alleged torture, extrajudicial killings and other violations it said go back more than a decade.

The department said Kadyrov, his spouse Medni Kadyrova, and his daughters Aishat Kadyrova and Karina Kadyrova, were designated under its Section 7031(c) sanctions, which bans them from travelling to the United States.

"This designation is due to Kadyrov's involvement in gross violations of human rights in the Chechen Republic," said Secretary of State Mike Pompeo in a statement.



EU Leaders Compromise on Linking Funds to Rule of Law



BRUSSELS (AFP) - European leaders have reached a summit compromise on the question of whether EU funds can be withheld from a member state that breaches legal norms, officials and diplomats said Tuesday.

Hungarian media close to Prime Minister Viktor Orban's government, which is facing an investigation over its drift into authoritarianism, hailed it as a "great victory" at the Brussels talks.

But a spokesman for Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel would not confirm their claim that she had promised to bring the probe to an end during her country's EU presidency -- before the end of the year.

EU member states Hungary and Poland often come under fire in Brussels for allegedly undermining European legal standards and democratic values.

If Orban had wielded his veto at the summit, the bloc's 750-billion-euro coronavirus economic rescue package and trillion-euro seven-year budget would have been on hold.

"Hungary has declared itself willing to take all the necessary steps in the Article 7 procedure so that a decision can be reached in the Council (of member states)," said government spokesman Steffen Seibert.

"The German presidency of the Council has agreed to take this process forward in the limits of its possibilities," he said.

It had been proposed before this week's summit that all EU funding be cut for countries that fall foul of the union's procedure, named after Article 7 of its treaty, which can lead to a state losing voting rights.

Poland and Hungary had threatened to veto any linkage between funding and rule of law but, as the talks continued through a fourth night, a draft deal emerged that appeared to have broader support.

According to the plan, any cuts would have to be approved by a qualified majority of the EU Council, which represents member states.

This would require a vote of 55 percent of the EU countries representing 65 percent of its total population, which would make it easier for targeted governments to build a blocking minority.

The EU Commission started the unprecedented Article 7 proceedings in December 2017, initially against Poland. In September 2018, the European Parliament then initiated such proceedings against Hungary as well.

But the hurdles for sanctions are high, and an eventual withdrawal of EU voting rights is considered in Brussels to be the "nuclear option" in relation to member states.

The EU governments therefore took no further steps.

China to Fight Back as UK Suspends Hong Kong Extradition Deal



BEIJING (Dispatches) - China on Tuesday accused the United Kingdom of interfering in its internal affairs and said it would "fight back" after Britain announced it would suspend its extradition treaty with Hong Kong as a result of China's decision to impose a national security law on the territory.

An unnamed spokesman at the Chinese Embassy in London claimed the UK had repeatedly violated international law and the basic norms of international relations.

"The UK will bear the consequences if it insists on going down the wrong road," the spokesman said, according to the statement that was published on the embassy's website.

The UK announced on Monday its plan to suspend its extradition treaty with the former British colony.

Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab told parliament the move would be effective immediately and that an arms embargo would also be extended to Hong Kong.

"We will not consider reactivating those arrangements, unless and until there are clear and robust safeguards, which are able to prevent extradition from the UK being misused under the new national security legislation," Raab said.

The United States, Australia and Canada have already suspended their extradition arrangements with the territory.

On Tuesday, the Chinese embassy spokesman added that "any attempt" to put pressure on China regarding the law "will meet the strong opposition" of its people.

"Such attempt is doomed to failure."

In a social media post, Joshua Wong, the most prominent leader of Hong Kong's civil rights and pro-democracy movement, said it was "not exactly wisest thing" to describe the national security law as part of China's domestic policies.

Trump Threatens to Send Federal Forces to More Democrat Cities

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) - President Donald Trump on Monday said he would send law enforcement to more U.S. cities, as a federal crackdown on anti-racism protests in Oregon with unmarked cars and unidentified forces angered people across the country.

Trump, a Republican, cited New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Detroit, Baltimore and Oakland, California, as places to send federal agents, noting the cities' mayors were "liberal Democrats." Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot frequently blasts Trump on Twitter.

"We're sending law enforcement," Trump told reporters at the White House. "We can't let this happen to the cities."

State and local leaders in Oregon, as well as members of Congress, have called for Trump to remove Department of Homeland Security secret police forces from Portland, Oregon, after videos showed unidentified federal personnel rounding up people and whisking them away in black minivans.

"Not only do I believe he is breaking the law, but he is also endangering the lives of Portlanders," the city's mayor, Ted Wheeler, tweeted, having previously called the federal presence "political theater" in an election year.

Trump, trailing in opinion polls behind Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden, in June declared himself "president of law and order" and threatened to send the U.S. military into cities after sometimes violent protests and looting in the aftermath of African American George Floyd's death in police custody in Minneapolis.

Federal agents last week began cracking down on Portland protests against police brutality and systemic racism, using tear gas to defend federal buildings and taking some activists into custody without explanation.

"They grab a lot of people and jail the leaders. These are anarchists," Trump said of federal agents sent to the historically liberal city to quell often unruly protests.

Egypt's Parliament Approves Troop Deployment to Libya

CAIRO (Dispatches) - Egypt's parliament authorised the deployment of troops outside the country on Monday after the president threatened military action against Turkish-backed forces in neighboring Libya.

The parliament unanimously approved "the deployment of members of the Egyptian armed forces on combat missions outside Egypt's borders to defend Egyptian national security ... against criminal armed militias and foreign terrorist elements", it said in a statement.

The deployment would be made on a "western front" - a likely reference to western neighbour Libya. The move could bring Egypt and Turkey - which support rival sides in Libya's chaotic proxy war - into direct confrontation.

Egypt's House of Representatives, packed with supporters of President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, approved the plan after a closed-door session where deputies discussed "threats faced by the state" from the west, where Egypt shares a long desert border with war-torn Libya.

Stephanie Williams, acting head of the UN support mission in Libya, on Monday called for an "immediate ceasefire ... to spare the 125,000 civilians who remain in harm's way and for an end to the blatant violations of the UN arms embargo".

Her comments came following her meeting on Sunday with the president of neighbouring Algeria, Abdelmadjid Tebboune.

Turkey, meanwhile, demanded an "immediate" end to the support for rebel commander Khalifa Haftar in Libya after trilateral talks held in Ankara between Libyan, Turkish, and Maltese officials on Monday.

"It is essential that all kind of help and support given to putschist Haftar - which prohibits ensuring Libya's peace, tranquillity, security, and territorial integrity - ends immediately," Turkish Defence Minister Hulusi Akar said.

Haftar's backers should "stop supporting an unrealistic and wrong project", the UN-recognised Government of National Accord's (GNA) Interior Minister Fathi Bashaga said.

Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, and Russia have been backing Haftar's eastern-based forces in the conflict, while Turkey supports the GNA. An Egyptian intervention would further destabilise oil-rich Libya.

Egypt's president warned in June that any attack on Sirte or the inland al-Jufra airbase would prompt Cairo to intervene militarily, purportedly to protect its western border with Libya.



Thai Protesters Take Aim at Army After Anti-Gov't Rallies



BANGKOK (Reuters) - Protesters rallied at the headquarters of Thailand's army on Monday, accusing it of wasting taxpayers' money on procurements and renewing demands for Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha's resignation, the latest show of public opposition to his rule.

About 200 demonstrators denounced the government and the army, accusing it of inappropriate defence spending and of interfering in politics by backing Prayuth's bloodless 2014 putsch, which saw him installed as prime minister.

Though Prayuth now leads a civilian government following an election last year, critics say the military ensured the deck was stacked in his favour by writing a constitution that virtually guaranteed victory for his party.

The rally followed a protest in Bangkok on Saturday of about 2,500 people, who demanded the government dissolve parliament, step down and end harassment of its critics, in one of the biggest street demonstrations since the 2014 coup that ousted the last elected administration.

That rally and subsequent, smaller protests on Sunday in Chiang Mai, Ubon Ratchathani, were in defiance of a coronavirus ban on gatherings. Though police were present, there were no arrests.

Demonstrators on Monday displayed signs of detained or missing dissidents and carried placards saying "no coup" and reminding soldiers their duty was to the public.

One leader tore up a large poster of the army chief, General Apirat Kongsompong. Prayuth, a former army chief, has seen opposition to him grow recently. Since Thursday six of his Cabinet members have resigned.

Their exit comes as Southeast Asia's worst performing economy, which the central bank says could shrink by a record 8.1% this year, tries to recover from the impacts of the coronavirus crisis.



Shanon
(adviser)

Zaferanieh Apt (\$2300)
270sq.m, 4bdrs
S/p, Sauna
J, balcony
Fully Furn

Darrous Villa (\$4000)
1000sq.m
5bdrs, S/p
S, J, & pkg
Fully Furn

Parsian

(\$2300)
Darrous Apt
220sq.m, 3bdrs
S/pool, S, J
balcony, F.F

Farmanieh Apt (\$3000)
270sq.m, 3bdrs, S/pool
S, J, balcony, pkg lot
Fully Furn

(\$12000)
Niavaran bldg
6storey, 20bdrs
S/pool, S, J, pkg
Brand new

Sa'adat abad (\$1400)
140sq.m, 2bdrs, & F.F

Cell: +989121907875
Shanon_tari@yahoo.com
Tel : 88510081
Fax : 88506474

Vanak Office (\$30 per sq.m)
300sq.m, 4bdrs, pkg lots



IRAN NEWS
ADVERTISING
44253401

Don't Waste Your Time

Visit our website to choose your desired rental Properties

www.DeltaHOME.ir
The Most Specialized Website for Foreigners

HOME
Real Estate
Member of **DELTA** Real Estate Group
(021) 88888865



IRAN NEWS
PUBLISHER OF NEWSPAPERS
ADVERTISING

TEL: 44253448-50
FAX: 44253234
ADIRANNEWS@GMAIL.COM

UN Issues \$10.3b Coronavirus Appeal And Warns of the Price of Inaction

TEHRAN (UNIC) -- The UN's Humanitarian Chief, Mark Lowcock, has called on G20 nations to act now or face a series of human tragedies more brutal and destructive than the direct health impacts of the virus as he released an updated US\$10.3 billion appeal to fight the coronavirus in low-income and fragile countries.

Without mitigating action, the pandemic and associated global recession are set to trigger the first increase in

global poverty since 1990 and push 265 million people to the point of starvation by the end of the year. Recent estimates suggest up to 6,000 children could die every day from preventable causes as a result of direct and indirect impacts of COVID-19. Meanwhile, diverted health resources could mean the annual death toll from HIV, tuberculosis and malaria doubling.



India Seeks New Preferential Treatment From U.S.

NEW DELHI (Reuters) - India is seeking concessions for generic drugs it exports to the United States in return for opening its dairy markets and slashing tariffs on farm goods as the two sides seek to shore up a new trade deal, three sources said.

India accounts for 40% of U.S. generic drug imports, including the anti-malarial hydroxychloroquine, touted by U.S. President Donald Trump in the fight against the coronavirus.

To win preferential treatment on pharmaceutical exports, the government of Prime Minister Narendra Modi is dangling the carrot of opening its dairy and farm markets to the Trump administration, months ahead of the U.S. presidential election.

"Americans recognise the political compulsion that brings its own benefits," one of the sources with knowledge of the plans said.

India, one of the world's largest consumers of dairy products, has offered an opening to U.S. dairy imports through a quota-based system, two of the sources said. These products would need a certificate they are not derived from animals that have consumed feeds that include internal organs, blood meal or tissues of ruminants because of religious sensibilities in India.

India's federal trade ministry did not immediately comment and the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi referred questions to the U.S. Trade Representative. The two sides have been negotiating a limited trade pact for more than a year aimed at restoring zero tariffs on a range of Indian exports to the U.S. under its Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) that the Trump administration withdrew last year, citing lack of reciprocal access to India's markets.

But the Indian side has proposed a more ambitious deal than just focused on the GSP, a second source said. In addition to luring American dairy producers, it has offered to roll back tariff hikes on almonds, walnuts and apples.

It is the world's largest buyer of U.S. almonds, and second largest for its apples.

Indian Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal and U.S. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross expressed support for concluding an initial trade package and the possibility of an eventual Free Trade Agreement, the Indian government said. While India seeks concessions on drug exports, the United States has raised concerns over India's import dependence on China for sourcing raw materials for generic drugs, Mukesh Aghi, president and chief executive at U.S.-India Strategic Partnership Forum, told Reuters.

Indian drugmakers rely on China, where the coronavirus was first identified at the end of last year, for almost 70% of the active pharmaceutical ingredients for their medicines. "U.S. dependence on China indirectly is tied to India itself. And the U.S. is saying, if you want access to our market then become more self-sufficient than being dependent on China," Aghi said.

Differences remain on a large set of issues related to e-commerce and data storage rules. India's decision to levy a new 2% digital tax on foreign transactions, which upset companies such as Alphabet Inc's Google and Amazon.com, has become the latest sore point.

"The latest one on digital tax caught the U.S. side by surprise because it was announced in the budget without any discussion or consultation," Aghi said.

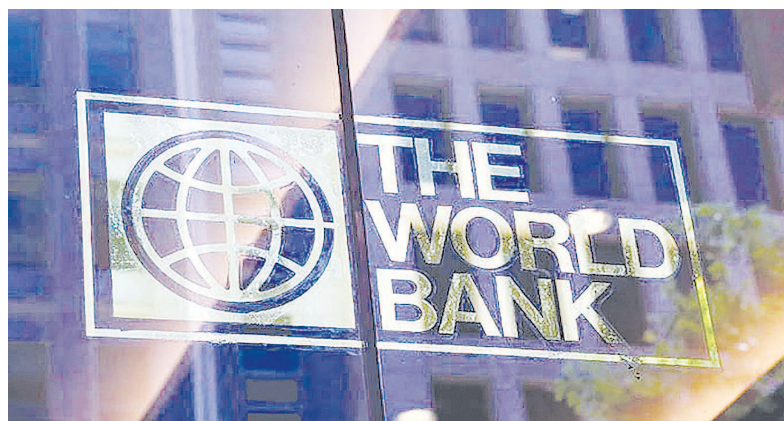
Global Productivity Threatened by Covid-19 Disruptions

WASHINGTON (Dispatches)

- The World Bank says substantial support from policymakers is needed for developing countries to withstand the severe challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic's economic shock.

Productivity growth, which is now under threat due to global value chain disruptions, is seen as a force that has contributed to lifting millions of people out of poverty in developing countries.

Managing the massive health and economic challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic must be the immediate priority, said the bank in a latest update.



As policy makers envision recovery and rebuilding, it said, the task of rekindling productivity growth should be high on their to do lists for regaining lost ground.

"The pandemic is still escalating but the pain it is causing in the lives of billions of people is especially evident in the world's 74 poorest countries," it noted.

The World Bank has already approved about US\$450 million package to assist Comesa states and will lend about US\$50 billion to some of the developing countries towards recovery from the pandemic impact.

UN Issues \$10.3b Coronavirus Appeal and Warns of the Price of Inaction

TEHRAN (UNIC) -- The UN's Humanitarian Chief, Mark Lowcock, has called on G20 nations to act now or face a series of human tragedies more brutal and destructive than the direct health impacts of the virus as he released an updated US\$10.3 billion appeal to fight the coronavirus in low-income and fragile countries.

Without mitigating action, the pandemic and associated global recession are set to trigger the first increase in global poverty since 1990 and push 265 million people to the point of starvation by the end of the year. Recent estimates suggest up to 6,000 children could die every day from

preventable causes as a result of direct and indirect impacts of COVID-19. Meanwhile, diverted health resources could mean the annual death toll from HIV, tuberculosis and malaria doubling.

COVID-19 is now present across the globe, with more than 13 million confirmed cases and more than 580,000 deaths worldwide. Last week the first confirmed case was reported in Idlib, Syria, sparking fears of a devastating outbreak in crowded camps holding displaced people. In Yemen people's immune systems are struggling to fight back after years of war and deprivation and about a quarter of Yemenis confirmed to have COVID-19 have died – five times the rate globally.

UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Mark Lowcock said:

"The pandemic and associated global recession are about to wreak havoc in fragile and low-income countries. The response of wealthy nations so far has been grossly inadequate and dangerously short-sighted. Failure to act now will leave the virus free to circle round the globe, undo decades of development and create a generation's worth of tragic and exportable problems.

"It doesn't have to be like this – this is a problem that can be fixed with money from wealthy nations and fresh thinking from the shareholders of international financial institutions and supporters of UN agencies, the Red Cross and Red Crescent movement, and NGOs.

"Rich countries have thrown out the rulebook when it comes to protecting their own economies. They must apply the same exceptional measures to countries that need help. The prospect of cascading crises more brutal and destructive than anything the virus alone can do must jolt us all out of our comfort zone."



The COVID-19 Global Humanitarian Response Plan is the international community's primary fundraising vehicle to respond to the humanitarian impacts of the virus in low- and middle-income countries and support their efforts to fight it. It brings together appeals from WHO and other UN humanitarian agencies.

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and NGO consortiums have been instrumental in helping shape the plan and deliver it, and they can access funding through it. The plan provides help and protection that prioritize the most vulnerable. This includes older people, people with disabilities, displaced people, and women and girls, given pandemics heighten existing levels of discrimination, inequality and gender-based violence.

Since the plan was first launched on 25 March, \$1.7 billion in generous donor funding has been raised.

The updated plan released today includes a supplementary \$300 million to bolster rapid response from NGOs, on top of their specific requirements in each country; a new famine prevention envelope of \$500 million; and a sharper focus on preventing gender-based violence. With funding of \$10 billion, the plan will support 63 vulnerable countries and cover the global transport system necessary to deliver the relief.

The COVID-19 Global Humanitarian Response Plan operates alongside other complementary initiatives to protect the most vulnerable people. The initiatives include the Red Cross and Red Crescent appeals; the Global Fund's program to safeguard a decade of work to combat malaria, tuberculosis and HIV; the Vaccine Alliance's (Gavi) work to keep future generations free from measles, polio and other vaccine-preventable diseases; and the UN Women's Gender in Humanitarian Action program. All require urgent funding.

China May Retaliate Against Nokia, Ericsson If EU Bans Huawei

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - China is considering retaliating against telecom gear makers Nokia and Ericsson if the European Union follows the United States and Britain in banning Huawei Technologies from 5G networks, the Wall Street Journal reported, citing people familiar with the matter.

Britain last week ordered telecom operators not to purchase 5G components from Huawei from the end of this year and remove all existing gear made by the Chinese telecoms behemoth from the 5G network by 2027.

Sweden's Ericsson and Finland's Nokia are among the most immediate beneficiaries of the U.S.-led campaign against Huawei.

China's Ministry of Commerce is looking into export controls that would prevent Nokia and Ericsson from sending products it makes in China to other countries, the Journal reported.

The retaliation would be a worst-case scenario that Beijing would use only if European countries came down hard on Chinese suppliers and banned them from their 5G networks, one person told the Journal.

The EU has so far not recommended a ban on Huawei but has issued a so-called "toolbox" of security standards that member states should apply while using suppliers considered to be high risk to build 5G networks.

Nokia and Ericsson did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

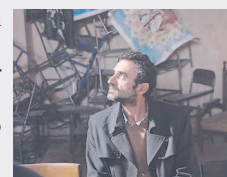


Iranian Actor Wins Best Leading Actor Award in Italy

TEHRAN (PressTV) - Iranian actor, Bakhtiyar Panjei has won the best actor award at Italy's Taormina Film Festival (TFF) for his role in feature film Namo (The Alien).

Panjei secured the award for his lead role in the 90-minute feature film, written by Jafar Panahi and Nader Saivar, at the TFF's 66th edition.

NAMO puts on display a wave of paranoia among locals of an Iranian town caused by two strangers, who park their car at the same spot for hours every day. The two are suspected to be tied to national security forces.



S. Korea's Household Debt-to-GDP Ratio Is Highest in the World

SEOUL (Yonhap) - Taking impact from the COVID-19 fallout, South Korea's household debt compared to its economic size has become one of the world's highest, while its debt grew at one of the fastest paces during the first quarter this year, a report showed Monday.

As of the end of March this year, Asia's fourth-largest economy saw its household debt stand at 97.9 percent of its gross domestic product, which was the highest among the 39 countries reviewed by the U.S.-based Institute of International Finance.

Next were Britain, Hong Kong and the United States, with 84.4 percent, 82.5 percent and 75.6 percent, respectively.

Also, Korea's household debt was one of the fastest-growing among the subject states, adding 5.8 percentage points during the same period from the previous quarter, data showed.

Korea was outpaced by Hong Kong and China, which added 9 percentage points and 6.4 percentage points to the household debt-to-GDP ratio, respectively.

The Bank of Korea said earlier that the country's household debt during the first quarter climbed at the slowest rate in one year, reaching 1,611.3 trillion won (\$1.34 trillion) as of end-March.

What raised the debt-to-GDP ratio, however, was the downsized GDP which is estimated to have shed 1.3 percent on-quarter from January to March.

The coronavirus crisis also weighed down companies' financial soundness.

As of the end of March, the outstanding debt total of nonfinancial businesses here stood at 104.6 percent of the country's GDP, up 7.4 percentage points on-quarter, according to the IIF. The figure was the seventh-highest among the 39 countries polled.



The public sector, in contrast, came in at 28th highest in debt ratio ranking, with the overall debt coming to 41.4 percent of GDP.

"The global debt-to-GDP ratio jumped over 10 percent on-quarter in the first quarter, rising to a record-high of 331 percent," the IIF report said.

"Such increases were conspicuous in countries such as China, South Korea, Turkey, and Mexico."

Turkey Credit Boom Is Bigger Than Ever, Threatening Lira



ANKARA (Dispatches) - Turkey is experiencing a huge credit boom that makes it an outlier in emerging markets and threatens the value of the lira, said Robin Brooks, the chief economist for the Institute of International Finance (IIF).

The Turkish economy will outgrow other emerging markets due to the lending surge, but that will come at the cost of a weaker lira and a widening current account deficit, Brooks, a former chief currency strategist at Goldman Sachs, said in comments on Twitter on Sunday.

"Turkey's credit boom is bigger than ever and an outlier relative to the rest of emerging markets," he said. "It's the latter that weighs on the lira, as current account deficits everywhere are shrinking, while the credit push to boost domestic demand means Turkey's deficit is widening."

Investors have been selling Turkish stocks and bonds in record amounts this year and many savers are buying dollars for lira amid concerns for financial and economic stability. A boom in credit and economic stimulus by the government helped provoke a currency crisis in the summer of 2018.

The lira slid to a record low of 7.269 per dollar in early May but has since recovered to trade at 6.85 against the U.S. currency, helped by a currency swap deal with Qatar and support from state-run banks.

Turkey's central bank has slashed interest rates to 8.25 percent from 24 percent over the past year, introduced regulations to encourage banks to lend more and spent tens of billions of dollars of its foreign currency reserves to help the government achieve its economic growth goals, keep inflation in check and defend the lira.

The economy posted a current account deficit for the sixth straight month in May as imports, driven by consumer demand, exceeded exports.

Turkey's economic stimulus, ratcheted up during the COVID-19 pandemic with the help of cheap lending from state-run banks, has increased demand for imported goods. Meanwhile, the coronavirus outbreak is limiting sales of Turkish goods and services abroad.

Portfolio investment registered a \$2.54 billion outflow in May, extending a trend this year that has seen foreign investment in Turkey's stock market drop below 50 percent for the first time in more than a decade and a half. Tourism revenue, another key source of hard currency for Turkey, has slumped to almost zero during the COVID-19 outbreak.

Meanwhile, inflation in the country is accelerating. It stood at 12.6 percent in June compared with 11.4 percent the previous month and 8.6 percent in October. Expectations for future inflation are also deteriorating, according to a central bank survey published last week.

Japan's Sinking Exports Raise Risks of Prolonged Economic Downturn at home and overseas

TOKYO (Reuters) - Japan's exports plunged at a double-digit pace for the fourth month in a row in June, backing signs the coronavirus crisis has knocked the economy into its worst postwar recession and raising the spectre of a longer and more painful global downturn.

U.S.-bound Japanese shipments nearly halved again due to plummeting demand for cars and autoparts, while exports to China remained weak, pointing to the absence of a strong growth engine for the world economy.

Ministry of Finance (MOF) data showed on Monday that Japan's exports dived 26.2% in June from a year earlier, bigger than a 24.9% decline seen by economists in a Reuters poll. The contraction slowed slightly from the prior month's 28.3% fall - the worst downturn since September 2009.

Global demand for cars and other durable goods has sunk since March as the pandemic prompted many countries to lockdown.

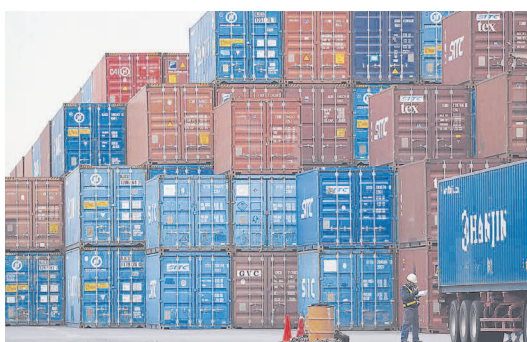
Though more countries have now started re-opening their economies, analysts say the trade data could diminish hopes for a quick rebound in global demand and Japan's export-led economy, especially given the resurgence of coronavirus cases in major economies like the United States, Brazil and India.

The International Monetary Fund last month forecast global output will shrink by 4.9% this year, versus a 3.0% contraction predicted in April. It also predicted a slower recovery in 2021, with growth of 5.4% for the year compared with a 5.8% rise seen in April.

"Exports are likely to seesaw for the time being," said Takeshi Minami, chief economist at Norinchukin Research Institute.

"If domestic and external demand remain sluggish for a prolonged period, supply capacity could be slashed, triggering a jump in bankruptcies and job losses in the latter half of this fiscal year."

The latest slump was aggravated by a massive annual



decline in U.S.-bound car shipments, a major export item for the Asian giant.

Overall shipments to the United States - Japan's key market - dived 46.6%, due to 63.3% decline in exports of automobiles, 56% drop in airplane engines and 58.3% fall in car parts.

Nissan Motor Co, Japan's No. 2 automaker, plans a 30% year-on-year cut in

global car output through December as falling demand due to the COVID-19 pandemic complicates its turnaround efforts, two sources told Reuters.

In 2018, the United States was Japan's largest export market, followed closely by China and led by cars and car parts.

Exports to China, Japan's largest trading partner, fell 0.2% in the year to June, as declines in shipments of chip-making machinery and chemical materials more than offset increase in nonferrous metal and car shipments.

Shipments to Asia, which account for more than half of Japanese exports, declined 15.3%, and exports to the European Union fell 28.4%.

Japan slipped into recession for the first time in 4-1/2 years in the first quarter and is on course for its deepest postwar slump as the health crisis hurt businesses and consumers.

The world's third-largest economy is forecast to contract 5.3% this fiscal year, the biggest contraction since comparable data became available in 1994, followed by a 3.3% bounce next year, a Reuters poll of over 30 economists shows.

Reflecting weak demand and declining oil prices, imports fell 14.4% in the year to June, versus a 16.8% decrease seen by analysts, leading to a trade deficit of 268.8 billion yen (2 billion pounds).

The Bank of Japan has signalled confidence the economy will emerge from the slump and has ruled out the risk of deflation, although policymakers have debated such a prospect in the face of the pandemic-induced global slump in demand and prices.

Iran to Continue...

FROM PAGE 1

It is unclear whether Monday's meeting means there has been some progress in the issues pending since last December, and whether India will now sign an agreement with the Iranian government to take the project forward. The MEA and Iranian Embassy in Delhi declined to make any further comments to the new development.

Meanwhile, another Iranian official also said last week that India was not a part of the inauguration as it had not signed the Chabahar-Zahedan rail agreement, despite a previous 2016 MoU between Iranian railway infrastructure company CDTIC and Indian railway construction company IRCON.

"Iran has only signed two agreements with Indians for investment in Chabahar: one is related to port's machinery and equipment, and the second is related to India's investment to the tune of \$150m," Farhad Montaser, deputy on Iran's Ports and Maritime Organization told IRNA news agency last Wednesday. "We had a list of Indian investments in Chabahar port, which also included the issue of Chabahar railway infrastructure and the railway, but during the negotiations it was not agreed," Mr. Montaser.

When asked about the decision to go ahead alone, Iranian diplomatic officials had cited Indian delays and the impact of U.S. sanctions.

The officials had said the Chabahar Zahedan rail line is "currently under construction by Iranian funding and engineering capacities" given the "absence of India's active engagement and partnership", and had said that India was welcome to join at a "later date".

The U.S. Loses...

FROM PAGE 1

Meanwhile American daily

The New York Times in an article "Defying U.S., China and Iran Near Trade and Military Partnership" like Wall Street Journal called the Iran-China 25-Year Agreement a act in line with weakening the Donald Trump Administration's anti-Iran measures. The daily claimed that it had obtained the detailed 18-page proposed agreement and writes, "Iran and China have quietly drafted a sweeping economic and security partnership that would clear the way for billions of dollars of Chinese investments in energy and other sectors, undercutting the Trump administration's efforts to isolate the Iranian government because of its nuclear and military ambitions."

And more important these two American papers, it is Israeli newspaper The Jerusalem Post's reaction to the agreement as it an analytical article wrote, "Proposed China-Iran deal is bad news for Israel." The daily in this article details the agreement and writes, "With Iran and China working on a multibillion-dollar 25-year economic and security deal, Israel has many reasons to be concerned and even alarmed."

The Israeli paper also points to the American "maximum pressure" campaign which has clearly had a major impact on Iran, but a massive influx of Chinese investments will go a long way towards undoing it."

That Iran really has paved the ground for China's serious presence in its oil and transportation sectors in order that both countries can open a totally new bed in the global economy depends on smartness and cognition of the current condition of the West. The Westerners have been grounded by the Coronavirus pandemic but Iran and China have managed to overcome it with the less casualties comparing to the West. So this point indicates that both countries will win the biggest economic competition of the 21st Century and put the U.S. in a position to begrudge failure of its cruel sanctions with totally woeful result.

Iran Interested...

FROM PAGE 1

It is time to create a club of countries affected by U.S. sanctions, he said, adding, "Among the members of this club, big powers such as Russia, China and Iran will attend this club which have developed economies."

He went on to say that these powers must help each other repel the negative effects of US measures taken against these countries.

"We have great opportunities and we just have to show political will and try to use this potential properly. Iran has something to offer to China and Russia. We are a large country with a large and relatively young population, so we have abundant mineral resources and advanced technologies. If we work together, we will overcome U.S. pressure," Jalali underscored.

He also said that the Islamic Republic of Iran is interested in buying new Russian weapons and "we will talk with the Russian side in this respect."

Record-High Number of...

FROM PAGE 1

Meanwhile yesterday Minister of Health, Treatment and Medical Education announced the formation of a joint committee between the Ministry of Health and the Parliamentary Health Commission to monitor the state of COVID-19 outbreak in the country.

Saeed Namaki told reporters on Tuesday after attending the parliamentary health commission: "The members of Iran's Parliament asked questions in this session in order to sympathize with the situation in Iran and as well as expressing their concern over the resurgence of the corona in some the provinces all across the Islamic country."

The Minister added, "Our relationship with the members of parliament was accompanied by interaction, empathy, and sincerity, and all the conversations were correct, and we also spoke to address these concerns."

Namaki said,"It was decided to form a joint committee with the presence of some deputies of the Ministry of Health in the parliamentary health commission to study the issues related to Corona as a think tank. Undoubtedly, any instructions prepared by this committee to get out of the current crisis will definitely be considered by the Ministry of Health."

He stated, "Some lawmakers have also expressed concern about the health and medical shortcomings in some areas, which will be compensated as soon as possible."

Bangladesh Cricketers Resume Training, One by One

DHAKA (AFP) - Bangladesh cricketers have resumed training, but only one player and a trainer are allowed inside Dhaka's main stadium at a time as a precaution against coronavirus.

"I could hold the bat again after about four months... It felt good," said batsman Imrul Kayes, one of two cricketers to train at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium on Monday.

"We did gym work at home over the past four months but couldn't practise batting," he said.

LICENCE HOLDER: SOKHAN GOSTAR INSTITUTE

Switchboard:
(+98) (21) 44253448

Public Relations Tel:
(+98)(21) 44253450

Editorial Board: 44253449

Public Relations Fax:
(+98)(21) 44253395

Advertising Department:
Tel/Fax:(+98) (21) 44253335-9/44253234
Website:
http://www.irannewsdaily.com

E-Mail Address:
info@irannewsdaily.com

ISSN 1024-6053

P.O. Box: 15875-8551

Address: No 13, Pajouhesh St., Golestan II St, Golestan St.Marzdaran Blvd., Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

Printed by:Honar Sarzmin Sabz

Distributed by:
Cities of Iran Cultural and Artistic Institute

Managing Director: Fereydoon Taherpour Asl

England Set West Indies 312 to Win 2nd Test

MANCHESTER (Dispatches) - England set the West Indies a target of 312 from 85 overs to win the second Test at Old Trafford on Monday after Ben Stokes hit out on the fifth and final morning.

Stokes, promoted to open the innings in a quest for quick runs, made a rapid 78 not out off 57 balls, including four fours and three sixes, to take England to 129-3 declared in their second innings.

That followed the star all-rounder's 176 in England's first innings 469-9 declared.

8 IRAN NEWS

SPORTS

WEDNESDAY JULY 22, 2020

Djokovic Returns To Training After Recovering From COVID-19

BELGRADE (Dispatches) - World No 1 tennis player Novak Djokovic has returned to training after recovering from coronavirus.

Boris Bosnjakovic, the head coach at the Novak Tennis Centre in Belgrade posted pictures on his Instagram handle of the Serbian going through the motions, along with compatriot Filip Krajinovic.

Djokovic was one of several tennis players who tested positive for COVID-19 during his Adria World Tour. The 17-time Grand Slam winner attracted criticism for the lack of social distancing measures through the course of the tournament, which ended up producing a cluster of cases.

Djokovic apologized for the same while announcing that he and his girlfriend had tested positive for the disease that has brought almost all professional sport to a standstill in most parts of the world at various points of the year.

He was however subjected to severe criticism from a number of quarters. A lot of players supported him too, with French veteran Gilles Simon criticizing the media for what he saw as unfair treatment meted out to Djokovic when compared with Swiss great Roger Federer.

"I knew Roger would step up to the plate when there were discussions on the prize money of the Grand Slams a while ago," he told L'Equipe. "But the impression I have is that we lost him on the way, that the representation of the players does not matter to him. If there is a voice that carries, it is his."

"I see Djokovic like any human being, with his strengths and flaws. But with Roger Federer, we only talk about his strengths. With Novak a" only about his flaws. It would annoy everyone if Djokovic breaks Federer's records. It angers people that he (Djokovic) is so strong.

"It can also be seen in the crowd, on the court,



in the Australian Open final. The anger against Novak is a huge mistake. Much of the public doesn't consider him as (important as) Roger or Rafa (Nadal)."

Meanwhile Rafa Nadal trained with one of his academy players, Dani Rincon on Monday at the world number two's tennis campus on the Spanish island of Mallorca.

Nadal is preparing for the tennis season which restarts next month following a five-month suspension due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Rincon, 17, joined the Rafa Nadal Academy in 2019 and became the sixth Spanish player to win the Orange Bowl in the under-16 boys category and he also won the doubles tournament with fellow Rafa Nadal Academy player, Abedallah Shelbayh from Jordan.

For Nadal, it's unclear which tournament will be the Spaniard's first back on tour. The rejigged men's calendar begins with the Citi Open - an ATP 500 event in Washington DC - before the Cincinnati Open and the U.S. Open which will both take place at Flushing Meadows.

Nadal so far has only committed to playing in the Madrid Masters which begins on September 13 - the same day as the U.S. Open men's singles final.

Because of the frenetic pace of the calendar men's governing body ATP has introduced a revised system for calculating world rankings.

Traditionally the ATP rankings operates on a formula of 18 best results over 52 weeks but will now cover a 22-month period from March 2019 through December 2020.

While the new model provides impetus for players to improve results from their 2019 performance, it will also provide stability to those who choose not to play due to the pandemic as they would not need to defend points.

Cazorla Bound for Qatar's Al-Sadd



DOHA (AFP) - Spanish star Santi Cazorla will join Qatar's Al-Sadd, the club said in a statement on Monday, where he will be coached by fellow countryman Xavi Hernandez.

The midfielder bid farewell to Villarreal ahead of the team's final game of La Liga against Eibar on Sunday.

The 35-year-old has enjoyed a brilliant third spell at Villarreal after two years of horrendous injuries.

Cazorla previously made 180 appearances over six years for Arsenal and has 81 caps for Spain. He also played for Malaga and Recreativo Huelva after first joining Villarreal as a teenager.

"We have reached an agreement with Santi Cazorla. He will reach Doha soon to complete the formalities and join the team. Welcome to Al-Sadd, Santi!" the Qatari side wrote on its verified Twitter account.

Cazorla said in a video posted by Villarreal on social media that the club had "given me everything".

"At 18 they took a punt on a boy from Oviedo who knew nobody," he said.

F1 Bosses Reject Hamilton's Criticism of Anti-Racism Effort

BUDAPEST (AFP) - Formula One bosses reacted to Lewis Hamilton's stinging criticism of their confused anti-racism efforts by saying that the sport is on course to make lasting changes.

Six-time champion Hamilton, the only black driver on the grid, spoke out after winning Sunday's Hungarian Grand Prix to go top of the embryonic drivers' championship after three races.

He said F1 was not doing enough, lacked leadership and had presented a campaign that required better coordination - adding that he would pushing for improvement this week.

He said the sport's 'We Race As One' campaign had made no progress since its pre-season launch.

Following another hurried and shambolic pre-race anti-racism ceremony, during which several drivers took a knee while others stood, arrived late or remained absent, Hamilton said he would write to Formula One chief Chase Carey and the president of ruling body the International Motoring Federation Jean Todt.

"Moving forward, we need to speak to Formula One," said Hamilton "They've got to do a better job. It was such a rush, us getting out of the car, running over, quickly doing the knee. They need to do more."

"I don't know why they've only done it for the first race. They did it at the start, but they've not done it since then. They've come out saying they're going to be fighting for diversity and end racism, but they're not giving us the platform to continue that."

Referring to the muddled support for 'taking a knee' during the pre-race routine, he added: "There definitely is not enough support for it."

"Many drivers seem to be of the opinion that they have done it once and are not going to do it again. It's almost like it has gone off the agenda. It's lacking leadership. There needs to be leadership from the top."

Formula One responded overnight Sunday with a statement: "Ending racism and increasing diversity and inclusion in F1 is a clear priority."



managing in the Premier League for the first time next season, having steered Leeds back to the top flight after a 16-year absence.

And Guardiola, for one, says England's Premier League will be all the better for it.

"He has done an exceptional job. They were exceptional last season and then didn't get promoted. They showed a lot of character to get promoted a year later and have been consistent," Guardiola told a news conference ahead of City's trip

Guardiola Full of Admiration for Special Bielsa

MANCHESTER (Reuters) - Manchester City boss Pep Guardiola never played under Marcelo Bielsa but credits the Leeds United coach as one of the most important influences on his own trophy-laden managerial career.

Experienced Argentine Bielsa will be managing in the Premier League for the first time next season, having steered Leeds back to the top flight after a 16-year absence.

And Guardiola, for one, says England's Premier League will be all the better for it.

"He has done an exceptional job. They were exceptional last season and then didn't get promoted. They showed a lot of character to get promoted a year later and have been consistent," Guardiola told a news conference ahead of City's trip

to relegation-threatened Watford on Tuesday.

"I was not his player, so it is difficult to talk about him. But I know the reference from a hundred million players who were with him. I was lucky enough to have the chance to talk to him. He is unique in world football because of the special way he plays. He is an authentic manager."

"No other manager in the world plays the way he plays. I learnt a lot about his style, his final product. He is an incredible person. He is so special."

Former Argentina national team coach Bielsa's managerial honours cannot compare with Guardiola's multiple titles with Barcelona, Bayern Munich and Manchester City.

But for Guardiola there is more to being a great manager than picking up silverware.

The Spaniard says he rates Bielsa "at the top" and it does not matter that he has not got a glittering CV.

Ronaldo Double Puts Juventus on Brink of Nine in a Row

TURIN (AFP) - Cristiano Ronaldo moved Juventus to within one game of a ninth consecutive Serie A title on Monday after scoring twice in a 2-1 win over Lazio.

The reigning champions ended a three-match winless run thanks to Ronaldo's second half brace that moves them eight points clear of second-placed Inter Milan with four games remaining.

Maurizio Sarri's side could win the title on Thursday against lowly Udinese, or on Sunday at home against Sampdoria, depending on their rivals' results this week.

Lazio's hopes of a first Serie A title since 2000 are effectively over as the defeat leaves them fourth, 11 points adrift of the leaders.

Ronaldo grabbed the first goal from the penalty spot just after the break and was handed a tap-in three minutes later by teammate Paulo Dybala.

The Portuguese has scored 30 goals this season, equal with Lazio's Ciro Immobile, who ended his three-match drought with a late penalty. His second was his 50th goal in Serie A.

The 35-year-old Portuguese is looking to become the first player to finish top scorer in three of the top five European leagues after doing so England and Spain.

"Records are always important, but the team victory is more important," Ronaldo said to Sky Sport.



Football's Coveted Ballon d'Or Cancelled This Year

PARIS (Dispatches) - The prestigious Ballon d'Or, awarded by France Football magazine, is cancelled this year due to the coronavirus pandemic, the organisers confirmed Monday.

"There will be no edition in 2020, because it turns out, after thoughtful consideration, that all the conditions are not met," said Pascal Ferré, the editor of France Football.

The Ballon d'Or has been given out every year since Stanley Matthews won the first one in 1956. Lionel Messi has won it a record six times — one more than longtime rival Cristiano Ronaldo.

The magazine started giving out a women's award in 2018, but that has also been put on hold.

"It's such a strange year that we couldn't treat it as an ordinary one. Let's say that we started talking about (making the decision) at least two months ago," Ferré told The Associated Press in a telephone interview.

"It isn't a decision we took lightly but we had to accept it couldn't be a normal or typical Ballon d'Or winner, and what really worried us it that it wouldn't be fairly awarded."

'Exceptional circumstances led to an exceptional decision'

Ferré noted that because the game's rules have been modified during the pandemic, the award itself was impacted.

