

**IRAN NEWS** Felicitates Its Muslim  
And Shiite Readers on the Auspicious  
Occasion of Birthday Anniversaries  
Of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)  
And Imam Jaafar Sadeq (AS).  
The Next Issue Will Hit  
The News-Stands on Monday

# IRAN NEWS

**Health Ministry Announced on  
Wednesday That the Number of  
Deaths From the Coronavirus  
Pandemic in Iran Increased to  
124,585 With 162 More Iranians Killed  
By the Virus Over the Past 24 Hours**

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## Iraq Urged to Swiftly Prosecute Soleimani Assassination Perpetrators

TEHRAN (PressTV) - A senior official of Iran's Judiciary has called on Iraq to identify and bring to justice the perpetrators in the assassination of Iran and Iraq's top anti-terror commanders, Lieutenant General Qassem Soleimani and Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis, as soon as possible.

In a meeting with Iraqi Justice Minister Salar Abdul Sattar Muhammad in Tehran on Tuesday, Kazem Gharibabadi, the secretary general of Iran's Human Rights Office, said the two countries firmly pursue the assassination case.

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## Iran Calls for UN Action Against Israeli Threats to Nuclear Program



### IRAN NEWS POLITICAL DESK

TEHRAN - Iran's permanent ambassador to the United Nations (UN) has dismissed as "unfounded and irrelevant" Israel's allegations against Tehran's nuclear program, saying the accusations are aimed at covering up the threats posed by the regime's nuclear weapons to the region and the world.

Majid Takht-Ravanchi made the remarks at a UN Security Council session on Tuesday after Israel's ambassador Gilad Erdan accused Iran of trying to become a "nuclear threshold state," and continuing to violate international commitments regarding enrichment and stockpiling of uranium.

Erdan also accused Tehran of using the nuclear diplomacy talks in Vienna to buy time to achieve near weapons-grade uranium enrichment.

"We categorically reject and strongly condemn the baseless accusations made by the representative of the Israeli regime in this meeting against our country," Takht-Ravanchi said at the UN Security Council session. "Israel's allegations about Iran's peaceful nuclear program, the peaceful nature of which has been repeatedly verified by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), are completely absurd, unfounded and irrelevant."

The Iranian diplomat said Israel is trying to play the victim in a bid to divert the attention of the international community from its crimes against Palestinian people, adding that the regime's accusations are also aimed at covering up the threat that its nuclear weapons pose to the region and world.

"It is obvious that the aim of the Israeli regime in these baseless accusations is to hide the danger that its nuclear weapons pose to the region and the international community," Takht-Ravanchi said.

"To eliminate this threat, the international community must force the Israeli regime to stop its threatening nuclear activities, adhere to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and keep its entire nuclear activities and facilities under the International Atomic Energy Agency's surveillance," he added.

Responding to Erdan's raising the possibility of a military attack against Iran, Takht-Ravanchi said, "The Islamic Republic of Iran reserves the inherent right to take all necessary measures to protect and defend itself in accordance with international law."

Iran has time and again warned that it will give a crushing response to any acts of aggression against the country.

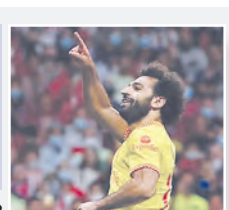
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## IAEA Chief Calls for Meeting With Iran FM

TEHRAN (IFP) - Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Rafael Grossi has asked for a summit with Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian over issues related to Tehran's nuclear program.

Grossi said in an interview he urgently needed to meet Tehran's foreign minister to discuss proposals to reinvigorate the fragile surveillance program.

"I haven't been able to talk to [Iran's new] foreign minister," Grossi told the Financial Times during a visit to Washington.

"I need to have this contact at the political level. This is indispensable. Without it, we cannot understand each other," he added.

The head of the UN's atomic watchdog has warned that stop-gap measures to monitor Iran's nuclear activities are no longer "intact" amid concerns that talks to resurrect a global agreement to curb Tehran's atomic work have stalled.

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## UK Court Rules on Missing Iranian Oil Rig

LONDON (Dispatches) - A court of appeal in the UK has issued its final verdict on a controversial case known as the missing Iranian oil rig while ordering suspects in the case to compensate an Iranian Oil Ministry company, a local news agency report shows.

The Tuesday report by the semi-official Fars news agency said that the UK court had ruled that three Iranian suspects involved in a 2012 deal between a UK-based company and the Iranian Offshore Engineering and Construction Company (IOEC) that had been intended to buy an oil rig should return 24 trillion rials worth of funds (over \$88 million) to the IOEC.

The three suspects, identified as Ali Taheri Motlagh, Morad Shirani and Reza Mostafavi Tabatabaei, had acted as IOEC officials or as middle man in a controversial deal that was never fulfilled.

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## China Refiners Eye Iranian Crude In Fresh Buying Frenzy

BEIJING (Dispatches) - China's independent refiners, also known as teapots, are set to ramp up crude oil purchases from Iran as they seek to use import quotas before they expire in less than three months, a report says.

According to Bloomberg, crude from Iran stored in tankers offshore Asia is a potential option given that it can be delivered quickly.

Chinese independent processors usually seek to use up quotas so they can apply for comparable volumes in the next year, the financial news provider said.

There are millions of barrels of crude floating off China and around Singapore and Malaysia that include Iranian oil.

Iran's new Oil Minister Javad Owji said last month that "good things will happen in terms of oil sales in the coming months".

The U.S. imposed its most draconian sanctions on Iran three years ago with the express aim of bringing the country's oil exports down to zero after Washington abandoned an international nuclear deal with Tehran.

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## Export Tender DRI (NGHSCO)



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Metallic Fe %	80% (+/-1%)	Average
Total Gaug %	8.5	Maximum
Carbon (C) %	1.8% (+/-0.2%)	Average
Phosphorous (P) %	0.08	Maximum
Sulphur (S) %	0.01	Maximum
(SiO2 + Al2O3 + CaO + MgO) %	8	Maximum
Size Distribution		
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## Army to Hold Air Defense Drill

TEHRAN (IRNA) - Iranian Army Air Force Commander Brigadier General Hamid Vahedi said on Wednesday that Iranian armed forces are to hold a decentralized air defense drill named “10th Defenders of Velayat Sky 1400” tomorrow (Thursday). Brigadier General Vahedi said on Wednesday that the operational phase of the drill will begin on Tuesday, October 12, and selected units of the Iranian Army’s air defense force will participate in the maneuver. He added that the exercise is aimed at reflecting part of the capabilities of the Iranian

Air Force; and at the same time, the necessary preparations in guiding and controlling interceptor fire and using a variety of aircraft is planned and implemented.

Iranian Army Air Force Commander continued that all kinds of indigenous and upgraded systems and weapons, including heavy and semi-heavy smart bombs, all kinds of laser, television, thermal, radar missiles, rockets, and bombs produced by the specialists of the Ministry of Defense and Armed Forces Logistics and the self-sufficiency of the Army Air Force will be used in the drill.

# Iran Policy Is Unity In World of Islam

*IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK*

**TEHRAN - Speaking in a cabinet meeting on Wednesday, President Seyed Ebrahim Raisi congratulated the birthdays of the Prophet of Islam (PBUH) and Imam Jafar Sadiq (AS) and also the Week of Unity, saying, “The Great Prophet of Islam and his progeny are the key to unity in the World of Islam and human society”.**

The President described unity in the World of Islam as the strategy of the Islamic Republic of Iran and sowing discord as the strategy of the enemy, and said, “Anyone who knowingly or unknowingly acts against unity has played on enemy’s side”.

Emphasizing that we should all try to maintain unity among the Muslim nation of Iran of different ethnicities and religions, Ayatollah Raisi said, “This issue is not a tactic but a strategy for the Islamic Republic. Of course, this does not mean the unification of all ethnic and religious groups, thoughts and dialects, but it means avoiding divisiveness and a single view of the strategic goal of the Islamic Republic, which is progress”.

Raisi further stressed the need to provide temporary accommodation for those who travel to large cities, including Tehran, for treatment, but do not have accommodation.

The President further appreciated the efforts and activities of the Vice President for Women and Family Affairs and said, “Today, Ms Khaz’ali and I are sitting in the executive position and suggestions and recommendations are no longer accept from us”.

Raisi added, “The Vice-Presidency for Women and Family Affairs, in consultation with intellectuals and experts, should provide solutions to the problems in this field, especially social harms, including divorce, and provide executive and operational solutions”.



Meanwhile the head and members of the Combatant Clergy Association met with the President on Tuesday night and stressed their support for the 13th government.

Speaking in this meeting, President Raisi emphasized the government’s efforts to have a close relationship with clerics and intellectuals of the seminary and university, saying, “The government is determined to take advantage of the sympathetic views of all segments, especially the clergy, to advance the country’s affairs”.

The President noted, “The government, in addition to confronting coronavirus and trying to solve people’s livelihood problems, is seriously pursuing the promotion of the cultural and religious values of the society”.

Raisi added, “The clergy have always been trusted and the people still trust this current to solve their problems, and we must use this trust to address the concerns of the people in various economic and cultural sectors”.

The President said, “According to the declaration of the Second Step of the Revolution, we are determined to move in the direction of creating change and accelerating the progress of the country”.

Ayatollah Raisi added, “Despite all the problems, I see a very promising future and we are determined to create suitable conditions in the living conditions of the people”.

## Prospects of Kazakh-Iranian Cooperation Discussed By Their Leading Research Institutes



*IRAN NEWS POLITICAL DESK*

TEHRAN - On Monday, upon an initiative of the Embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan in Tehran the Institute of World Economics and Politics of the Republic of Kazakhstan under the Nursultan Nazarbayev’s Foundation (IWEP) and the Institute of Political and International Studies (IPIS) under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran together with Kazakh and Iranian Embassies in Tehran and Nur-Sultan held a webinar on development of Kazakh-Iranian relations in 30 years of Kazakhstan’s independence.

During the webinar the participants highlighted Kazakhstan’s most important achievements and discussed the progress in bilateral relations over the last three decades.

It was noted that Kazakhstan has never left Iran in the years of hardship; provision of Almaty’s platform for Iranian Nuclear Talks in 2013 was highly appreciated.

The absence of political discord at the highest level between Iran and Kazakhstan since the establishment of diplomatic relations was underlined as the fundamental factor in the development of Kazakh-Iranian relations despite the existing challenges.

The participants of the webinar emphasized the important role of both states in ensuring regional security, especially in the Caspian region.

Taking into account that the process of Iran’s acceding to the SCO has been officially kicked off, the speakers called on to develop a new format for the development of the bilateral cooperation between Kazakhstan and Iran in light of new challenges in the upcoming new decade of Kazakhstan’s independence.

## FM Raises Alarm at Daesh Terrorist Acts in Afghanistan

TEHRAN - Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian has warned of intensification of violence, particularly acts of terror by the Daesh Takfiri terrorist group, in Afghanistan.

In a phone call with Oman’s Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr Albusaidi, Amir-Abdollahian said the new Iranian administration’s foreign policy attaches great importance to ties with neighboring countries. The top Iranian diplomat stressed the need to continue consultations between Tehran and Muscat on bilateral, regional and international issues.

In a phone call with Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Yousef al-Othaimeen on Monday, Amir-Abdollahian said attacks by Daesh in Afghanistan are meant to sow religious discord in the crisis-hit country. The Iranian foreign minister urged the organization to condemn the acts of terror.

The Iranian minister said the region faces an array of issues, with extremist groups being among the most important challenges.

Elsewhere in talks with his Omani counterpart, Amir-Abdollahian pointed to the significance of improving mutual relations in political and economic fields and expressed Iran’s readiness to implement agreements previously signed between the two countries in various fields. The Omani foreign minister, for his part, once again invited his Iranian counterpart to pay a visit to Muscat.

## Tehran, Doha Discuss Persian Gulf Security

TEHRAN (Tasnim) – The foreign ministers of Iran and Qatar weighed plans for mutual cooperation to ensure security and stability in the Persian Gulf.

In a telephone conversation on Monday, Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian and his Qatari counterpart Mohammad bin Abdul Rahman Al Thani talked about a range of issues, including regional security.

The two senior diplomats discussed ways to bolster the political and economic ties between Iran and Qatar

and also develop interactions between the private sectors of the two countries.

They also held negotiations about the latest developments in the region and the collective cooperation in order to maintain peace, stability and security in the Persian Gulf.

Iranian officials have always stressed the need for the establishment of a regional security system with the participation of all Persian Gulf countries.

## Iran Has Great Capacity to Expand Trade Ties

HAMEDAN (IRNA) - Ghana’s ambassador to Tehran said that Iran has unique capacities to expand trade and political ties.

Ghanaian Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran Eric Owusu-Boateng met with Governor-General of Hamedan Province, western Iran, on Wednesday.

He said that Ghana’s Foreign Ministry was willing to strengthen and expand foreign ties with different countries, especially the Islamic Republic of Iran.

He noted that the fact that Iran sees Ghana as the first African country to expand foreign trade with was of high significance for the Ghanaian Government.

Owusu-Boateng was heading a delegation to Hamedan Province for a two-day visit at the invitation of Hamedan Commerce Chamber.

Earlier Owusu-Boateng said Ghana was ready for participation in Malayer wood carving furniture industry and developing trade ties in this regard.

He suggested exchanging artists between Ghana and Malayer, western Iran.

He stressed the importance of private sectors’ participation and hoped for developing political and trade ties.

He also visited raisins factory in the province and hoped for holding consultations in this regard.



## Iran Favors Stability in Iraq

TEHRAN (IRNA) - Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian said here in a meeting with former Iraqi Prime Minister Adel Abdul Mahdi that Iran always favors peace and stability in Iraq. Amirabdollahian said that the two countries are sustainable friends and brothers. He added that the two countries’ political, economic and cultural relations must expand more than ever before.

He praised the moves made during Al-Mahdi’s government aimed at strengthening the bilateral ties, ensuring him that Iran

is determined to further fortify its relations with Iraq. Iran always favors peace and stability in Iraq, and its constructive role in regional interactions, respecting the Iraqi people’s political decisions, added the Iranian top diplomat.

Abdul Mahdi, too, referred to the countless commonalities of Iran and Iraqi in the meeting, considering them as a great capital at the service of evermore proximity between the two nations and governments. The two sides were also agreed on the need for continuous negotiations aimed at resolving the Syrian crisis.

## All Enemies Have Abandoned Dangerous Games Against Iran

TEHRAN (MNA) – Commander-in-Chief of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Major General Hossein Salami said Tuesday that Iran has grown too strong that all enemies have abandoned dangerous games against it.

Commander-in-Chief of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Major General Hossein Salami made the comments in the birthplace of Martyr Lt. General Qassem Soleimani, Kerman.

The IRGC chief hailed Martyr Soleimani’s efforts and sacrifices during the Iraqi-imposed war and after the war. “He fought for forty years nonstop,” Gen. Salami said.

“If the enemies think that with the martyrdom of great men their approach and the flags fell to the ground, they are wrong,” he added.

The IRGC commander said that Iran has grown too strong today that all enemies have abandoned dangerous games with it.

## Tehran Underscores Drafting Syrian Constitution Without Foreign Interference

TEHRAN (IRNA) - Senior Advisor to Iran’s Foreign Minister Ali Asghar Khaji in a meeting with the United Nations Special Envoy for Syria Geir Pedersen emphasized drafting the Syrian constitution without foreign interference.

Khaji and Pedersen met on Tuesday evening to discuss the ongoing sixth round of talks in Geneva between Syrian Government and the opposition to draft the Syrian constitution.

Pedersen gave a positive assessment of this round of talks, expressing hope that this round would see progress.

Khaji welcomed positive outcome of the sixth meeting of Syrian Constitutional Committee, highlighting Iran’s support of efforts made by the UN Special Envoy for Syria.

The Iranian official also underlined that drafting Syrian constitution must be done without foreign interference and through national dialogue and that Iran supported the process in the framework of Astana Format.

Khaji stressed the necessity of lifting sanctions against Syria and urged the UN to facilitate humanitarian aids and funding reconstruction in Syria.

## Armenia Trying to Build North-South Highway to Iran

TEHRAN (MNA) – The Minister of Territorial Development and Infrastructure of Armenia announced efforts to build a strategic highway with Iran with the participation of Russian and possibly Iranian companies.

Armenia expects Russian companies to take part in the tender for the construction of the strategic North-South highway leading to Iran, Minister of Territorial Development and Infrastructure of Armenia Gnel Sanosyan said on the sidelines of the 8th Armenian-Russian Interregional Forum, TASS news agency reported.

“During this Forum we did not discuss the participation of Russian companies in the construction of the North-South project, but, you know, that we will have a rather extensive tender process in which various international construction firms will participate. I think that our Russian partners will participate in the tender,” he said.

According to Sanosyan, the Iranian side is also interested in taking part.

Earlier, Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan stated that the government intends to spend about \$1 billion on the construction of the North-South road.

“It is very important for us to establish rail communications with Russian Federation and Islamic Republic of Iran,” he emphasized.





**Chadormalu Mining & Industrial Co. (PJS)**

شرکت معدنی و صنعتی چادرملو (سهامی عام)

# Revenues from Chadormelo exports

## Guarantee the Implementation of Development Plans



**D**r. Hossein Etminan, Commercial Vice President of Chadormalu Mining and Industrial Company In an interview with us, while announcing the amount of exports and its foreign exchange earnings in the first six months of this year explained the general objectives of Chadormalu export and said: Earn foreign exchange to finance development projects, defend its market position against existing domestic and regional exporters, benefit from the highest production capacity to increase exports, evaluation of new technologies in production with the approach of increasing productivity and diversity of grades of production ingots increasing international reputation and branding, evaluating new grades for production (product diversity) and increasing customers with the approach of diversifying export markets is one of the goals of exports in general in Chadormalu Mining and Industrial Company. Chadormalu Deputy Minister of Commerce announced the export of Chadormalu steel ingots in the first half of this year as 172,465 tons and said: chadormalu has produced 456,261,000 tons of steel ingots in the first six months of this year that most of it is offered through the commodity exchange in the domestic market.

**H**e added: Chadormalu foreign exchange earnings from the export of steel ingots amounted to 100 million and 415 thousand dollars which will be used to meet the foreign exchange needs of the company's development plans. Hossein etminan, announcing that Chadormalu is one of the companies that has a steel chain from mine to final product and the attitude of the company's senior managers is always in the direction of value creation and added value in the steel chain, reiterated , chadormalu in the strategy of its activities, achieving new mineral reserves is a priority for its goals. In addition, identifying suppliers of iron ore from small-scale mines in the region or other stone suppliers are also one of the most important programs of Chadormalu. He pointed out that the new management of the company, from the beginning emphasis on the preparation and purchase of iron ore in Available in the market and especially small mines has given scale and we have done the purchase process by announcing the call and we continue to add: the purchase of iron ore is based on its grade and according to the approved rates because we sell concentrate, pellets and sponge iron at the approved price, so we can not buy iron ore at any price. Chadormalu's commercial director also criticized the orderly rates and quotas it as an obstacle to balancing supply and demand in the country's mining industry. He believes that supply justification is very low with mandatory rates and if a prescription rate is to be applied to the concentrate, concentrate companies also expect the purchase of stone to be ordered, at present, iron ore miners and sellers are trying to sell their iron ore at world prices, but we are obliged to supply the product at the government rate, which is the reason for the reduction of revenues and damage to the country's mining industry. Emphasizing that rates and coefficients should be corrected and there is no other way, he added: today, the price of concentrate in Iran is 10% lower than world prices, 7% pellets and 3% lower sponge iron. Therefore, our proposal is to correct prices in a fair and gradual manner in order to prevent shocks to enter the market. The commercial director of Chadormalu Mining and Industrial Company also mentioned the discussion of current sanctions and the problem of purchasing equipment, and clarified that our strength is

localization, to which we have largely neutralized the discussion of sanctions. For example, in the concentrate sector and in some other parts of the relevant factories, we have reached complete self-sufficiency and are almost not dependent on the outside, so Chadormalu is one of the successful pioneers of localization. Announcing that Chadormalu always offers its products through the stock exchange and has given priority to meeting the needs of domestic factories, he said: "The company currently produces one million tons of ingots, which sell all domestic sales through the stock exchange." It also exports and exports a part with the aim of securing foreign currency through auctions. He announced the branding of the company's products and said: Chadormalu ingots are offered in global markets under the name of CMIC and are sold only through auctions. Etminan added: "This company is one of the most successful mining and industrial companies in the country, which has so far fulfilled all its obligations regarding the obligations of returning foreign currency from export and registering it in the Nima system, and that in these critical conditions has been able to be part of the country's foreign exchange needs." To be proud of. He considered the focus on exploration of new areas as one of the most important priorities and concerns of senior management and specified that in this regard, we have purchased 8 deep drilling machines, 4 of which have entered the country and are located in target areas. He added: "because exploration is costly and sometimes not very attractive to the private sector, it seems that the government should consider a lot of incentives for the private sector. Chadormalu Deputy Minister of Commerce also said about the D19 mine that the tailings operation has started and fortunately it has a good speed. Emphasizing that Chadormalu is ready to carry out explorations in all parts of the country and expects exploration operations to be allowed, he added: "today, if we neglect new mines and areas, we will see the depletion of reserves and finally the reduction of steel production in a few years." This is a strategic threat to the country. Therefore, the country's mineral zones should be given to the mining exploration team. This is an important way out of the current threats.





## Moscow Orders Fresh Virus Restrictions as Deaths Soar

MOSCOW (AFP) - Moscow's mayor on Tuesday ordered the city's first coronavirus restrictions since the summer, as Russia registered 1,015 daily COVID deaths, a new record.

At the national level, the government is considering keeping people off work for a week to reduce social contact in a bid to lower the tide of infections.

President Vladimir Putin is expected to decide on Wednesday which government measures put to him should be implemented to curb the spread of the virus across the country.



## Kidnappers in Haiti Demand \$17m Ransom

PORT-AU-PRINCE (Dispatches) - Kidnappers holding a group of 17 U.S. and Canadian missionaries in Haiti including five children are demanding a ransom of \$1 million for each of their hostages, security sources said Tuesday.

The kidnapping by one of Haiti's brazen criminal gangs has underlined the country's deepening woes following the assassination of President Jovenel Moise in July, with lawlessness mounting in the Western hemisphere's poorest nation.

A gang known as 400 Mawozo, which for months has controlled the area where the missionaries and members of their families were abducted, wants a total of \$17 million, sources told AFP.



## Polish PM Accuses EU of Blackmail In Clash Over Bloc's Laws



STRASBOURG (AFP) - Polish Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki accused the EU of "blackmail" on Tuesday in a public clash with European Commission chief Ursula von der Leyen over his country's rejection of parts of EU law.

The ferocious row, played out in the European Parliament, underlined the seriousness of the issue which both Brussels and Warsaw say threatens the cohesion of the 27-nation bloc.

Von der Leyen, speaking just before and after Morawiecki took the podium, warned that her Commission -- tasked as guardian of the EU treaties -- "will act" to rein in Poland.

She said a controversial October 7 ruling by Poland's Constitutional Court challenging the primacy of EU law was an attempt "to take an axe to the European treaties by undermining their legitimacy".

"Undermining any of these essential pillars puts our European democracy at risk. We cannot let this happen. We will not let this happen," she said.

Von der Leyen spoke of a number of legal, financial and political options being considered, adding that "the rule of law and the treaties of the European Union are to be defended with all instruments at our disposal".

Morawiecki, in a long speech, hit back by saying "I will not have EU politicians blackmail Poland".

Dismissing MEPs' assertions that Poland had taken a step towards leaving the EU with the ruling, he insisted his country's place was firmly in the bloc.

Instead, he argued there was a "fundamental misunderstanding" in that EU law derived from its treaties could only be applied in specified areas, and Poland's constitution was supreme in all other aspects.

He suggested the rule of law issue was being used as a "pretext" by Brussels to force Poland into line.

The duel in the parliament brought to a head tensions between the European Commission and Warsaw that have been festering for years.

The Commission has taken Warsaw to task for moves to scrap judges' independence and other policies seen as rolling back democratic norms.

The EU executive and MEPs have also criticized Poland for ultraconservative social policies pushed by the ruling Law and Justice (PiS) party that restrict LGBTQ rights and place a near-total ban on abortions.

One of the measures the Commission could use against Poland is withholding recovery cash from a pooled EU fund set up for the bloc to bounce back from the impact of the coronavirus pandemic.

Poland's plan, asking for 24 billion euros (\$28 billion) in grants and 12 billion euros in cheap loans, is still being weighed, with the Commission saying approval would come with strings attached.

## Two Dead, 450 Arrested In Chile Protest Violence



SANTIAGO (AFP) - Two people died, 56 were injured and 450 arrested as clashes broke out in Chile during mass street protests to mark the second anniversary of a social uprising, police said on Tuesday.

Monday's demonstrations throughout the country were to mark the October 2019 protests that sparked political change in the country and led to the start of a process to re-write the Pinochet dictatorship-era constitution.

A man was killed by gunfire during an attempted robbery of a shop in Santiago on Monday while a woman died after falling from a motorcycle, also in the capital. Most disturbances on Monday took place in Santiago where vandals set up street barricades, attacked a police station, and looted shops and public buildings, a police report said.

Authorities detained 450 people throughout the country, 279 of those in Santiago, while 11 civilians and 45 police officers were injured.

"The numbers are very high," said Marcelo Araya, director of order and security at Chile's Carabineros national police force.

Thousands of demonstrators took to the streets in 50 locations around the country to mark the anniversary of the street protests led by students and sparked by a hike in metro fares.

The unrest that followed left 34 dead and 460 people with eye injuries, including some that lost their sight, from pellets and tear gas fired by police. Billionaire right-wing President Sebastian Pinera's government came under fire over the at times brutal response from security forces that included some rights violations.

The protests continued for four months up to the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic.

Juan Francisco Galli, the interior undersecretary, blamed Monday's violence on opposition candidates for next month's presidential election, leftist Gabriel Boric and centrist Yasna Provoste, for proposing and supporting pardons for detainees that "looted, destroyed everything and threw Molotov cocktails" during the 2019 protests.

### Hashed Supporters Protest Against Iraq Vote "Fraud"

BAGHDAD (AFP) - Hundreds of supporters of Iraq's powerful Hashed al-Shaabi -- a former paramilitary force -- protested on Tuesday against "fraud" at recent parliamentary elections in which their movement performed poorly.

The Conquest (Fatah) Alliance, the political arm of the multi-party Hashed, won around 15 seats in the October 10 vote, according to preliminary results.

In the last parliament it held 48, making it the second-largest bloc.

Several hundred Hashed supporters gathered on a Baghdad street leading to an entrance to the high-security Green Zone, home to the U.S. embassy, other diplomatic missions and government offices, an AFP correspondent said.

"No to fraud, no to America," supporters chanted.

The Hashed demands the withdrawal of U.S. forces from the country.

A 25-year-old man wearing a black Covid mask and sunglasses said he was protesting against electoral "fraud".

"The objective of the fraud is clear... it is the dissolution of the Hashed," he said, declining to be identified.

Hashed supporters have organized sporadic protests across the country in recent days. On Sunday, they burnt tyres and blocked roads south and north of Baghdad.

Activists accuse the Hashed's armed forces -- whose 160,000 fighters are now integrated into Iraq's state security forces -- of being beholden to Iran and acting as an instrument of oppression against critics.

The big winner in the vote, with more than 70 spots in the 329-seat parliament according to the initial count, was the movement of Moqtada Sadr, a Shiite Muslim preacher who campaigned as a nationalist and critic of Iran.

Hashed leaders have rejected the results as a "scam" and said they will appeal, ahead of a final tally expected in the next few weeks.

On Saturday, several Shiite parties toughened their tone, accusing the electoral commission of not correcting "major violations" in the vote counting, and blaming it for "the failure of the electoral process", warning of negative repercussions on democracy.

## N.Korea Test-Fires Submarine-Launched Ballistic Missile

SEOUL (Dispatches) - North Korea fired a submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM) off its east coast on Tuesday, South Korea's military said, pulling Japan's new prime minister off the campaign trail and overshadowing the opening of a major arms fair in Seoul.

The U.S. military's Indo-Pacific Command condemned the launch as destabilizing, but judged it did not pose an immediate threat to the United States or its allies.

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres urged Pyongyang to comply with Security Council resolutions that ban ballistic missile launches.

Deputy U.N. spokesman Farhan Haq said Guterres called for North Korea to swiftly resume diplomatic efforts for peace and the complete and verifiable denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.

South Korean and U.S. officials were investigating if the missile was a smaller, previously unseen version displayed last week at an exhibit in Pyongyang, a South Korean military source told Reuters, citing ongoing analysis.

They were also examining whether the missile was fired from North Korea's experimental Gora-class submarine, he added, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The launch, reported by officials in South Korea and Japan, followed a meeting of U.S. and South Korean envoys in Washington on Monday to discuss the nuclear standoff with the North.

North Korea has persisted with military development despite international sanctions over its nuclear weapons and missile programs.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said the missile was launched about 10:17 a.m. from the sea in the vicinity of Sinpo, where North Korea keeps submarines as well as equipment for test firing SLBMs.

"Our military is closely monitoring the situation and maintaining readiness posture in close cooperation with the United States, to prepare for possible additional launches," its statement said. It was not immediately clear if the missile was fired from a submarine or from a submersible test barge, as in most previous tests. A military source said it flew about 430 km to 450 km (267 to 280 miles) to a maximum altitude of 60 km (37 miles).

North Korea's last SLBM test was in October 2019, when a Pukgukson-3 missile was fired from an underwater platform, flying 450 km to a maximum altitude of 910 km. read more

The U.S. Special Representative for North Korea, Sung Kim, on Tuesday held talks with South Korean and Japanese counterparts and the State Department said he called on North Korea "to refrain from further provocations and engage in sustained and substantive dialogue."

It said Kim also expressed support for humanitarian aid for the most vulnerable North Koreans.



## Taliban Not to Be Allowed Access To Afghan Central Bank Reserves



WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Deputy U.S. Treasury Secretary Wally Adeyemo on Tuesday said he sees no situation where the Taliban, who regained power in Afghanistan in August, would be allowed access to Afghan central bank reserves, which are largely held in the United States.

The Taliban have called for the United States to lift a block on more than \$9 billion of Afghan central bank reserves held outside the country as the government struggles to contain a deepening economic crisis.

"We believe that it's essential that we maintain our sanctions against the Taliban but at the same time find ways for legitimate humanitarian assistance to get to the Afghan people. That's exactly what we're doing," Adeyemo told the Senate Banking Committee.

The Taliban took back power in Afghanistan in August after the United States pulled out its troops, almost 20 years after the Islamists were ousted by U.S.-led forces following the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on the United States.

Washington and other Western countries are grappling with difficult choices as a severe humanitarian crisis looms large in Afghanistan. They are trying to work out how to engage with the Taliban without granting them the legitimacy they seek, while ensuring humanitarian aid flows into the country.

"Our goal is to make sure that we are implementing our sanctions regime against the Taliban and the Haqqani network, but at the same time allowing for the permissible flow of humanitarian assistance into the country," Adeyemo said.

The Haqqani network is a group affiliated with the Taliban based near the border with Pakistan and blamed for some of the worst suicide attacks of the war.

Adeyemo said the Treasury was taking every step it could within its sanctions regime to make clear to humanitarian groups that Washington wants to facilitate the flow of aid to the Afghan people, but warned that for humanitarian assistance to flow, the Taliban have to allow it to happen within the country.

The Treasury last month further paved the way for aid to flow to Afghanistan despite U.S. sanctions on the Taliban when it issued two general licenses.





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# Gazprom Sees Record Sales in 2021

MOSCOW (Dispatches) - Russian gas giant Gazprom said on Tuesday it expected record revenue this year thanks to surging gas prices in Europe, while it also set up a fund, seen at 726 billion roubles (\$10 billion) by year-end, to manage risks.

The Kremlin-controlled Gazprom, which accounts for over a third of supply on the European gas market, has enjoyed record-high European natural gas prices, boosted by tight supplies.

The company expected core earnings to exceed \$45 billion in 2021, while cash flow was seen to be positive this year despite high dividend payouts.



## Social Unrest Threatens Mideast Economic Recovery

DUBAI (AFP) - The Middle East and North Africa is on track for a recovery, but rising social unrest is threatening the "fragile" progress of low-income economies, the International Monetary Fund said Tuesday.

The MENA region, which includes Arab countries and Iran, saw real GDP growth shrink by 3.2 percent in 2020 due to weak oil prices and sweeping lockdowns to halt the spread of the coronavirus. But with rapid vaccination campaigns, especially in oil-rich Persian Gulf nations, the IMF predicted GDP growth would rise to 4.1 percent this year, up 0.1 of a percentage point from its last projection in April.

"The region is going through recovery in 2021. Since the beginning of the year, we see progress in the economic performance," said Jihad Azour, director for the Middle East and Central Asia at the IMF. But "this recovery is not the same in all countries. It is uncertain and uneven because of the divergence in vaccination... and geopolitical developments", he told AFP.

The IMF said in a report that while the prospects for oil-exporting economies improved with higher oil prices, low-income and crisis-hit countries were witnessing "fragile" recoveries. It warned of "a rise in social unrest" in 2021 that "could pick up further due to repeated infection waves, dire economic conditions, high unemployment and food prices".

Algeria, Iraq, Lebanon, Sudan other countries have been witnessing protests in recent months by thousands of angry citizens demanding better jobs and services. Unemployment increased in MENA last year by 1.4 percent to reach 11.6 percent, a rise exceeding that seen during the global financial crisis and the 2014-15 oil price shock, the IMF said.

The IMF warned of the longer-term risk of an uneven recovery, which could lead to a "permanent widening of existing wealth, income, and social gaps and, ultimately, weaker growth and less inclusive societies". About seven million more people in the region are estimated to have entered extreme poverty during 2020-21 compared with pre-crisis projections, according to the IMF.

Meanwhile, inflation in the region is projected to increase to 12.9 percent in 2021 from 10.4 last year, with higher food and energy prices in some countries, before subsiding to 8.8 percent in 2022.

"Inequities are increasing. The low-skilled, the young, women, and migrant workers have been affected the most by the pandemic, as have smaller firms, particularly those in contact-sensitive sectors," said the report.

## Johnson Urges Green Investment In Post-Brexit Britain

LONDON (AFP) - Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Tuesday urged foreign investors to buy into post-Brexit Britain, as he seeks to power the country's future prosperity on renewable energy.

The UK leader kicked off a Global Investment Summit in London by announcing a £400 million (\$552 million, 473 million euros) partnership with the Bill Gates Foundation to invest in emerging green technologies.

The tie-up, which will see both sides stump up £200 million, follows Spanish renewable energy giant Iberdrola announcing late Monday plans to invest £6 billion creating Britain's biggest offshore wind development.

Johnson, who has outlined plans for the UK to reach net-zero carbon emissions by 2050, is hoping to burnish his green credentials before hosting world leaders at a critical UN climate change gathering in Glasgow next month.

He also wants to boost investment to grow Britain's economy as it grapples with the fall-out from the coronavirus pandemic and Brexit, which have combined to strain the logistics sector, labour market and other areas. In his sales pitch, Johnson promised government backing for private investment in sustainable projects, promising Britain was now "moving in an exciting new direction with a green, industrial revolution, with new regulatory freedoms".

But some government plans to cut carbon emissions have come under fire for not going far enough. Homeowners in England and Wales will be offered subsidies of £5,000 from next year as part of a £450 million scheme to help them replace old gas boilers with low-carbon heat pumps.

But experts pointed out that the grants will fund just 90,000 of the devices, and a better alternative would be to reduce energy demand by improving home insulation.

Activists from the campaign group Insulate Britain have sought to highlight that issue by blocking motorways and main roads in recent weeks. The Gates Foundation tie-up -- run through the Microsoft co-founder's Breakthrough Energy Catalyst arm, set up in 2015 alongside private investors -- will focus on four key green technology areas.

They include green hydrogen, long-term energy storage, sustainable aviation fuels and so-called direct air capture, which harnesses carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

Appearing with Johnson, Gates said the joint investment would begin next year and he hoped that at least one of them would be "ready to scale" within five years and the remainder within a decade.

"We're going to take these technologies which are not yet economic... and we will scale those up and bring down that cost, so we'll get these to the same place we are today with solar and onshore wind," he added.

Meanwhile, once operational Iberdrola's wind project off the east coast of England -- involving its subsidiary Scottish Power -- would supply enough energy to power 2.7 million homes and create 7,000 jobs.



## Significant Increase in Exports of

## Persian Gulf Star Refinery Products During the Embargo Period

The CEO of Star Persian Gulf Oil Company announced the achievement of significant success in exporting the products of Star Persian Gulf Refinery during the period of oppressive sanctions and added: The opportunity to attract new customers is provided in a situation where the oppressive sanctions against our beloved country, Iran, have been imposed more severely than before. According to the public relations and international affairs of the Persian Gulf Star Oil Company, "Mohammad Ali Dadvar" while congratulating on the occasion of the National Export Day and God bless all the jihadists who are working on the economic front to seek currency for the country and improve economic conditions and welfare of the people are, said: Persian Gulf Star Oil Company, as the main supplier of the country's fuel basket, plays a key role in the region's energy balance and has considered paying attention to meeting domestic needs and exporting products. He called the unjust economic sanctions against Iran, especially in the field of oil exports, effective in severe fluctuations in oil prices and demand and sales of products, and stressed: Take on global markets and export development products. Dadvar said: "According to the measures taken to study domestic and global markets in the Persian Gulf Star Oil Company, to achieve results such as maintaining the strategic position of the company, growth and expansion of export activities in the existing competitive market, has been used." And has led to positive and growing activities in the marketing, sales and export of special products produced by the Persian Gulf Star Oil Company.

### Create more sales opportunities in East Asia

He added: "Among these cases, we can negotiate and strengthen marketing channels to enter the markets of East Asia (Singapore, China, Japan and South Korea) and finally the opportunity to attract new customers in the face of harsh sanctions against our beloved country, Iran. The past has been applied, named. Dadvar continued: "Thus, with the extensive and round-the-clock efforts of Iranian young professionals in the world's largest gas condensate refinery, buyers have entered this market despite the many restrictions and risks that threaten them, and this action has a great impact on facilitating the currency exchange process." It was followed by the achievement of the valuable goals of the Persian Gulf Star Oil Company.

### Predicting oil product rates and understanding the outlook

The CEO of Setareh Khaleejfars Persian Oil Company stated that forecasting the prices of petroleum products and understanding the trend of these products is one of the most vital measures for the sustainability of the BACK CALCULATE system. Network, given its many years of history of petroleum product prices, has dramatically



improved oil price planning performance and provided sales decisions with less error and greater accuracy. In order to improve the level of efficiency in this algorithm, a neural network model has been developed for monthly prediction of the price of petroleum products "by using guided learning," Dadvar said. The effect of various technical and fundamental variables, number of input layer neurons, number of layers and hidden neurons, layer conversion functions, proper data processing, different data divisions for selecting training and testing sets, improved and suitable conditions for predicting product price trend is. He added: "To more accurately examine other factors affecting the process of evaluating and estimating the price of products, the working group for determining the price of products, by following the world's leading publications and current news and events, accurately and continuously the situation of oil and energy market inside and outside Examines the country and monitors it by collecting and categorizing the information obtained.

### Measuring customer satisfaction

The CEO of Persian Gulf Star Oil Company, emphasizing that the recent findings of management science indicate the increasing importance of focusing on the customer and gaining his satisfaction as one of the important factors for success in economic activities, stated: Assessing customer satisfaction is one of the most important measures of the organization. During that time, the organization should monitor information related to customers' perceptions of the system and determine to what extent it has been able to estimate customer needs, because if the company's situation in this area is unfavorable, it can

cause sales and export crises. He continued: "In connection with this important matter, the marketing and sales management of Persian Gulf Star Oil Company has prepared a questionnaire from buyers to obtain information about the percentage of customer satisfaction regarding the sales process and product delivery process, including purchase records, current and future needs." The customer and the level of satisfaction of their customers paid from this organization, which showed 90% satisfaction of the buyers. He added: "In order to more accurately review the status of buyers' complaints and respond to any requests, regular meetings of the special working group on product pricing, democratization and customer claims committee and sales commission will be held, each of which helps to decide It has been better accompanied by observing the interests and interests of the company and obtaining more customer satisfaction.

### Successful trading of refinery products in Iran Energy Exchange

The CEO of Setareh Khaleejfars Oil Company, pointing out that gaining a significant share of Iran Energy Exchange transactions is one of the important goals of this organization, said: And we have achieved this to some extent by competing in the interests of the buyer and the seller. He stated: "Thus, the Persian Gulf Star Oil Company in the summer of this year published and offered a total of 28 offers of 3 special products of the refinery (light naphtha, medium naphtha, solvent 402) in both domestic and international rings."

### Sale of special products of the refinery

Dadvar added: "Marketing and sales management of the company by analyzing sales information in previous years and in order to achieve the company's goals and financial policies, taking into account possible limitations and unforeseen events affecting the supply and sales process, from the beginning of the year." Jari developed a sales plan with the aim of increasing optimal sales compared to previous years and was able to reach the desired revenue level, and this summer managed to sell 627 thousand metric tons of 4 special products produced by the refinery.

### Approved funding for the second quarter

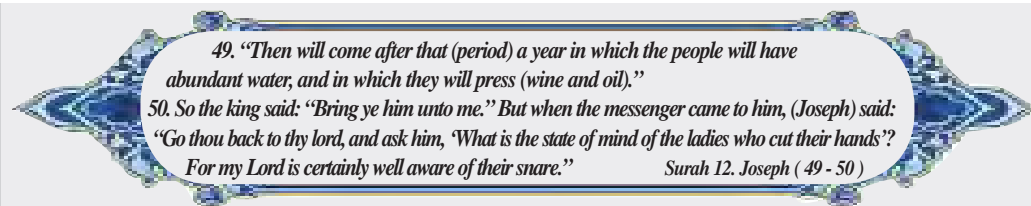
In the end, he said: in the field of marketing and sales in order to finance the approved budget using pre-formulated plans for sales, which is the result of careful analysis of the market situation and internal and external factors affecting it, as well as identifying risks and Existing Opportunities and Considering the Growing Sales and Exports of the Persian Gulf Star Refinery In addition to the recently approved budget, we were able to generate 25 percent more revenue than that.





## PRAYER TIME

■ Noon (Zohr)	11:48
■ Evening (Maghreb)	17:39
■ Tomorrow's Dawn (Fajr)	04:53
■ Tomorrow's Sunrise	06:17



# Bolivia Calls on Iranians to Invest in Its Mining, Gas, Petrochemical Sectors

## IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

TEHRAN – Bolivian Ambassador to Tehran Ms. Romina Guadalupe Perez Ramos in meeting with Head of Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mine and Agriculture (ICCIMA) Mr. Gholam-Hossein Shafei invited Iranians to invest in Bolivia's mining, gas and petrochemical sectors.

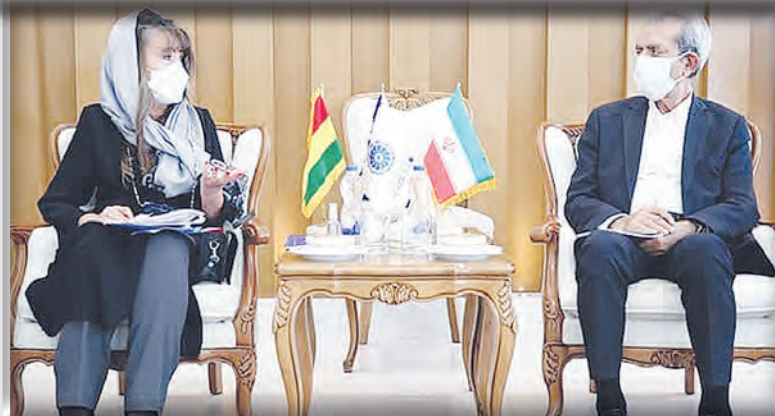
In the meeting, Ms. Ramos pointed to Iran's capability in the pharmaceutical and medical sector especially in the field of cancer and called for investments of Iranians in mining, gas and petrochemical projects in Bolivia, too.

She then referred to some agreements between the two countries in the past and stipulated that the most important ground for cooperation between Iran and Bolivia is in the mineral material named lithium that Bolivia is has many lithium reserves.

She also pointed to the Bolivian Government's policy for becoming the energy hub in the region and said the government stepped into the gas and mining sectors and producing petrochemicals, and it is defining big projects in this field. She noted that Iranian investors can participate in this field, adding that perhaps small and medium size industries are dominating Bolivian economy but the government is determined to create and to strengthen the big industries.

Ramos also called for cooperation of the two countries in the medical and pharmaceutical field especially in the field of cancer, and stated that a large number of studies have been conducted on cancer in Bolivia and due to Iran's experience in this field, Bolivia counts on cooperation with Tehran on this field.

She also pointed to the capabilities of her country in export of meat to Iran and continued that important infrastructure is needed for export of meat like halal standard which Bolivia is currently missing it. Therefore a slaughterhouse is needed to be built with investment of Iranian business activists and the ground is ready for implementation of this project for infrastructures, she added. Ramos noted she is well aware that Iran provides major part of its meat demand from Brazil and Bolivia can help Iran in this regard.



Ramos also called for holding virtual meetings between economic activists and statesmen of both countries in the pandemic era and called for planning for it.

Shafei, for his part, pointed to Bolivia's good capacities in terms of mineral materials reserves and pointed to the capabilities of Iran in the mining industries, adding that this field can be a good ground for bilateral cooperation between Tehran and La Paz.

He said he believes agro products of Iran and Bolivia are complementary and both countries can have joint projects and cooperation in agro sector. He emphasized investment of Iranian companies in Bolivia and especially in the field of medical and health, adding that years ago the two countries started good cooperation and even Iranians invested and built a clinic in Bolivia but unfortunately those co-operations got pale.

Shafei said although Iran and Bolivia have good political ties, they should try to improve their economic and trade ties. He then announced Iran's readiness for cooperation with Bolivia in medical sector and halal standard.

## Iran Petchem Output Up 8% in H1



TEHRAN (Shana) –The production control manager of the National Petrochemical Company said that the country's petrochemical output saw an 8-percent year-o-year growth in the first half of the current calendar year, which began on March 21.

According to the National Petrochemical Company (NPC), "Petrochemical complexes produced 32.8 million tons of various petrochemicals in the first six months of this [calendar] year and supplied them to global markets after meeting domestic needs," Seyed Jalal Mirhashemi said.

Emphasizing that the priority of production is to meet domestic needs and then exports, he said: "In this regard, production of petrochemical products based on the plans made in the first 6 months of this year has seen growth, with an eight percent increase over the same period last year."

The official added: "Due to the spread of coronavirus in the country, the supply of raw materials for grades required by the health sector, including grades used to produce masks continues by petrochemical complexes with a desirable capacity."

Emphasizing that the Iranian petrochemical industry is one of the mother industries and the most important pillars of development and the driving force of various sectors of the country's economy, the director of production control at the National Petrochemical Company said: "The NPC approach is a product mix in this industry."

Mirhashemi stated that according to the plans, the growth and leap of production of Iran's petrochemical industry has been targeted, adding: "Conditions and infrastructure have been provided for the leap of production in Iran's petrochemical industry and in addition to launching and operating new projects, the empty capacities of some existing complexes will be used to the maximum."

## India Plans Refiners' Joint Oil Deals to Cut Import Bill

NEW DELHI (Dispatches)

- India is forming a group that brings together state-run and private refiners to seek better crude import deals, oil secretary Tarun Kapoor said on Tuesday, as the country grapples with soaring oil prices.

The world's third largest oil importer and consumer, India depends on imports for about 85% of its crude and buys most of it from Middle East producers.

Initially the group of refiners will meet once in a fortnight and exchange ideas on crude purchases.

"The companies can form joint strategies and they can even go for joint negotiations wherever possible," Kapoor, the top bureaucrat in the petroleum ministry, told Reuters.

Indian state refiners already jointly negotiate some crude oil purchases.

To date the one effort at a joint negotiation bringing together not only state-run but private refiners resulted in a deal that secured supply of Iranian oil at a deep discount.

With local gasoline and gasoil prices rising to a record high amid India's worst power crisis in years, the nation wants to redouble its efforts to buy wisely.

India's trade deficit in September surged to a record



\$22.6 billion, its highest in at least 14 years, driven by expensive imports.

Kapoor said the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and its allies, together known as OPEC+, should raise production to bring down global oil prices.

"OPEC+ should realize that this is not the right approach, they must step up production.

If the demand is going up and you are not increasing production, you are trying to create a gap," he said.

"Due to this, prices are going up and that's not fair".

OPEC+ producers recently agreed to stick to a plan to increase November output by 400,000 barrels per day (bpd) as it looks to phase out output curbs of 5.8 million bpd over time.

Kapoor said rising oil prices would prompt oil consumers to "seriously start thinking of shifting to other forms or curtail their demand for OPEC oil somehow".

"These kind of prices are not sustainable."

India is already reducing the share of OPEC oil in its crude mix as refiners, that have invested billions of dollars in refinery upgrades, are tapping cheaper oil.

High oil prices are spurring investment in upstream activities that could lead to higher production from regions other than the Persian Gulf, Kapoor noted.

## S. Korea Opens Largest Defense Expo

SEOUL (Dispatches) - South Korea opened its largest defense expo ever on Tuesday, showing off its next-generation fighter jet, drones, and other technology in an effort to boost exports as economies around the world rebound from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Opening ceremonies for the International Aerospace and Defense Exhibition (ADEX) at an air base in Seoul were however somewhat overshadowed by the launch of what South Korea said was a North Korean submarine-fired ballistic missile (SLBM).

"Despite the COVID-19 situation this year, export marketing is expected with products developed by domestic companies at the exhibition hall, which has been expanded from last year," ADEX official Lee Jong-ho told reporters on Monday.

At least 440 companies from 28 countries are showcasing 79 types of aircraft and 68 types of ground equipment. Around 300 government, military and defence acquisition officials from 45 countries were expected to attend the event, which lasts through Saturday.

At least 170 U.S. troops were on hand to display American military aircraft, the U.S. Air Force said in a statement.

Last week Korea Aerospace Industries officials declined to comment on potential export deals for its KF-21 fighter jet and Light Attack Helicopters, but said both programs were on track. Korean Air said it was displaying drones with vertical lift-off and landing capabilities, while a "space hub" at the show displays components of South Korea's space program, expected to get a boost with the planned launch of its first space launch vehicle on Thursday.

## UK Court Rules on...

FROM PAGE 1

Under the deal, the IOEC had been supposed to take delivery of Fortuna, a used oil rig owned by a Romanian businessman, through a company set up in the UK. It came as the Iranian officials at the time were struggling to bypass a previous round of international sanctions on the country's nuclear program.

However, Oil Ministry officials later revealed that the oil rig had never been delivered to the IOEC and that the funds had been stolen. The revelation caused a media uproar in Iran and the case gradually became known as the missing oil rig.

The Tuesday report by Fars News did not elaborate the source of its information about the court ruling issued in the UK. Iranian courts had already sentenced the three suspects in the case to various prison terms without including financial compensations.

## Iraq Urged to...

FROM PAGE 1

Gharibabadi, who also serves as the Judiciary's deputy for international affairs, called on the Iraqi government to hold the first session of a joint committee to identify and prosecute the perpetrators at Iraq's courts.

Iranian Judiciary Chief Gholamhossein Mohseni-Ejei on Monday underlined the need for the most serious prosecution of the perpetrators of the assassinations.

The Iranian Judiciary chief urges serious prosecution of all perpetrators behind the assassination of Iran's top anti-terror commander General Soleimani.

"We will not allow the blood of these innocent people to be wasted," Mohseni-Ejei said, blaming the U.S. and the Israeli regime for the terrorist crimes.

Gharibabadi further expressed hope that Iran and Iraq would improve relations in various areas, especially in the legal and judicial fields.

He criticized the dual approach of hegemonic countries which have "turned the issue of human rights into a political means to abuse independent states."

"But this issue cannot stop our path towards advancing our human rights positions and we will certainly have special measures on the agenda to counter the dual political approaches of Western countries," the Iranian Judiciary official said. He expressed Iran's readiness to broaden cooperation with Iraq on human rights issues, including the exchange of experience, training and civil rights with a special focus on the rights of women and children.

Gharibabadi said the activities of the terrorist Mujahedin Khalq Organization (MKO) are also among important issues for both Iran and Iraq and noted that Tehran would soon offer practical proposals to Baghdad in this regard.

## IAEA Chief Calls for...

FROM PAGE 1

The continued surveillance of Tehran's nuclear activity through cameras and other devices has sustained hope that a global deal to curb Tehran's nuclear activity and lift sanctions can be resurrected. In 2018, Donald Trump withdrew from the 2015 multi-party nuclear pact with Iran and imposed hefty new sanctions. Tehran has since rejected key monitoring efforts while increasing the volume and purity of its fissile material. The country has always denied it is trying to build a nuclear weapon.

Joe Biden's administration is seeking to re-enter the deal but six rounds of indirect talks have stalled since the election of President Ebrahim Raisi in June.

Grossi noted Iran was "within a few months" of having enough material for a nuclear weapon, although he said he did not think it was pursuing one.

The so-called breakout time was "continuously lessening" as Iran enriched more uranium, with more efficient centrifuges, he added.

"It is becoming shorter and shorter," Grossi added, saying he needed working cameras reinstalled at Tesa Karaj — a manufacturing complex west of Tehran that fabricates parts for centrifuges — "yesterday".

Grossi stated, "There is this issue with Karaj, and I'm working on it... Our stop-gap has been seriously affected so it's not intact. But it's not valueless either."

Western officials hope negotiations will pick up next month, ahead of the next quarterly meeting of the IAEA board of governors, where any prospect of western powers pushing to censure Iran formally would embarrass Tehran.

Ali Vaez, Iran director at the International Crisis Group, said Iran wanted to avoid such a resolution but it did not want to yield unilaterally to inspections pressure while it was under such harsh sanctions.

## China Refiners Eye...

FROM PAGE 1

No matter how hard it tried, the U.S. did not achieve its goal and Iran continued sending its oil to the market — though in reduced volumes — using innovative ways to bypass the illegal sanctions.

However, the "tyrannical" U.S. sanctions deprived Iran of 1.8 billion barrels of oil exports and more than \$100 billion of revenues, Owji told the first OPEC Plus meeting since being named to the new post.

Oil markets are closely watching Vienna negotiations which have been suspended since mid-June, for any clues as to when the OPEC member will be able to resume crude sales.

Last week, S&P Global Platts said Iran's LPG shipments are set to reach around 440,000-450,000 tonnes in October compared with 556,000 tonnes exported in September, and they are expected to rebound in November.

"The export volume in October will be lower in comparison to September. The export volume is fluctuating between 450,000 tonnes a month and 530,000 tonnes a month," it quoted a trade source as saying.



## Simmons Suspended From NBA Season Opener

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Unsettled Philadelphia 76ers star Ben Simmons was hit with a one-game suspension by the team on Tuesday, ruling him out of the club's season opener against New Orleans.

A Sixers statement said Simmons would miss game against the Pelicans for "conduct detrimental to the team."

U.S. media reports said Simmons was suspended shortly after a bust-up with Sixers coach Doc Rivers, which ended with the Australian point guard being tossed from practice.

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

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## Lazio Owner's Ban Reduced to Two Months

ROME (Dispatches) - Lazio president Claudio Lotito's ban for COVID-19 protocol violations was reduced to two months by the federal appeal court on Tuesday.

The Serie A club's owner was appealing against a 12-month ban handed to him by the Italian Football Federation (FIGC) appeal court in April.

A FIGC statement said that the latest hearing resulted in a two-month ban for Lotito, five-month bans for Lazio doctors Ivo Pulcini and Fabio Rodia, and a 50,000 euro (\$58,230) fine for the club.

8 IRAN NEWS

SPORTS

THURSDAY OCTOBER 21, 2021

# Liverpool Battle to Champions League Win; Messi Fires PSG

LONDON (Dispatches) - Liverpool survived an Atletico Madrid fightback to win 3-2 and Lionel Messi scored twice as Paris Saint-Germain came from behind to beat RB Leipzig by the same score on a breathless night of Champions League action on Tuesday.

In other games, Karim Benzema netted for Real Madrid as the 13-time European champions thrashed Shakhtar Donetsk 5-0 in Ukraine on the eve of the start of his trial in France on charges of complicity in blackmail.

Much of the night's drama happened at the Wanda Metropolitano in the Spanish capital where Mohamed Salah scored another impressive goal, twisting away from a string of Atletico defenders before his shot deflected in off James Milner to open the scoring.

Naby Keita doubled Liverpool's lead with a stunning volley but Atletico hit back with French international Antoine Griezmann scoring twice to fire up the home crowd.

Just as Atletico seemed to have the upper hand, Griezmann was given a straight red card for a high boot in the face of Roberto Firmino.

A pulsating game was decided from the penalty spot in the 78th minute as Salah sent Jan Oblak the wrong way after Mario Hermoso pushed Diogo Jota. The Egyptian's 31st Champions League goal makes him the club's top scorer in the competition, overtaking Steven Gerrard.

In a dramatic finish, Atletico were denied a penalty when the referee studied the VAR and decided Jota had not fouled Jose Maria Gimenez.

## Greece Hands Over Olympic Flame to Beijing 2022 Hosts

ATHENS (AFP) - Greece on Tuesday handed over the Olympic flame to organizers of the 2022 Beijing Winter Games, a day after the lighting ceremony was disrupted by activists calling for the event to be postponed.

Hellenic Olympic Committee chief Spyros Kapralos gave the Olympic torch to the vice-president of Beijing 2022 and vice-president of the Chinese Olympic Committee Yu Zaiqing at the Panathenaic Stadium in Athens, where the ancient Games were revived in 1896.

"The Olympic flame will travel to the Great Wall and across other parts of China, bringing with it the light of peace and friendship," Yu said.

He said China vowed to deliver "a streamlined, safe and splendid Games".

Around 2,900 athletes, representing approximately 85 National Olympic Committees, will compete in the Winter Games between 4 and 20 February 2022.

Actresses dressed as ancient Greek priestesses had earlier lit a cauldron with the Olympic flame, after China's Turin 2006 and Vancouver 2010 freestyle ski silver medallist Li Nina ran a lap with the torch in the second-century AD stadium.

The ceremony was held without spectators, with mainly officials and media in attendance.

"The pandemic may have prevented us from holding the Olympic flame ceremony in the presence of people, but I am sure that the successful and safe organisation of the Games will be another victory of humanity against the coronavirus," Kapralos said.

"Beijing is making history by becoming the first city to host both Summer and Winter Olympic Games. And we are very happy, because by giving you the flame, we also become part of this history," he added.

The International Olympic Committee has said the flame will go on display to the public in Beijing before setting off on an exhibition tour.

The Reds are top of Group B with three wins out of three while Atletico are equal on four points with Porto, who beat AC Milan 1-0 in Portugal.

At the Parc des Princes, Messi scored twice and Kylian Mbappe sparked but later missed a penalty as PSG came from behind to beat RB Leipzig 3-2.

Mbappe had given the Qatar-backed club the lead but a Leipzig side crushed 6-3 at Manchester City earlier in the competition held their own.



Leipzig went ahead through goals from Andre Silva and Nordi Mukiele as PSG suddenly looked disjointed. But Messi was set up by Mbappe for the equaliser and then deftly chipped in a 74th-minute penalty awarded for a foul on the France striker. Mbappe's missed spot kick proved unimportant.

PSG top Group A with seven points but Manchester City bounced back from their defeat in Paris in the last matchday by crushing Club Brugge 5-1 in Belgium.

Pep Guardiola declared City's win "one of the best performances in Europe we've done so far" after Riyad Mahrez scored twice and 19-year-old Cole Palmer was among City's scorers.

In Kiev, Benzema, who is due to go on trial in France on Wednesday in the "sextape" case involving his former international teammate Mathieu Valbuena, scored the final goal in Real's rout of Shakhtar.

A first-half own goal from Serhiy Kryvtsov put Real on their way before Vinicius Junior scored two superb goals and set up Rodrygo for the fourth before Benzema completed the job. Sheriff Tiraspol's fairytale run of results in the competition ended with a 3-1 defeat at Inter Milan.

Goals from Edin Dzeko, Arturo Vidal and Stefan de Vrij sealed the win over the side from Moldova but Sheriff remain top of Group D despite having the same number of points as Real.

Borussia Dortmund and Erling Braut Haaland had an off night as they were beaten 4-0 by Ajax at the Amsterdam Arena.

Former West Ham striker Sebastian Haller scored his sixth Champions League goal in three games as Ajax took an iron grip on Group C with a maximum nine points. Dortmund are second on six points.



BELGRADE (Dispatches) - World number one Novak Djokovic once again declined to reveal whether he has been vaccinated against COVID-19 and said he was unsure if he would defend his title at next year's Australian Open.

The state of Victoria, where the Grand Slam event takes place in Melbourne, has introduced a vaccine mandate for professional athletes, although authorities have not yet clarified what the requirement will be for those coming from abroad.

"Things beings as they are, I still don't know if I will go to Melbourne," Djokovic told the online edition of Serbian daily Blic.

"I will not reveal my status whether I have been vaccinated or not, it is a private matter and an inappropriate inquiry."

"People go too far these days in taking the liberty to ask questions and judge a person. Whatever you say 'Yes, no, maybe, I am thinking about it', they will take advantage."

Djokovic has won the season's opening Grand Slam a record nine times, including the last three editions. The 34-year-old last competed at the U.S. Open, where his bid to complete the calendar slam -- winning all four majors in the same year -- was ended by Russian Daniil Medvedev in the final.

Djokovic, who is tied with Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal on a record 20 Grand Slam titles, said he plans to compete in the Paris Masters, the season-ending ATP Finals in Turin and the Davis Cup before the end of 2021.



man to win the Masters 1000 event sometimes referred to as the fifth grand slam, coming back from behind to beat Georgian Nikoloz Basilashvili 3-6 6-4 6-1.

## Murray Hails Phenomenal Norrie After Indian Wells Win

LONDON (Dispatches) - Former world number one Andy Murray hailed Cameron Norrie's "phenomenal achievement" in winning the Indian Wells Masters 1000, but said his compatriot's consistency during a stellar season had been arguably more impressive still.

Norrie on Sunday became the first British man to win the Masters 1000 event sometimes referred to as the fifth grand slam, coming back from behind to beat Georgian Nikoloz Basilashvili 3-6 6-4 6-1.

The victory, which lifted Norrie into the world's top 20 for the first time, was the 26-year-old's second title and sixth final of the year.

"I'd be lying if I said that I called that, to be honest," Murray, speaking in Antwerp on Monday ahead of the European Open, said of Norrie's triumph.

"However, I have spent a decent amount of time around him and practiced with him quite a lot and he works extremely hard... It was obviously a phenomenal achievement last night, but I think the season that he's having is maybe more impressive than that one week."

Norrie also moved up to 10th on the leaderboard in the race to qualify for the season-ending ATP Finals in Turin, which the top eight men will contest from Nov. 14-21.

## UK's World Cup Bid Not Derailed by Euro 2020 Trouble

LONDON (AFP) - The UK and Ireland bid for the 2030 World Cup is not "up in smoke" despite the English FA being sanctioned for the chaos that marred the Euro 2020 final, according to a leading figure at UK Sport.

England have been ordered to play one UEFA competition match behind closed doors, with a further match suspended for two years for disorder at the final which saw ticketless fans break their way into the stadium. Further trouble marred England's World Cup qualifier with Hungary last week as visiting fans clashed with police.

However, Simon Morton, chief operating officer of UK Sport, which is involved in an ongoing feasibility study on whether to bid, said his view was that crowd trouble had not derailed plans.

"There are lessons to be learned, the FA has commissioned a review from Baroness Casey. It's very serious. But I do not think it is the bid up in smoke," he told the UK Digital, Culture, Media and Sport committee on Tuesday.

"However, I don't think it's reflective of how this country organizes sporting events. We have an excellent reputation, not only for hosting brilliant events but also hosting safe and secure events."

"We have to get the balance right here. It was unacceptable, but I think most countries around the world would recognize it is not reflective of what normally happens."

UEFA president Aleksander Ceferin played down fears that the disorder would affect a British and Irish World Cup bid, telling The Times last month that he saw Wembley as a key venue for UEFA in hosting club competition finals in the future. However, Morton cautioned against proposals for the World Cup to be held every two years rather than four.



## Italy Says Racist Fans Face Lifetime Stadium Bans

ROME (Dispatches) - Racist soccer fans must be identified and banned from stadiums for life, Italian Football Federation (FIGC) president Gabriele Gravina said, after several incidents of racism at the start of the Serie A season.

Napoli defender Kalidou Koulibaly said he was called a "monkey" by Fiorentina supporters in Florence this month and called on authorities to ban the perpetrators from attending matches.

It came after two incidents in September, when AC Milan goalkeeper Mike Maignan was racially abused by Juventus fans and an investigation was opened into alleged racist chants by Lazio supporters against Milan's Tiemouhe Bakayoko and Franck Kessie.

"We are trying to shift from what was an objective responsibility, penalizing a large part of the stadium, to individual responsibility," Gravina told Italia 1.

"We have the technology at our disposal to identify single subjects, expel them from the stadiums and never let them come back."

Gravina also said that he intends to bid for Italy to host the European Championship in 2028, after the Azzurri's triumph at Euro 2020 in the summer.

"I nurture dreams and try to make them come true. I hope to make this dream come true for the good of Italian football," he added.

European governing body UEFA said last week that national associations have until March 23, 2022 to declare interest in hosting the tournament, and the bidders will be announced on April 5.

