

Health Ministry Announced on Sunday That the Number of Deaths From the Coronavirus Pandemic in Iran Increased to 85,859 With 165 More Iranians Killed by the Deadly Virus Over the Past 24 Hours

IRAN NEWS

Spokesman for Iran's Police Announced That Iran Has Returned Afghan Border Guards to Their Country, Who Took Refuge in Iran After the Taliban Forces Attacked the Qala Border Crossing on Thursday

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Iran Importing Electricity From Three Neighbors

TEHRA (IRNA) - Iran's power industry spokesman said Iran is now importing electricity from Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan and Armenia but ceased exports except for 50 MW to Afghanistan.

Mostafa Rajabi Mashhadi said in an Instagram post on Sunday that about 400-650 MW of electricity is imported from Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan and Armenia.

Due to weather conditions in the world, these three countries cannot export more electricity to Iran, he added.

Mashhadi last week said that Iran has stopped electricity exports to neighboring countries due to the surge in domestic demand and only 50 MW of electricity is exported to Afghanistan at the moment.

He announced on Tuesday that the country's power plants are currently able to generate only 54,000 MW of electricity which is nearly 12,000 MW less than the domestic power demand.

Daily electricity consumption in Iran reached 66,250 megawatts (66.25 gigawatts) on Monday, July 5, to register a new record in the history of Iran's electricity industry as a new heatwave has blanketed the country over the past few days.

The mentioned figure was 8,000 MW more than the consumption in the previous year's peak period, and 10,000 MW more than the figure in the previous year's same date.

Earlier, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani had apologized to the Iranian people for the recent blackouts across the country and asked the Energy Ministry to elaborate on its causes.

He noted that every year about 2500 MW has been added to the capacity of electricity production.

He also stressed the importance of electricity in times of COVID-19 pandemic and when people are in hospitals.

Western Politicians Sell Themselves Cheap For MKO Circus

TEHRAN (IFP) - Iran's foreign ministry spokesman has slammed what he called sellouts among western politicians for attending an annual meeting of the anti-Iran MKO terrorist group.

"Bought western politicians (incl #LyingCheatingStealing Pompeo) sell themselves cheap for a Europe-hosted circus arranged by a once Saddam-backed terrorist cult with Iranian blood on its hands," Saeed Khatibzadeh tweeted.

"Insatiable thirst for dollars & anti-Iran obsession is driving shameful western hypocrisy."

The MKO is holding a three-day virtual meeting in Paris with the presence of western officials including former US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, several US senators and Slovenian Prime Minister Janez Jansa.

Every year, the group holds gatherings in Paris with the presence of mainly former western officials, who are paid hefty sums of money to attend.

Iran considers the gatherings stunts to buy legitimacy for a terrorist organization, which is responsible for assassination and bombing campaign against Iranians, including top government officials, since the country's Islamic revolution of 1979. The group also fought along Iraq's former dictator Saddam Hussein in his 1980's war against Iran.

The group was removed from the EU and U.S. blacklists of terrorist organizations in 2009 and 2012 in what western media characterized as Brussels' and Washington's embrace of terrorists.

Commander Says Israeli Presence in Region "Mirage"



IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK

TEHRAN - The Commander of Iran's Navy says the Israeli regime's presence in the region is a mirage. a televised interview on Saturday, Rear Admiral Hossein Khanzadi highlighted the high-level security of the Iranian sea borders and the accurate observation of any intrusive movement there.

Admiral Khanzadi pointed to piracies carried out at the Gulf of Aden in the Indian Ocean and noted that such movements caused more vigilance of the regional countries.

"Iran's Navy has a significant presence in the east and north of the Indian Ocean; the Iranian Navy is considered also as a naval power in the North Indian Ocean," he added.

The commander referred to the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) held recently in Chabahar and Iran's efforts to establish a center for directing the meeting's security efforts and noted: "The center is being established for the first time in Chabahar Free Zone. The main effort of the center is to collect clean data and get intelligence over the northern Indian Ocean region."

"The information should be shared between the countries, and any activity that interferes with maritime security must be stopped. The center can also conduct naval operations," the Iranian Military commander reassured.

He also said that the presence of its vessels in the Atlantic Ocean "is a response to US claims that Iran would never be able to have a presence in the Atlantic."

Reports emerged in May that Iran was dispatching two naval vessels to the Western hemisphere and an Iranian official confirmed the destination as Venezuela on June 1. The vessels might be carrying missiles and possibly speed boats to Venezuela according to an arms agreement made last year.

The Biden administration told Venezuela and Cuba not to allow the ships, to dock at their ports, Politico reported on June 9.

It is not clear exactly where the vessels are, but they have sailed into the Atlantic Ocean.

Khanzadi said the presence of Iran's navy ships in the waters of the Atlantic are worrying the United States. He seemed to be referring to the symbolic value of the move rather than a military threat.

Iran barely has an ocean-going navy as it has not been able to acquire significant warships from naval powers and has attempted to build or convert commercial vessels as warships.

He hailed Iran's capacity in the producing of naval vessels, saying some of the Iranian vessels are now thousand kilometers away from Iran escorting Iranian tankers.

He also referred to production of advanced marine diesel engines in Iran under support of the Vice Presidency for Science and Technology.

Elsewhere in his remarks, Khanzadi lauded security in Iranian waters, saying any movement is being monitored 24/7 and the Iranian navy drones will conduct their aerial reconnaissance operations.

He pointed to producing hovercraft by the Iranian Ministry of Defense.

Syria Hails UN Resolution to Extend Cross-Border Aid Mechanism as Achievement

DAMASCUS (Dispatches) - The Syrian foreign minister has hailed as an "achievement" a newly-adopted United Nations resolution to extend the cross-border aid operation into the Arab country, as the move would compel the West to respect the territorial integrity of Syria.

Faisal al-Mekdad made the remarks in a statement on Saturday after the UN Security Council adopted resolution 2585 to extend the authorization of cross-border aid mechanism for Syrians for another 12 months.

The resolution, which won the unanimous support of the 15-member council, will allow cross-border aid into Syria from the country's Bab al-Hawa border crossing with Turkey to run for six months until January 10, 2022, and then for an extension of an additional six months until July 10, 2022.

The second six-month extension remains pending and is subject to the issuance of a substantive report by the UN secretary-general, which particularly focuses on transparency in aid delivery operations in Syria and progress on cross-line access in meeting the country's humanitarian needs.

According to the resolution, the secretary-general will be required to brief the Security Council on a monthly basis and to present a report on the implementation of relevant Security Council resolutions and on compliance by all relevant parties in Syria.

The report would also provide detailed information on UN humanitarian cross-border operations, including the distribution mechanism, the number of beneficiaries, operating partners, locations of aid deliveries at the district level, and the volume and nature of items delivered.

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ViewPoint

By:Hamid Reza Naghashian

Americans Should Stop Backing Terrorists

American troops in any part of the world especially in the West Asia and Middle East are under fire to go back their home and the pressure and even attacks against them have increased in recent days.

Although Jo Biden Administration has announced the exit of the U.S. troops in Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria, American troops have not left fully or they have not even stopped supporting terrorists. Everybody knows that terrorist groups in the region have been created or supported by the U.S. The terrorist group like Daesh and anti-revolutionary Iranian MKO group are tools in hands of the Americans to balance the equation in favor of the West

In recent days the U.S. forces have come under attacks in Iraq and Syria as Syrian and Iraqi groups all have urged for immediate exit of the U.S. forces because they believe their countries can resolve their own problems and there needs no aliens' presence in their countries.

In recent meeting between Iranian and Syrian officials, Speaker of Syrian People's Assembly Hammoudeh Sabbagh said forces of global aggression, led by the U.S., besiege Syria and Iran together under the false guise of fighting terrorism but in fact they support and protect the scourge.

Over the past years, the U.S. has been maintaining an illegal military presence on Syrian soil, collaborating with anti-Damascus militants and stealing the country's crude oil resources.

It has also slapped rounds of crippling sanctions on Syria, which has been gripped by foreign-backed militancy since March 2011.

Meanwhile in the meeting Syrian Foreign and Expatriates Minister, Faisal al-Mekdad, said Iran plays an important role at all political, military, and economic levels to support Syria in its fight against terrorism.

"Those who defeated Daesh and other terrorist organizations are not [the ones] who claim to have formed an alliance for this purpose," he added, noting that the alliance was fighting against everything in the region except the terrorists.

Despite Syrian people's demand for the exit of the U.S. troops from the country, the troops are in Syria and nowadays they see reactions from the Syrian groups. On Saturday, a powerful explosion has rocked the gas refinery that U.S. forces are using as a military base in the east of the Syrian province of Dayr al-Zawr.

According to a war monitor, the blast was caused by a mortar shell landed in the Conoco gas field, where American troops are stationed. See Page 7

Japan Seeks to Strengthen Ties With Iran

TOKYO (Dispatches) - Japan is seeking to strengthen and broaden ties with Tehran in new administration under presidency of Hojjatoleslam Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi.

Japanese informed sources pointed to the possible visit of Japanese Foreign Minister to Tehran in coming weeks and announced Japan's efforts to develop relations with new Iranian government under presidency of Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi who won a landslide victory in Iran 2021 Presidential Election on June 18.

According to Japan-based 'Minichi' website, Japanese diplomats said that Japanese Foreign Minister Motegi Toshimitsu was on a possible visit to Tehran in early August to strengthen ties with the new Iranian government.

During his visit to Iran, Japanese foreign minister will meet and hold talks with his Iranian counterpart to strengthen friendly and traditional relations.

According to the informed sources, Japan's Foreign Minister Motegi Toshimitsu plans to visit Iran as early as mid-August to meet senior officials of the country's new government.

He is also expected to convey Japan's willingness to strengthen its traditional friendship with Iran.

شناسه آگهی ۱۱۶۰۴۴۷

State Printing Office of Iran (SPOI)

Tender of purchasing 15 tons 150 micron white polycarbonate in sheet and performing antenna services on the mentioned polycarbonates

Tender NO : 2000001065000019

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م.الف ۱۳۲۰

All Iranian Citizens Connected to Internet

TEHRAN (IFP) - The Iranian minister of information and communications technology says almost all Iranians across the nation are linked to the Internet network.

"More than 98.5% of villagers as well as 100% of city dwellers in Iran have an Internet connection," said Mohammad Javad Azari Jahromi.

According to the data released by Iran's Integrated Rural Information website (diar.ir), the number of cities and villages with Internet coverage has considerably increased during the tenure of outgoing Iranian President Hassan Rouhani's administration.

Iran's Common Borders With Afghanistan In Full Security

TEHRAN (MNA) – Referring to the recent conflicts in Afghanistan, the Commander of IRGC Ground Force said that all of Iran's eastern and common borders with Afghanistan are in complete security and peace.

"With regards to civil wars in Afghanistan, nothing special has happened at the border between Iran and Afghanistan and there is complete security and peace on all the eastern borders with that country," said Brigadier General Mohammad Pakpour on the sidelines of a visit to the Dowqarun border on Sunday.

"Following the events of the past few days in Afghanistan, it is possible that some miscreants and smugglers will take advantage of this opportunity and enter the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which will undoubtedly be dealt with



severely by the armed forces stationed on the eastern borders," he added.

Stating that all the borders of the country are being monitored, he noted, "Any move that is intended to make Iran and the surrounding areas insecure will be followed by a decisive response from the armed forces."

Iran shares more than 900 kilometers of border with Afghanistan. The provinces of Herat, Farah and Nimroz in Afghanistan are bordered by the provinces of Khorasan Razavi, South Khorasan and Sistan and Baluchestan in Iran.

Serbia as Gateway for Iranian Goods to Eastern Europe

QAZVIN (IRNA) - Mehdi Bakhshandeh, head of Chamber of Commerce of the Iranian northern province of Qazvin, said on Saturday that Serbia serves as a gateway for Iranian goods to Eastern Europe.



Bakhshandeh made the remarks during a meeting between Qazvin governor and the Serbian ambassador to Iran where he was also present.

Referring to Serbia's strategic position in "the heart of Europe", Bakhshandeh said that the governments of Iran and Serbia are eager to further promote relations.

He said that Iran can provide Serbia with high quality industrial and agricultural products at proper prices.

He expressed hope that Iran and Serbia will waive visa requirements once the obstacles are removed.

Nationwide Vaccination Must Be Extended To 500,000 Daily

TEHRAN (IP) - Iran's health minister said on Sunday that nationwide vaccination must be extended to 500,000-700,000 daily to decrease COVID impacts.



Speaking at the meeting with the Iranian universities' presidents and the heads of Basij departments, Saeed Namaki stated that vaccination would be accelerated across the country with Basij Organization's and medical universities' cooperation.

Highlighting that Iran has treated 250,000 Afghan nationals for free, he noted that some Afghans over political tensions and changes trespass the country that they should be quarantined and treated to prevent COVID-19 surges.

"Unfortunately, some parts of the country are experiencing the fifth COVID-19 wave but with cooperation of the IRGC, Basij, and Armed Forces, the disease is under control," the high-ranking official said.

He explained that the UK and African variants had entered Iran through western and northwestern borders and surged in Hormozgan, West Azarbaijan, Qom, and Sistan and Baluchestan province.

Namaki added that Sistan and Baluchestan are under control, but Hormozgan is in critical condition.

The meeting on evaluating the 'Martyr Soleimani Plan' to fight COVID-19 and the fifth coronavirus wave across Iran was held at Health Ministry on Sunday with the Health Minister Saeed Namaki, Commander of Basij Organization Brigadier-General Gholamreza Soleimani, and presidents of medical universities.

25% of Iranian Gov't Managers Are Women

TEHRAN (IFP) - The Iranian first vice president has highlighted the significant role of women in society, saying they have shone very well in discharging the responsibilities assigned to them in various arenas.

Es'haq Jahangiri said women are holding almost a third of the managerial posts in the country.

"Today, 25% of managers as well as 30 percent of university lecturers and faculty members are women," said Jahangiri at a national festival on women and science.

In a speech, the vice president touched upon the "challenges and mega-challenges" facing the country.

"The most important solution to overcome these challenges and weather the crises ahead is domestic unity and solidarity," he added.

He also referred to late world-famous Iranian



mathematician Maryam Mirzakhani and her wealth of knowledge.

"Professor Mirzakhani worked in the domain of maths, but her birthday was designated as World Women and Maths Day due to her credit," he noted.

He referred to problems such as drought and water shortage, the spread of the coronavirus and the United States' cruel sanctions, calling for closer collaboration with the elite to tackle the existing difficulties.

"[Iranian] President elect [Ebrahim Raisi] and the new Judiciary chief's call for political factions to put forward their proposals and solutions to weather the crises facing the country is a nice move, but under the current circumstances, we need dialogue, growing rapport and intellectual assets in the country, so that we will be able to tap into all existing potential to address the issues facing people," he said.

Slovenian Envoy Summoned by FM

TEHRAN (MNA) – Slovenian Ambassador to Tehran was summoned to Iran's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, following the attendance of the Slovenian Prime Minister in the virtual meeting of the MKO terrorist group.

Following the attendance of the Slovenian Prime Minister in the virtual meeting of the MKO terrorist group, Kristina Radej, the Ambassador of Slovenia to Tehran was summoned to Iran's Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Sunday.

In this meeting, it was emphasized that the presence of the Prime Minister of Slovenia in the virtual meeting of the MKO terrorist group, who have committed many crimes against the Iranian nation, is condemned and is contrary to diplomatic custom and the spirit of bilateral relations.

Supporting a terrorist group is contrary to the UN Charter and international principles and human rights values, and is in no way acceptable, a Foreign Ministry official told the Slovenian envoy.

Iran, Armenia Economic Ties Long-Lasting

ARAK (IRNA) - Armenian Ambassador to Tehran Artashes Toumanian said on Sunday that economic relations between Armenia and Iran have a long record so strengthening these ties must be on the agenda.

Upon his arrival at Arak in his one-day trip to the

Markazi Province, Toumanian said that among Armenia's neighbors, Iran has a significant capacity in all areas of industry, agriculture and services and Armenia can accelerate its development by boosting ties with Iran.

He noted that Markazi Province and other provinces of Iran enjoy innovative and motivated human forces and use the latest technologies which put Iran among industrial countries of the world.

That's why business people in Armenia are interested to expand business ties with Iran, he added.

The diplomat suggested that a powerful trade team from Iran's Markazi Province travel to Armenia in order to evaluate its market.

The Deputy Governor-General of Markazi Province Saeed Farrokhi said that the province



has been home to Iranian-Armenians from ancient times and they have been living in the region in concord with other ethnicities.

He underlined that the people of Markazi Province have a brilliant record of trading and social ties with the Armenian community and the province considers strengthening the ties.

The Armenian Ambassador paid a visit to two industrial units in Arak city.

Iran Starts Drilling Operation at Joint Forouzan Oilfield

TEHRAN (IRNA) - The Managing Director of Iranian Offshore Oil Company (IOOC) said that upon the completion of the installation project of the giant offshore rigs, drilling and repairing of oil wells has started in the Forouzan joint oilfield with the purpose of increasing oil extraction.

Alireza Salmanzadeh said on Sunday that installation of the rig this oilfield, drilling and repairing 26 oil wells, and an increase of production to 23,000 barrels.

He termed Forouzan joint oilfield development project as one of the most important ones underway by the National Iranian Oil Company because to its significance in maintaining and increasing production levels.

Recently, Salmanzadeh had said that Iran has successfully installed a giant oil drilling platform at Forouzan Oilfield.

According to the Petropars official website, Forouzan Oil Field is located 100 kilometers South-East of Khark Island in the Persian Gulf region and joint Marjan Oil Field of Saudi Arabia.

The maintenance and revamping of production capacity of the project is conducted by the Iranian Offshore Oil Company (IOOC) and an Iranian consortium comprising Petropars and ISOICO.

The subterranean section of this project includes 12 new wells, 11 wells in need of repairing and 3 re-entry wells, while its surface section consists of 3 sea pipelines measuring 27 km, plus fabrication and erection of two new platforms and cabling of four fiber optic.

This contract the value of which amounts to nearly Euro 290 million can diversify the scope of activities and operations and will expand the chain value of Petropars Group, resulting in the growth and expansion of domestic technical capability of Iranian contractors.

شناسه آگهی ۱۱۶۰۴۴۷

State Printing Office of Iran (SPOI)

Tender of purchasing 15 tons 150 micron white polycarbonate in sheet and performing antenna services on the mentioned polycarbonates

Tender NO : 2000001065000019

State printing office of Iran intends to purchase the aforementioned polycarbonates through a public tender. Therefore, participants in the tender should first receive their tender documents from Jul. 07-2021 to 12:00 hours on Jul.13-2021 in the Governmental portal address at : www.setadiran.ir and after register needed documents in mentioned address, physically submit envelope A to the secretariat of the company before the end of administrative hour (12:00 PM) on Jul.27-2021. Tender documents presented after the stated deadline will not be accepted.

The guaranteed amount for participating in the tender is 8/000/000/000 Rials(30/000 EUO) 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 1456, registration office Tel: 88969737 and 85193768. Envelopes opening date is on Sunday Aug.01-2021 at 09:00 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.

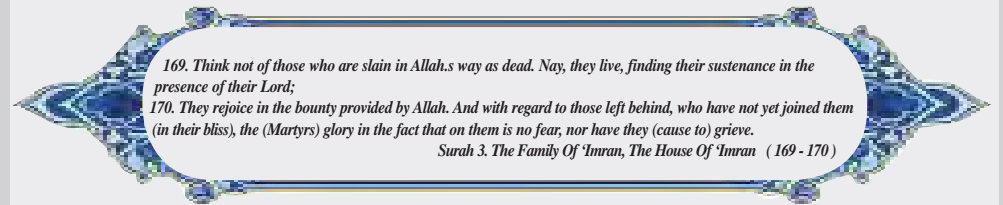
Address : State Printing Office of Iran, No: 29, Next to Khayyam Park, Iqbal Lahouri St., Imam Hussein Square, Tehran, Iran, Postal code : 1714744153, Tel : 33349079

م. الف ۱۳۲۰



PRAYER TIME

■ Noon (Zohr)	13:10
■ Evening (Maghreb)	20:42
■ Tomorrow's Dawn (Fajr)	04:15
■ Tomorrow's Sunrise	05:59



Moscow Continues To Develop Free Trade With Tehran

IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

TEHRAN - The head of the Iran-Russia Trade Council stressed that the efforts to develop Russia's free trade with Iran would continue.

"We are seeking to start free trade with Iran," said Vladimir Obidenov, chairman of the Iran-Russia Trade Council.

"The goal of the members of the Eurasian Union and Iran for developing economic cooperation is to improve living conditions and increase welfare for both countries," Obidenov said at a meeting held on the sidelines of the Eurasia Expo 2021 in Tehran.

"All 5 member states of the Eurasian Union are determined to cooperate with Iran and since the signing of the free trade agreement two years ago and despite the problems resulted by the pandemic, the regional co-operations have begun and it has been able to find its ways for boosting the trade," Obidenov added.

He also announced 18 percent growth in trade exchange between Iran and Russia, adding that this shows the common understanding between the two sides for boosting economic cooperation.

Obidenov then urged EAEU members to resolve the remaining differences in this field and to put an end to it because tradesmen and people in these two countries have pinned great hopes on developing cooperation and they believe this route will lead to the economic growth of the countries.



He said of course he is well aware of the problems and officials of the countries are trying to resolve them through creating more capacity for the contact between businessmen of the other parties. He admitted that the marine and ports' capacities are not used properly and for the economic development, all capacities should be employed.

He also hailed Iran for hosting this event and said he is very glad that Iranian partners with good intention and active presence have entered the event and expressed hope he would see more of these actions from Iran in the future.

He noted that Russia tries as a developed country to launch a commercial house in order to boost positive pulses for increasing economic cooperation.

The Eurasia Expo 2021 in Iran kicked off on Friday, July 9, 2021, at the Tehran International Exhibition Center.

Chadormalu Co. to Cooperate in Construction of Steel Plant in Ardabil

IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

TEHRAN – Vali-e Faqih's representative and Friday Prayer Leader of Ardabil on the sidelines of the groundbreaking ceremony for the construction operation of sponge iron plant of Arta Foolad Mobin Complex of Ardabil said that today a major and important step has been taken in Ardabil Province.



In the beginning of the ceremony which was held with the presence of provincial officials, Ayatollah Seyed Hassan Ameli said that today a major and important step has been taken in Ardabil Province for development of industry and economy.

Hailing the investors of this industrial unit, the Friday Prayer Leader of Ardabil said he warmly welcomes those who are able to have economic investment and to create jobs in this province.

According to reports, the executive operation of Arta Foolad Mobin Complex of Ardabil started with investment worth 135m euros by three companies of Chadormalu Mining and Industrial Company (CMIC), Mines and Metals Development Investment Company (MMDIC) and Iran International Engineering Company (IRITEC) and the project is to be completed and come into operation in 30 months.

With exploitation of this steel unit, over 350 people will start directly working and it will produce over one million tons of sponge iron annually which will meet the demands of this province.

Cumulative Gas Extraction From South Pars Field Exceeds 1.8 tcm

TEHRAN (IRNA) - Pars Oil and Gas Company announced that cumulative volume of rich gas production from Joint South Pars Gas Field exceeded 1.8 trillion cubic meters this year.

The company said in a release on Sunday that the aggregate amount of total gas production from Joint South Pars Gas Field from early inauguration until the end of the Persian year 1399 (March 2021) reached 1,867 billion cubic meters.



Since the development of the field commenced, 2.2 billion barrels of gas condensate has been produced from the field, the release added.

Having absorbed 80 billion dollars of investment, the field has produced 335 billion dollars of products (\$0.18 per one cubic meter of rich gas in 2017).

Iran's share of hydrocarbon reserve in the joint field has been estimated to amount to 14 trillion cubic meters of gas and 18 billion barrels of condensate in an area spanning 3,700 square kilometers.

Several phases of the joint field were incomplete until recent years, but when the current administration took office, the Oil Ministry prioritized joint phases of the field, as Qatar had significantly outpaced Iran in extracting hydrocarbon reserves in joint fields.

Iran's Oil Ministry managed to complete the phases 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24 during the last 8 years so that Iran is now extracting gas products from all the phases of South Pars Gas Filed (except phase 11).

In 2019, Iran managed to overtake Qatar in extracting gas from the joint fields with 700 million cubic meters of daily extraction. This achievement was accomplished while Qatar's share of the field ownership is two times bigger than Iran's.

South Pars Gas Field as the hub of energy in Iran enjoys varied valuable resources for Iran economy and is now serving as the largest center of industrial development in the country and the main driver of the country's economic development.

In addition to meeting domestic gas demand, the hub earns the country tens of billions of dollars on a yearly basis by making hundreds of thousands of sustainable jobs.



The loving hands of the benefactors are a bridge that is connected with the blessing of God. The luminous hands and kind look of the benefactors is the flow in which love boils.

Your heart sings the reverberation of light and prostration. It flows from your loving hands, a cascade of emotion and kindness.

**Branches of Khuzestan province
International Charity Foundation of the Waterfall of Emotions
It breathes warmly in the sun**

It rushes towards the deprived and the needy

**The director of Khuzestan branch affairs,
Ms. Fatemeh Nazarpour, stated in an interview:**

The "Empathy" mission was carried out by the branches of the International Charity Foundation of the Waterfall of Emotions in Khuzestan Province. This action was taken on July 21, 2021, the anniversary of the marriage of Hazrat Ali and Hazrat Fatemeh. 150 series of dowry donations were given to the needy. Donation items include stove, washing machine, heater, carpet, blanket and pot service. So far, these have been allocated to couples in Ahvaz, Abadan, Khorramshahr, Dezful, Behbahan, Ramhormoz, Andimeshk, Bandar Imam Khomeini, Baghmalek, Susangard, Hoveyzeh, Shadegan, Omidieh, Mahshahr, Ramshir, Sheiban, Shousha and Andiga. The



province has 19 active branches and 2 branches under establishment. We are grateful to the benefactors who have always helped us in this God-pleasing step. We appreciate the support of the Foundation's regular benefactors.

**Our eyes will be on the good of the world
As long as the world remains, so does the religion of love.**

**Let us be God's helping hands on earth
International Charity Foundation Cascade of Emotions
Branches of Khuzestan province**

www.absharatefaha.ir

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Card number: 2185-9047-6919-6037

Account number: (Bank Saderat) 0339227495006

Shaba number: IBN: IR140190000000339227495006

MSC Cuts Dependence on Foreign Firms by Producing New Product

IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

ISFAHAN – Director of metallurgy and production methods of Mobarakeh Steel Company (MSC) says in line with completing the basket of products at Mobarakeh Steel Company and cutting dependence to foreign companies, the design and production of semi hard steel with DC04-C590 grade was materialized with reliance on the capabilities of domestic experts of the company.

Alireza Molavinejad said that design and production of new products is of the strategic goals of the company that in line with completing the basket of products and severance of dependence on foreign firms, design of new products in different fields like auto industries was materialized through broad interaction with customers and production and support units.

He went on to say that semi hard steel is used in different industries like auto-making and electronic that due to the current condition and sanctions on the national steel market, MSC has received different requests from some part-making companies.

He said according to these demands, the metallurgy and production methods unit in cooperation with production units of MSC and especially the cold rolling unit took action to indigenize this product and succeeded in producing it under the name of grade DC04-C590 with observing all standard features.

Molavinejad added that in production of this grade, the annealing operation with special cycle has been used.

Most Sophisticated Specialized Labs Monitoring Drinking Water of Isfahan

IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK

ISFAHAN – Director of the center for monitoring and supervising quality and health of drinking water of Isfahan Province Water and Wastewater Company (ABFA of Isfahan) says the company enjoys having the most sophisticated and equipped specialized laboratories for supervising and monitoring the quality and health of the drinking water of the province.

Ms. Fahimeh Amiri said 22 microbiologic and 5 chemical laboratories in the towns and cities of the provinces with employing the most skillful staff are in charge of controlling the quality and health of drinking water in the towns and villages of the province.

She pointed to the activities of the central laboratory of ABFA of Isfahan as the reference laboratory in the fields of microbiological, physicochemical and mineral pollutants, added that this lab is the only water lab in the country which has the ISO 17025-2017 certificate.

She reiterated that drinking water in towns and villages of the province is checked and screened by quality control experts and laboratories of ABFA of Isfahan and its health is verified. She added that one of the tests conducted by the lab is to measure the amount of remaining chlorine of the drinking water in the water networks.

Amiri noted that last year over 166,500 tests for measuring the chlorine of water were conducted in towns and over 431,000 in the water distribution in villages of the province whose results show good quality of the water by 99.9 percent.



Bangladesh Factory Fire Kills 52

DHAKA (Reuters) - The owner of a food-processing factory in Bangladesh was arrested for murder on Saturday over a fire that killed 52 people who were trapped inside the building, police said.

The six-storey factory outside the capital Dhaka was built without permission, according to police who said it had no emergency fire exits and lacked adequate safety measures.

Some workers managed to reach the roof and were rescued after the building caught ablaze on Thursday, but many could not escape, said police, adding that one of the doors leading from the stairs to the roof was locked. The arrested man owned private firm Hashem Food and Beverage, a unit of Sajeeb Group, which he also owned, according to police.



28 Arrested During Pro-Zuma Protests

JOHANNESBURG (Reuters) - South African police said on Saturday that 28 people had been arrested and one of the country's biggest highways remained closed over violent protests linked to former president Jacob Zuma's imprisonment.

Protests erupted this week in parts of KwaZulu-Natal (KZN), Zuma's home province, after the ex-leader handed himself over to police to serve a 15-month jail term for contempt of court. On Friday, the high court dismissed Zuma's application to have his arrest overturned in a case that has been seen as a test of the post-apartheid nation's rule of law. An hour before the ruling, a Reuters photographer saw a group of protesters shouting "Zuma!" burning tyres and blocking a road.



Spanish PM Unveils Younger Cabinet Dominated by Women



MADRID (AFP) - Spain's premier, whose Socialist party has been lagging in opinion polls, on Saturday reshuffled his government, unveiling a younger cabinet dominated by women that he vowed would preside over a post-Covid economic revival.

"The revival government begins today," Pedro Sanchez said as he presented the reshuffle, the first since his left-wing minority coalition came to power in January 2020.

His coalition, made up of Socialists and the radical-left Podemos party, trails the conservatives in opinion polls. Unveiling the new cabinet, Sanchez said it represented "a generational renewal" because the mean age of the ministers was now 50 instead of 55.

Women now make up 63 percent over 54 percent in the previous government.

"This will make our country once again the reference for women-men equality," Sanchez said.

"Once the worst of the pandemic has been overcome" the cabinet will work toward "an economic renewal and creation of jobs," in part using the Covid-19 recovery funds that Spain will get from the European Union.

Calling the funds "an enormous opportunity," Sanchez said that Spain's economic recovery "must be digital... must be green... and must also be feminist."

Podemos kept their five portfolios in the 22-member cabinet.

Foreign Affairs Minister Arancha Gonzalez Layra was replaced by Jose Manuel Albares, who was Spain's ambassador to France. Socialist Carmen Calvo, who was number two in the government, has also left the cabinet, replaced by Nadia Calvino, economy minister.

The Spanish government had been weakened over the past several months. Early in May, Podemos and the Socialists were routed in regional elections in Madrid by the conservative Popular Party (PP).

The PP has surged ahead of the Socialists in opinion polls following that election -- at the end of May, polls showed the PP and the far-right Vox together would win an absolute majority in parliament if a general election were held.

Its leader Pablo Casado denounced the reshuffle on Saturday, tweeting: "Spain's problem is Sanchez, he is the one who should leave."

The government's decision in June to pardon nine Catalan separatists has also drained support.

The pardons have been condemned by Spain's right-wing opposition as well as by the Supreme Court, but Madrid hoped they would give impetus to talks with Catalonia's new leader, Pere Aragonés, who was more open to dialogue than his hardline predecessor.

Since Sanchez's coalition came to power, it has relied in part on the support of ERC, a leftist Catalan separatist party, which in return demanded talks on resolving the separatist conflict in wealthy Catalonia.

Rival Haitian Leaders Battle for Power

PORT-AU-PRINCE (Reuters) - A power struggle is brewing in Haiti as the man appointed prime minister shortly before the assassination of Haiti's president this week said he - not the acting premier - should lead the Caribbean nation and was forming a government to that effect.

Ariel Henry, a neurosurgeon who was named prime minister by President Jovenel Moise on Monday, two days before Moise was killed by a squad of gunmen in his home in the capital, Port-au-Prince, said he was now the highest authority in Haiti, not interim Prime Minister Claude Joseph.

"After the president's assassination, I became the highest, legal and regular authority because there was a decree nominating me," Henry told Reuters in a phone interview late on Friday.

Henry had not been sworn in to replace Joseph at the time of the assassination, which has created confusion over who is the legitimate leader of the 11 million people in Haiti, which shares the island of Hispaniola with the Dominican Republic.

Joseph, who was named interim prime minister in April after the resignation of Joseph Jouthe, has taken the reins of power so far, spearheading the government's response to the assassination, appealing to the United States for support and declaring a 15-day state of emergency. Elections Minister Mathias Pierre said Joseph would keep that role until

presidential and legislative elections are held on Sept. 26.

Henry said the new government he was forming, however, would instead create a new electoral council - given the previous one had been considered too partisan - and the council would determine new dates for elections.

"I don't know what date they will be, all I know is that we cannot take too long to do these elections. We need to do them as soon as possible," Henry said.

Haiti's Senate, which currently comprises just a third of its usual 30 senators, nominated its head Joseph Lambert on Friday to be interim president, a document reviewed by Reuters showed. [read more](#)

Henry said he would be "ready to lead the country with all those who wanted to move forward" when asked if he was willing to rule alongside Lambert.

Haiti's 1987 constitution stipulates the head of the Supreme Court should take over as interim president. But amendments that are not unanimously recognized state that it be the prime minister, or, in the last year of a president's mandate - as was the case with Moise - that parliament should elect a president.

Further complicating the situation, the head of the Supreme Court died last month after contracting COVID-19 amid a surge in infections in one of the few countries yet to start a vaccination campaign.



EU Secures Enough Doses to Vaccinate 70% of Adults

BRUSSELS (Dispatches) - The European Union has delivered enough coronavirus vaccine doses to member states to reach a target to fully vaccinate at least 70% of adults in the bloc, European Commission chief Ursula von der Leyen said in a statement on Saturday.

Von der Leyen, who had tweeted on May 9 that the EU was on track to meet its goal of inoculating 70% of adults by summer, urged EU countries to increase vaccinations and said about 500 million doses were to be distributed across the union by Sunday.

"The European Union has kept its word. This weekend we have delivered enough vaccines to member states to be in a position to vaccinate fully at least 70% of the EU adults this month," von der Leyen said in a video statement.

"But COVID-19 is not yet defeated. We are prepared to deliver more vaccines, including against new variants," said von der Leyen, who faced sharp criticism at the start of 2021 for failing to ensure companies delivered contracted vaccines.

The EU has a longer-term goal of having enough vaccines to immunise its entire eligible population by the end of September, and said in May it was confident of having enough vaccines to reach that target.

Von der Leyen added in her latest statement that the EU was prepared to deliver more doses, including vaccines which act against new variants.

The EU, which is coordinating vaccine purchasing for its member states, has been largely relying on the jab developed by BioNTech and Pfizer, but is also purchasing a number of other vaccines.

The Commission said last week EU countries had ordered nearly 40 million additional doses of the vaccine produced by Johnson & Johnson.

The Commission previously warned that it expected the highly contagious Delta variant of the coronavirus to become dominant in Europe this summer, citing estimates from the EU disease prevention agency.

Recent studies have shown that the Delta variant reduces the effectiveness of vaccines against symptomatic infection, but two doses of COVID-19 vaccines are highly effective in preventing serious illness and deaths.

Biden Presses Putin to Act on Ransomware Attacks, Hints at Retaliation

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - U.S. President Joe Biden increased pressure on Russian President Vladimir Putin to move against ransomware groups operating in Russia, warning the United States is prepared to respond if cyberattacks are not stopped.

The two leaders held an hour-long phone call on Friday, their first since they discussed ransomware attacks at a summit in Geneva on June 16. Biden's message to Putin in the call was direct, suggesting a growing impatience over attacks that have disrupted key U.S. sectors.

"I made it very clear to him that the United States expects, when a ransomware operation is coming from his soil even though it's not sponsored by the state, we expect them to act if we give them enough information to act on who that is," Biden told reporters.

He said the two governments have now set up a means to communicate on a regular basis "when each of us thinks something is happening in another country that affects the home country."

"And so it went well. I'm optimistic," he said.

The United States has not indicated how it plans to respond to the attacks emanating from Russia, but Biden hinted at digital retaliation if Russian cooperation was not forthcoming.

Asked by a Reuters reporter whether it would make sense to attack the Russian servers used in such intrusions, Biden paused, smiled and said: "Yes."

Biden told reporters there would be consequences to

Russian inaction, but gave no details. He said a joint meeting had been set for July 16th, adding, "I believe we're going to get cooperation."

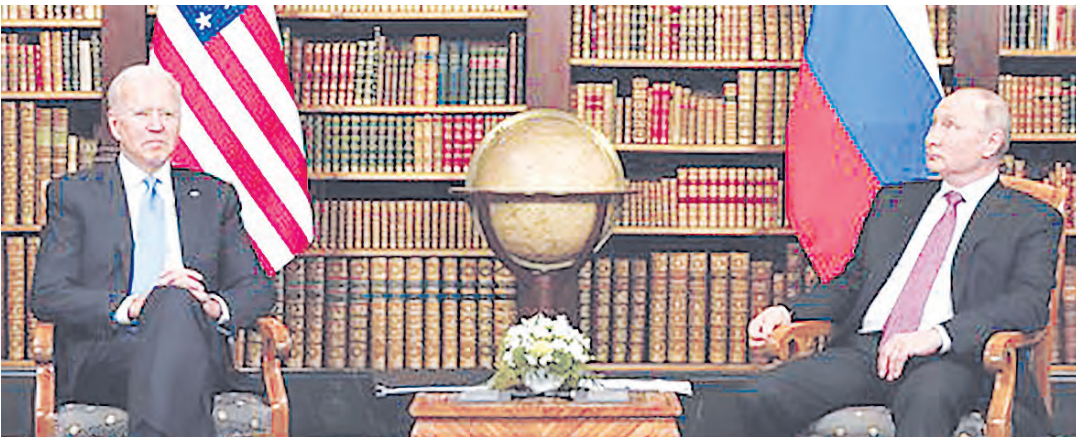
A senior Biden administration official said a response could come soon. "We're not going to telegraph what those actions will be precisely - some of them will be manifest and visible, some of them may not be - but we expect those to take place, you know, in the days and weeks ahead," the official told reporters.

Ransomware is a breed of malicious software that hackers use to hold data hostage in exchange for payment. Cybercriminals have used it to paralyze thousands of American organizations and businesses around the world, setting off a series of increasingly high-profile crises.

Many of the gangs carrying out the ransomware attacks are alleged by American officials and cybersecurity researchers to be operating out of Russia with the awareness, if not the approval, of the government there.

White House press secretary Jen Psaki said on Friday that the United States had no new information suggesting the Russian government directed last week's ransomware attack on Florida IT firm Kaseya by prolific cybercrime syndicate REvil, but said Moscow had a responsibility to take action against such groups operating in Russia.

Moscow and Washington disagreed over whether the United States had formally sought Russian assistance to rein in ransomware attacks.



Mogadishu Police Chief Survives Al-Shabab Attack

MOGADISHU (Dispatches)

- At least eight people have been killed and nine others wounded after a suicide car bombing targeted a convoy carrying Mogadishu's police chief, according to Somali officials.

Farhan Mohamud, the police commissioner, survived Saturday's blast, police spokesman Sadiq Aden Ali said.

"We confirm that eight people, including pedestrians, died in the attack and nine others injured. Al-Shabab militants' intention was to kill the commander, but he survived," Sadiq said.

Al-Shabab, an al-Qaeda-linked armed group fighting to overthrow Somalia's internationally recognised government, claimed responsibility for the attack.

The group said they killed four police officers in the attack and injured five others. They claimed all of them were the police chief's bodyguards.

Al-Shabab, which used to control parts of Mogadishu, was pushed out of the seaside capital in 2011 by Somali troops backed by African Union soldiers.

The group still control parts of the rural areas in south and central Somalia and carries out frequent attacks in Mogadishu.



Zaferanieh (\$4000)
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J, L.balcony
marble fl
fireplace
Nicely Furn

Shanon (adviser)

Farmanieh Villa (\$5000)
2000sq.m
6bdrs, S/p
green yard
S/q, pkg lots
Fully Furn

Parsian

Kamranieh (\$2000) 180sq.m, 3bdrs, S/p, balcony, pkg, F.F

Elahieh (\$2400) 240sq.m, 3bdrs, S/p, S, J, pkg, balcony, & F.F
Darrous (\$2500) 300sq.m, 3bdrs, S/p, S, J, pkg, balcony, & F.F

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France Calls for Global Floor on Carbon Pricing

VENICE (Reuters) - French Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire called on Friday at a meeting with his G20 counterparts for a global minimum price for carbon emissions in the absence of a single global price.

"Instead of having a global unique carbon price which we cannot reach for the time being, we propose to have a global floor on carbon pricing," Le Maire said during a session on environmental taxation. "I think that a global floor could be a very good starting point to have all the G20 member countries committing on carbon pricing," he added.



G20 Signs Off on Tax Crackdown, Warns on Virus Variants

VENICE (Reuters) - Finance chiefs of the G20 large economies endorsed a landmark move to stop multinationals shifting profits to low-tax havens at talks on Saturday where they will also warn that coronavirus variants threaten the global economic recovery.

They also acknowledged the need to ensure fair access to vaccines in poorer countries. But a draft communiqué to be rubber-stamped at the meeting in the Italian city of Venice did not contain specific new proposals on how to do that.

The tax deal was set to be the biggest fresh policy initiative emerging from their talks. It caps eight years of wrangling over the tax issue and the aim is for national leaders to give it a final blessing at an October G20 summit in Rome.

The pact would establish a global minimum corporate tax of at least 15% to deter multinationals from shopping around for the lowest tax rate. It would also shift the way that highly profitable multinationals such as Amazon and Google are taxed, basing it partly on where they sell products and services, rather than on the location of their headquarters.

German Finance Minister Olaf Scholz confirmed to reporters that all G20 economies were on board for the pact, while U.S. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said a handful of smaller countries still opposed to it, such as low-tax Ireland and Hungary, would be encouraged to sign up by October.

"We'll be trying to do that, but I should emphasize it's not essential that every country be on board," she said.

"This agreement contains a kind of enforcement mechanism that can be used to make sure that countries that are holdouts are not able to undermine - to use tax havens that undermine the operation of this global agreement." The G20 members account for more than 80% of world gross domestic product, 75% of global trade and 60% of the population of the planet, including big-hitters the United States, Japan, Britain, France, Germany and India.

In addition to European Union holdouts Ireland, Estonia and Hungary, other countries that have not signed on include Kenya, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Barbados and St. Vincent and Grenadines.

Among other sticking points, a fight in the U.S. Congress over President Joe Biden's planned tax increases on corporations and wealthy Americans could cause problems, as could a separate EU plan for a digital levy on tech companies.

U.S. Treasury officials say the EU plan is not consistent with the wider global deal, even if the levy is largely aimed at European firms.

Beyond the tax agreement, the G20 will address concerns that the rise of the fast-spreading Delta coronavirus variant, combined with unequal access to vaccines, pose risks to global economic recovery.

Citing improvements in the global outlook so far, the draft adds: "However, the recovery is characterised by great divergences across and within countries and remains exposed to downside risks, in particular the spread of new variants of the COVID-19 virus and different paces of vaccination."

A Reuters tally of new COVID-19 infections shows them rising in 69 countries, with the daily rate pointing upwards since late-June and now hitting 478,000.

IMF, WB Advocate for Benefits of Central Bank-Issued Digital Currencies

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) - The International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank on Friday advocated for the cross-border benefits of central bank-issued digital currencies, suggesting that projects like a digital dollar in the U.S. would support global development.

The two global bodies released a report alongside the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) arguing that coordination on digital currencies would shake up the status quo of having to rely on expensive and slow transfer services to send money around the world.

"Faster, cheaper, more transparent and more inclusive cross-border payment services would deliver benefits for citizens, businesses, and economies worldwide," said Indermit Gill, World Bank Group vice president of equitable growth, finance and institutions.

Sir Jon Cunliffe, deputy governor for financial stability of the Bank of England, said the technology offers "the opportunity to start with a 'clean slate'" on improving the payments system.

The IMF, World Bank, and BIS prepared the report for a G20 meeting in Italy hosting the finance ministers and central bankers of the world's largest economies.

The report envisions a central bank digital currency ecosystem where currencies could be exchanged with one another instantly and at all times. In the same way that central banks offer swap lines to one another (to ensure, for example, that U.S. dollars are readily available for exchange), digital currencies could offer the same services to retail users.

In the United States, the Federal Reserve is studying possible designs for a digital dollar, but it is unclear if the central bank will ultimately adopt a digital greenback. A top Fed official recently expressed his skepticism over the usefulness of a Fed-issued digital currency, arguing that private-sector stablecoins would better facilitate cross-border payment.

"Bad actors might try to steal CBDC, compromise the CBDC network, or target non-public information about holders of CBDC," Fed Vice Chairman of Supervision Randal Quarles said on June 28.

The report to the G20 acknowledged the risks of issuing a digital currency, noting that exchange rate controls and monetary policy independence in some central banking regimes could be undermined by reduced barriers to currency substitution. The report also warned that easier cross-border transactions "all else equal, might increase risks for runs on both domestic banking sectors and currencies."



Lebanon Power Station to Restart After Fuel Delivery

BEIRUT (Dispatches) - A major power station in Lebanon is to resume operations on Sunday, two days after it ground to a halt due to a lack of fuel at a time of constant power cuts and economic collapse.

Zahrani in south Lebanon -- one of the country's four main power plants -- went offline on Friday because the state electricity company was unable to access fuel shipments stuck offshore due to pending payments.

Electricity of Lebanon (EDL) said Saturday that foreign correspondent banks had completed payment procedures and preparations were underway to unload the cargo the same day.

"Zahrani power plant will be back in service starting tomorrow morning after the entire cargo aboard the tanker is unloaded into its tanks," EDL said in a statement. The state electricity company did not refer to Deir Ammar power station which also went offline on Friday because it ran out of fuel.

Together, Deir Ammar and Zahrani provide about 40% of the country's electricity.

Lebanon is mired in what the World Bank has called one of the worst economic crises since the 1850s, and the cash-strapped state is struggling to buy enough fuel to keep the lights on.

Power cuts in recent months have lasted up to 22 hours a day in some areas, while even private generator owners have been forced to ration output as fuel prices rise, resulting in periods of complete blackout.

This has disrupted work at businesses, government offices and hospitals. The government's Covid-19 vaccine committee on Friday said it cancelled a mass vaccination drive planned for the weekend because of power outages in most centres.

The international community has long demanded a complete overhaul of the electricity sector, which has cost the government more than \$40 billion since the end of Lebanon's 1975-90 civil war.

Lebanon has been without a fully functioning government since the last once resigned in the wake of a devastating explosion at Beirut port last year that killed more than 200 people.

Mexico's Peso Leads Latin America FX Gains

MEXICO CITY (Dispatches) - Latin American currencies recovered from recent losses on Friday but were set to end the week lower on turbulent commodity markets and concerns over Chinese economic growth.

Mexico's peso led the charge, up 0.8% and capping weekly losses at around 0.4% as the dollar slipped on profit taking. MSC's index

of Latin American currencies was up 0.6%, breaking a 9-day losing streak.

"Risk sentiment seems to be finding its footing again," said Mazen Issa, senior FX strategist at TD Securities. Chile's peso rose 0.7%, tracking higher copper prices after major importer China cut the amount of cash that banks need to hold to boost an economic recovery.

But China's move to cut the reserve requirement ratio (RRR) raised broader questions over the pace of an economic recovery in the country, given that it has so far led a post-COVID economic bounce.

An economic slowdown in China would be negative for Latin America given the region's large dependence on China as a destination for agriculture and mining exports.

"We think this week was in part driven by a growth scare amid some concern for rising infections that made hawkish pivots by central banks a bit ambitious," he said. "Typically, a cooling in growth has led to a moderation in risk."

On the week, emerging currencies were set to end lower, with a 3.8% percent drop by Brazil's real being the steepest. The real did not trade on account of a holiday on Friday. Growing concerns over political unrest in the country have detracted from the real's appeal.

Two polls on Thursday showed President Jair Bolsonaro's disapproval ratings rose to the highest level since he came to power 2-1/2 years ago, amid growing discontent over his administration's handling of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Colombia's peso ended the week down more than 2%. Wild swings in oil prices after the breakdown of OPEC talks hampered the currency through the week.

Most Latin American stocks rose in early trade, tracking a broader recovery in global markets after steep losses through the week. MSC's index of regional stocks was set to lose 4% this week, its worst week in more than four months.

ADB Approves \$250m Loan To Azerbaijan

BAKU (Dispatches) - The Asian Development Bank approved a \$250 million loan to Azerbaijan to support implement the comprehensive plan to mitigate the health, social and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

ADB's President Masatsugu Asakawa noted that the continuing effects of the coronavirus pandemic threaten to upend the significant gains made by Azerbaijan in improving the economy and reducing poverty.

"ADB remains fully committed to supporting Azerbaijan and this program will help the government maintain its pandemic response measures, protect the poor and vulnerable, and lay the foundations for economic recovery," Asakawa said.

The Bank's president emphasized that the restrictions introduced to control the spread of the pandemic in Azerbaijan have led to a decrease in trade, tourism, remittances, and consumer demand, while oil revenues declines due to the global economic slowdown.

He stated that Bank's COVID-19 Active Response and Expenditure Support (CARES) Program will provide budget support for the government's ongoing health, social protection and macroeconomic stabilization measures.

It should be noted that the government's health measures include additional payments for health care workers, nationwide rollout of mandatory health insurance, procurement of medicines and medical equipment, and scaling up medical facilities' capacity to test for and treat COVID-19 patients.

Moreover, to strengthen social protection, the government has increased monthly allowances for low-income households and expanded the number of households eligible for support to 80,000.

In the meantime, the government has implemented measures including the creation of 17,000 temporary public jobs, interest rate subsidies for bank loans to businesses affected by the pandemic and financial support for selected state-owned enterprises, in order to help stabilize the economy.

Additionally, the program provides for women support, including enabling the supply of appropriately sized personal protective equipment for female health workers; supporting additional payments to health care workers, of which at least 65 percent are women; enabling coverage of women under mandatory health insurance, old-age pensions, targeted social assistance, and interest-free education loans for low-income households, etc.

S&P 500 Rallies to Record as Economic Sectors Rebound



NEW YORK (Reuters) - U.S. stocks rallied on Friday and the S&P 500 hit a record high as financials and other economically focused sectors rebounded after a selloff sparked by growth worries earlier in the week.

The indexes were also set to end higher on a week that also saw a sharp rally in U.S. Treasuries amid the fears that the recovery in the U.S. economy was losing steam with the Delta variant of the coronavirus spreading.

S&P financials led sector gains, followed by materials. Investors are eager to hear from U.S. companies next week when the second-quarter earnings season begins. Big banks will be among the first to report.

Analysts expect earnings growth of 65.8% for companies in the S&P 500 index in the quarter, up from a previous forecast of 54% growth at the start of the period, according to Refinitiv IBES data.

"Earnings are likely to be good because earnings were so weak from a year ago at this time," said Rick Meckler, partner at Cherry Lane Investments in New Vernon, New Jersey.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 454.61 points, or 1.32%, to 34,876.54, the S&P 500 gained 47.99 points, or 1.11%, to 4,368.81 and the Nasdaq Composite added 136.00 points, or 0.93%, to 14,695.79.

Among individual stocks, Levi Strauss & Co added 1.3% as it forecast a strong full-year profit after beating quarterly earnings estimates on improving demand across its markets for jeans, tops, and jackets.

U.S.-listed shares of Chinese ride-hailing company Didi Global Inc rose 8.8% after four sessions of losses, as it was recently hit by an investigation from China's internet watchdog.

Advancing issues outnumbered declining ones on the NYSE by a 4.08-to-1 ratio; on Nasdaq, a 3.09-to-1 ratio favored advancers.

The S&P 500 posted 35 new 52-week highs and no new lows; the Nasdaq Composite recorded 53 new highs and 30 new lows.

Iran's Actress Awarded At American Festival

TEHRAN (IRNA) - Iranian actress Mina Vahid, the main artist of the drama One Night in Tehran by Farhad Najafi, was awarded at a film festival which was held in Los Angeles.

Vahid played a role in the 78-minute mystery directed by Iranian filmmaker Farhad Najafi.

New York, Tokyo, and Mumbai all have their own nightlife. And so does Tehran; a nocturnal underground world unlike any other – A girl looking for her happiness within the chaos of this swallowing world gets into a night cab, unaware of how her life is going to change forever, the plot of the feature reads.



China Frees Up \$154b for Banks to Underpin Economic Recovery

BEIJING (Reuters) - China will cut the amount of cash that banks must hold as reserves, releasing around 1 trillion yuan (\$154.19 billion) in long-term liquidity to underpin its post-COVID economic recovery that is starting to lose momentum.

The People's Bank of China (PBOC) said on its website it would cut the reserve requirement ratio (RRR) for all banks by 50 basis points (bps), effective from July 15.

The world's second-largest economy has largely rebounded to its pre-pandemic growth levels, driven by a surprisingly resilient export sector. But growth is losing steam and smaller firms are bearing the brunt of a recent surge in raw material prices.

Many analysts believe pent-up COVID demand has now peaked and that growth rates will start to moderate in the second half of the year, weighed down by weakening exports, surging producer price inflation and Beijing's continued crackdown on the property market.

"I see it as more or less a fine-tuning rather than a signal that there is more monetary easing coming," said Elwin de Groot, head of macro strategy at Rabobank.

"It was already signalled to some extent because we had seen some tightening in Chinese money markets, and this is basically to alleviate these pressures."

The PBOC said its prudent monetary policy remained unchanged. Part of the liquidity released will help financial institutions to repay maturing medium-term lending facility (MLF) loans, and will also help ease liquidity pressure caused by tax payments, it said.

The central bank said the weighted average RRR for Chinese financial institutions would fall to 8.9% after the cut.

Banks that are subject to an RRR of 5% will be exempted from the new cut.

The PBOC last cut the RRR in April last year, when the Chinese economy was still badly affected by the coronavirus crisis. As the economy staged its strong rebound, the PBOC shifted to a moderately tightening bias.

China's cabinet said on Wednesday that authorities would use timely cuts in RRR to help small firms cope with the negative impact from rising commodity prices, in an announcement that surprised the markets.



China's May factory gate prices rose at their fastest annual pace in over 12 years in June due to surging commodity prices. Coupled with supply chain issues, including a global shortage of semiconductors, industrial output slowed for the third straight month in May.

Underlying demand remains weak in China. Consumer inflation, which eased in June, still fell way short of the government's target of around 3%.

The economy is widely expected to grow more than 8% this year, against the government's modest growth target of over 6%, suggesting there is no big pressure to step up easing.

A former PBOC official said earlier this week that Beijing should guide market interest rates lower to support economic growth and ease funding pressures on local governments.

Cannes Falls for "The Worst Person in the World"

CANNES (AFP) - The Cannes film festival has fallen head over heels for a Norwegian film about a young woman trying to find herself and the unknown actress who plays her.

"A star is born," declared The Guardian's Peter Bradshaw. Renate Reinsve "takes off like a rocket and deserves star status to rival Lily James or Alicia Vikander," he added, giving "The Worst Person in the World" a five-star review -- one of several it has already garnered.

In her first big screen lead, Reinsve plays a twenty-something trying and failing to define herself through her pinballing relationships with men until she finally strikes out on her own path.

Variety predicted it would become a "touchstone" movie for millennials, Britain's Daily Telegraph called it "wondrous", while Xan Brooks of The Observer said it was "simply gorgeous".

Bradshaw -- one of several critics to admit wiping away a tear or two during the premiere -- credited the director Joachim Trier with inventing a whole new genre.

"Trier has taken on one of the most difficult genres imaginable, the romantic drama, and combined it with another very tricky style -- the coming-of-ager -- to craft something gloriously sweet and beguiling," he said.

The French media were equally bewitched.

And everyone wondered why the world has never heard of 33-year-old Reinsve before.

Trier told AFP that "there is an awful lot of her in the character. She has had a big, big impact on this film."

"I wrote it specifically for her," he said knowing her gift for improvisation. "I could cut four of five different versions of any scene with her in this film."

"I always wondered why the hell is Norwegian film so messed up that she hasn't had a lead role yet?" Trier added. Reinsve told AFP that she had "been through the same" labyrinth of self-doubt and indecision as her character.

And she too would often think of herself as the worst person in the world as she saw others around fly.

In the film her character Julie drifts from medical school to a psychology degree to photography to five minutes of Facebook fame for writing a piece called "Oral sex in the era of #MeToo".

"Growing up before #MeToo you kind of shape yourself with the strong opinions and presence of men," Reinsve added.

"She finds her identity in others' eyes. When you free yourself from that, you become yourself and stronger," she said. The film -- which includes one of the most gobsmackingly feminist sex scenes ever seen at Cannes -- has also been praised for the way it deals with the shifting gender power balance.

In one particularly telling scene, Reinsve's older graphic novelist boyfriend crashes and burns when a radio interview turns to the lumpen sexism of his past creations. Trier said the film was navigating "the beautiful chaos" and complications of love in a time of massive change.

"With #MeToo it is very polarised. But I believe that change also comes about through humanity and understanding," he said.

"Is there such a thing as pure love? I'm not sure, they are millions of agendas, conscious and unconscious."

"I want to give a big hug to people with this film and say hey, 'It's OK. we are all going through this.'"

COVID-19 Will Push 47m Women and Girls Into Extreme Poverty

TEHRAN (UNIC) -- United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres in his message on World Population Day, 11 July 2021, said that COVID-19 will push 47 million women and girls into extreme poverty.

The full text of his message reads:

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to upend our world, reaching one grim milestone after another. In addition to the millions of lives tragically lost, there has been a less visible toll: a shocking rise in domestic violence as women were forced into isolation with their abusers; empty maternity wards as women postponed motherhood; and unintended pregnancies due to curtailed access to contraceptive services.

Our latest estimates indicate that COVID-19 will push 47 million women and girls into extreme poverty. Many girls who are out of school may never return.

In every corner of the world, we are seeing a reversal of hard-won gains and an erosion of women's reproductive rights, choices and agency. With the onset of the pandemic, resources for sexual and reproductive health services were diverted.

These gaps in access to health rights are unacceptable. Women cannot be alone in this fight.

As we mark World Population Day, let us pledge to ensure the reproductive health rights of everyone, everywhere.



Delta Puts Brakes on Return to Post-Covid Normality

PARIS (Dispatches) - Nations across the globe hit new pandemic highs and reimposed Covid-19 restrictions on Saturday as the highly contagious Delta variant forced governments to put the brakes on plans to return to normality.

The highly transmissible Delta variant, first detected in India, is sweeping the globe as countries race to inoculate their populations to ward off fresh outbreaks and allow for economies and daily life to recover.

The European Union -- lambasted early on in the pandemic response for a botched vaccine acquisition program -- said on Saturday it has delivered enough shots to cover 70 percent of the bloc's population.

"By tomorrow, some 500 million doses will have been distributed to all regions of Europe," EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said.

But according to the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, the proportion of adults aged 18 years or over fully vaccinated in the EU and European Economic Area is still only 44.1 percent.

Supply shortages in South Korea have meant only about 11 percent of the country's 52 million population is fully vaccinated, according to health authorities.

The nation, held up as a model of how to combat the pandemic, reported 1,378 new coronavirus cases on Saturday, a third straight record high.

From Monday, gatherings of more than two people will be banned after 6:00 pm, schools, bars and clubs will be closed.

In Pakistan, where less than eight percent of the population has been vaccinated, the government said only those who had received jabs would be allowed to fly.

"We could face dangerous consequences if we do not take steps to control the Delta variant," the National Command and Operation Centre said in a statement.

The country of around 215 million people has largely escaped the worst of the pandemic, with under a million recorded infections and around 23,000 deaths -- although cases are on the rise again.

Americans Should Stop...

FROM PAGE 1

A U.S. military official, speaking to Reuters on the condition of anonymity, said the incident left no casualties or damage.

These attacks against the U.S. forces in Syria and Iraq have increased and American officials have no way but to pull back their forces from the region or else they should see more casualties in the future because people in the region do not tolerate occupation of their lands by the aliens and the U.S. is not in a position to determine the fates of the nations in any part of the world.

Over the past years, the U.S. has been maintaining an illegal military presence on Syrian soil, collaborating with anti-Damascus militants and stealing the country's crude oil resources.

The American troops under the pretext of restoring peace and security are present in Iraq and Syria and they are actually supporting the terrorist groups and opposition groups in both countries because the terrorists are their tools and pretext for staying in the region.

They back anti-revolutionary Iranian terrorist group for conducting terrorist acts and espionage in Iran and they support the Daesh in Iraq and Syria for bloodshed and crating panic in those countries in order to keep foreign forces in the region.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has repeatedly said that there needs no foreign forces' presence in the region or meddling into the regional states' internal affairs and they can resolve their problems by own but everybody knows that this is the nature of the world arrogance that it should be present in countries in order to control the governments and nations and this will help them to loot the wealth of those countries.

But the Americans and the Westerns should take into consideration that people in the world now are wise and they have woke up and it will not let them dominate the countries and shape the fate of the nations. The era of occupation and looting of the countries has come to an end and support of the terrorist groups in vain against the strong determination of the nations and collective cooperation of the countries in fighting the terrorist groups.

So it is better the aliens to leave the region and the countries and to stop supporting and harboring the terrorists.

Syria Hails UN...

FROM PAGE 1

Mekdad was cited by Syria's official news agency SANA as saying on Saturday that adopting resolution 2585 in its current form was an achievement because it included all aspects which Western countries had refused to consider.

The top diplomat underlined that the new resolution has put many restrictions on the movement of goods as well as the Western states which disrespect international borders and use the crossings to violate Syria's territorial integrity.

"The border crossings were used by the Western states, the US and all those who support terrorism, to provide terrorists and militants with the weapons," Mekdad said, stressing that the UN had so far failed in its duty to monitor goods entering Syria.

Mekdad said the UN, like Western countries, has failed to deliver real humanitarian aid to the Syrian people and that the aid batches often fall into the hands of armed groups and organizations affiliated to the Western states, which are distributed among terrorists or sold later to Syrians at high prices.

"The resolution means that the Syrian state must know everything which enters the country and where food items and humanitarian supplies are going, and thus it would be difficult for the Western countries to pass weapons to terrorists," he added.

Mekdad said the resolution renews the United Nations' strong faith in the territorial integrity of Syria and leaves Turkey, along with the United States that supports militants in northern Syria, not satisfied.

The United Nations Security Council approved aid deliveries to Syria from Turkey in 2014, which have been renewed to this day.

Moscow and Beijing argue that the mechanism violates Syria's sovereignty and that aid should be channeled through the government of President Bashar al-Assad.

In the name of God

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT



ESCO
Esfahan Steel Company

Brief Notice of International Tender No. 39476

Esfahan Steel Co. intends to purchase 10 set's Refractory Materials for the Converter through international tender No.39476.

Prospective bidders specialized and experienced in the said area may visit Esfahan Steel Co.'s Website at www.esfahansteel.ir (Tender & Bids, Suppliers Comprehensive System) to get the tender documents no later than 13.July.2021.

Date of opening envelopes "A" & "B": 14.July.2021

For further information, prospective bidders may contact us via the following

phone No.: +98-31-52572017

Public Relation of Esfahan Steel Co.

Ex-England Striker Paul Mariner Dies Aged 68

LONDON (Dispatches) - Former Ipswich and England striker Paul Mariner has died aged 68, his family announced on Saturday.

The 35-times capped Mariner, who won the 1978 FA Cup and 1981 UEFA Cup with Ipswich, had been battling brain cancer.

"We regretfully inform you that Paul passed away peacefully on July 9 surrounded by his family, after a brief battle with brain cancer," his family said in a statement.

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Mollema Claims Vintage Tour de France Victory

QUILLAN (Reuters) - Bauke Mollema completed a bold, vintage solo raid to claim his second Tour de France win in 11 participations at the end of the 14th stage, a rough 183.7-km ride from Carcassonne on Saturday.

Austrian Patrick Konrad took second place, with Colombia's Sergio Higuita coming home third, both one minute four seconds off the pace.

Slovenian Tadej Pogacar retained the overall leader's yellow jersey at the end of a hot day in southwestern France, on roads peppered with short but brutal climbs.

8 IRAN NEWS

SPORTS

MONDAY JULY 12, 2021

Messi and Argentina Topple Brazil to Win Copa

BRAZILIA (Dispatches) - Superstar Lionel Messi won his first trophy with his national team as Angel Di Maria's goal gave Argentina a 1-0 win over hosts Brazil in the Copa America final on Saturday.

The victory at Rio de Janeiro's Maracana stadium ended Argentina's 28-year wait for a major trophy, and also ended Brazil's unbeaten home record that stretched back more than 2,500 days.

Argentina had last tasted success at a major tournament in 1993 when the great Gabriel Batistuta's brace gave them a 2-1 win over Mexico in the Copa final in Ecuador.

"It's a great title, especially for our people. The fans support the team unconditionally. I think they can identify with this team that never gives in," said Argentina coach Lionel Scaloni.

It was the first time in six editions playing at home that Brazil had failed to lift the trophy.

And while 34-year-old Messi's odyssey has come to an end, Brazil's Neymar, five years his junior, is still without a major title at international level having missed the Seleccion's win on home soil two years ago through injury.

Argentina edged a brutal and fractious affair thanks to Di Maria's goal on 22 minutes.

The 33-year-old winger ran onto Rodrigo De Paul's sumptuous through ball to lob Brazil goalkeeper Ederson with a first time finish.

"We fell short so many times, we dreamt so much about this, fought so hard," said Di Maria, who was named man of the match.

U.S. Men's Team Wants To Honor Bryant in Tokyo

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Brooklyn Nets forward Kevin Durant has said the United States basketball team has Kobe Bryant's DNA embedded in it and will look to honor the Los Angeles Lakers great with their play during this year's Tokyo Olympics.

Bryant, a five-times NBA champion and twice Olympic gold medal winner, died last year aged 41 in a helicopter crash with his daughter and seven others, shocking the world of sport and sending legions of fans into mourning.

Durant, who was the team's leading scorer at both the 2016 Rio Games and 2012 London Games, leads a 12-member U.S. squad looking to claim their 16th gold medal at the Olympics which begin on July 23.

"Kobe Bryant is the guy all of us looked up to and watched as kids. Even when he was alive and playing, his DNA was embedded in us as players. From afar he taught us what the game is about, what work ethic is about," Durant told reporters.

"And we all kind of pulled from him when he was playing and when he was alive. And now that he's not with us, we all want to honor his teachings by going out there and playing with that passion, with that energy every single play."

On Thursday, organizers decided the Olympics would take place without spectators as a resurgent coronavirus forced Japan to declare a state of emergency in the capital that will run throughout the Games.

"I was definitely disappointed once I heard that, but I understand... we already pushed the games back a year, so we don't want to cause more trouble with COVID," Durant said.

"... That's going to be the part that's going to sting a bit, but it's still an honor and pleasure to represent your country and to do it on a big stage."

The U.S. team will open preliminary round play on July 25 against France.



picked up the first booking after just three minutes for a studs up lunge at Gonzalo Montiel.

Brazil were unchanged from their semi-final win over Peru while Scaloni made five alterations, notably bringing in Di Maria -- who made an energetic and decisive entry off the bench against Colombia last time out.

The final was the first match of the tournament, which was originally due to take place last year, to allow in fans as 7,800 -- a tenth of the Maracana capacity -- took their seats after authorities partially lifted pandemic restrictions.

The first clear chance came on 13 minutes as Richarlison headed down Marquinhos's long ball into the path of Neymar but the Brazilian star was crowded out by a pair of defenders.

The brutal nature of the early challenges could be seen on the players' kits, with Neymar sporting ripped shorts and Lucas Paqueta being left with a hole in his sock following an intervention by Otamendi.

Argentina played with aggression and commitment, but no lack of quality with Di Maria tormenting Brazil's left back Renan Lodi, who probably should have cut out De Paul's pass for the winger's goal.

Di Maria had a shot from 20 yards blocked while Messi fired just wide following a 40 yard run.

Brazil struggled to create anything of note and even when they had a free-kick from shooting range, Neymar couldn't beat the wall.

When the hosts did finally maintain some pressure late in the first half, Everton's deflected strike bobbled though to goalkeeper Emiliano Martinez.



LONDON (Dispatches) - The No. 1 women's tennis player in the world more than lived up to expectations at Wimbledon. Ashleigh Barty got out to a big lead and held on against Karolina Pliskova to win Wimbledon in a three-set thriller on Saturday, 6-3, 6-7, 6-3.

Barty opened the match in dominating fashion, winning the first 14 points. She overwhelmed Pliskova with aces and well-placed shots that fell just out of Pliskova's reach.

Down 4-0 in the first set, Pliskova finally registered her first point. It drew loud cheers from the crowd in London. From there, Pliskova seemed to settle in. She took the fifth game from Barty, lost a tough sixth game and then bounced back with a win, making it 5-2.

Pliskova then turned in -- to that point -- her best performance of the match to make it 5-3. Barty bounced back with a win in the next game to take the first set.

Pliskova jumped out to a strong start in the second set, taking the first game. While Barty managed to take the next three games, Pliskova refused to go quietly. Pliskova took the next three games, and her first lead in the set, going up 4-3 over Barty. The two traded the next two games, giving Pliskova a 5-4 lead.

Cheruiyot Clinches Diamond League Win



The 25-year-old finished fourth at the Kenyan trials and told reporters his poor performance came after a family tragedy.

MONACO (Dispatches) - Reigning world champion Timothy Cheruiyot got sweet redemption after coming up short at Kenya's Olympic team trials last month, winning the men's 1,500m in a world-leading 3 minutes and 28.28 seconds at Diamond League meet in Monaco.

"I missed competition a lot after spending a lot of time in Kenya where I had a few issues like my hamstring injury and after also losing a relative in my family on the day of the Kenyan trials explaining why I missed out on making the team," said Cheruiyot.

"I am therefore happy I am back again after all this."

His was one of handful of world-leading times put up in a blockbuster meet, with 2012 Olympic silver medallist Nijel Amos winning the men's 800m in 1:42.91, Ethiopia's Lamecha Girma clinching the men's 3,000m steeplechase in 8:07.75 and Olympic champion Faith Kipyegon clinching the women's 1,500m in 3:51.07.

Pakistan's Ali Takes Five Wickets as England Rally in 2nd ODI



ISLAMABAD (Dispatches) - Pakistan's Hasan Ali took five wickets but England recovered to 247 all out in the second one-day international at Lord's on Saturday.

England were set for a commanding total in a match reduced by rain to 47 overs per side while Phil Salt (60) and James Vince (56) were sharing a third-wicket stand of 97 after both Dawid Malan and Zak Crawley had fallen for ducks.

From 118-2, however, England lost five wickets for 42 runs to be 160-7 in what was the first one-day international at Lord's since England's dramatic 2019 World Cup final win over New Zealand and the first in the UK where a capacity crowd had been allowed since the start of the coronavirus pandemic.

Fast bowler Ali, a star of Pakistan's 2017 Champions Trophy triumph in England, finished with 5-51 in 9.2 overs -- his fourth five-wicket haul in 56 matches at this level -- when Saqib Mahmood holed out.

But by then Lewis Gregory (40) and Brydon Carse (31), both playing their maiden ODI innings, had frustrated Pakistan with an eighth-wicket stand of 69.

And with the floodlights switched on at a gloomy home of cricket, a Pakistan side bowled out for just 141 in the first ODI on Thursday had work to do in difficult batting conditions if they were to level this three-match series at 1-1.

Both sides were unchanged after England, forced into selecting a wholly new squad after a Covid outbreak within their camp, had thrashed Pakistan by nine wickets at Cardiff's Sophia Gardens.

But after Pakistan captain Babar Azam had won the toss, Shaheen Shah Afridi and Ali reduced England to 21-2 inside five overs.

Malan and Zak Crawley, who had each made unbeaten fifties on Thursday, both fell for nought. Malan edged Ali to Shadab Khan at second slip while Crawley was bowled first ball by a superb inswinger from left-armer Afridi.

Sarri Not Intimidated By Mourinho's Past Successes



ROME (Dispatches) - Jose Mourinho's trophy cabinet may be bulging but new Lazio boss Maurizio Sarri said that counts for nothing as the former Chelsea managers prepare to share the Stadio Olimpico next season.

Mourinho will coach Roma while Sarri takes charge of city rivals Lazio, both housed in the same stadium in the Italian capital.

"I can't see this great dualism with Mourinho," Sarri told a press conference in the Italian capital.

"I met him and he is a good character. He has won much more than me, has a higher pedigree than mine, even if it doesn't count for anything. In the derby we will do everything, and more, to get through the match."

Mourinho, 58, famously dubbed himself 'the Special One' to announce his arrival at Chelsea, who he lead to a first English league title in 50 years in 2005, going on to win two more league titles, and eight trophies in total in Stamford Bridge.

The Portuguese, who has won 25 trophies as a coach in his career including the Champions League with Inter Milan and Porto, signed for Roma two weeks after being sacked by Tottenham.

Sarri won his first coaching trophy with Chelsea in the Europa League in 2019 before moving to Juventus where he won Serie A in 2000 before being dismissed.

But the 62-year-old believes he has found the right fit in Lazio, a team who have won Serie A twice, most recently in 2000.

"I chose Lazio for two reasons -- a personal one and a sporting one," said the Italian coach famed for his 'Sarriball' fast-paced, possession-based style brand of attacking football at Napoli from 2015-18. "I saw in this club the characteristics to express myself at best. In this team I see the conditions to play the football I like."

"Lazio comes at a time when I needed this type of club, with these characteristics, which could lead me to do this job in the way that suits me best."