

Health Ministry Announced on Sunday That the Number of Deaths From the Coronavirus Pandemic in Iran Increased to 128,956 With 104 More Iranians Killed by the Virus Over the Past 24 Hours

IRAN NEWS

Iran's Non-Oil trade Value With Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) Member States in the First Six Months of the Current Iranian calendar Year Hit About \$1.2 Billion, Showing a 40 Percent Hike

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Industry Minister To Visit Syria

IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

TEHRAN - Alireza Peyman Pak, Head of the Iran-Syria Joint Chamber of Commerce, confirmed the ban on imports of Iranian-made auto parts to Syria, saying the minister of industry is expected to travel to Syria to solve the problem and "solve currency and export problems."

He told IRNA that SAIPA and Iran Khodro have car manufacturing plants in Syria, but "in recent months, Syria has introduced a new law on importing auto parts, under which spare parts are banned" and SAIPA's production in Syria has been reduced.

The Syrian auto market was also one of Iran's major export markets, which was virtually out of the hands of Iranian automakers due to the country's war, and Tehran Chamber of Commerce website announced the "cancellation of the Syrian government's permit to import cars from Iran to Syria."

In addition to SAIPA, Iran Khodro has also built a factory with three well-equipped halls in the country but has no production. According to Peyman Pak, Iran Khodro's problems are related to the company's shareholding and it is expected to be resolved soon.

1,400 Iranian-Made Automobiles to Be Exported to Azerbaijan

TEHRAN (MNA) - Rostam Qasemi, Minister of Roads and Urban Development said yesterday that Iran exported 400 automobiles to Azerbaijan last year but this year's exports will increase to 1,400 automobiles.

Qasemi made the comments at a meeting of Iran-Azerbaijan Joint Economic Commission which was also attended by visiting Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan Shahin Mustafayev on Sunday in Tehran.

Qasemi pointed to similarities and long-standing bilateral relations between the two countries, expressing hope that the two countries will resolve the barriers to bilateral relations during the Azeri delegation's visit.

The Iranian minister also said that the implementation of the agreements signed by the two sides can serve the interests of the people of the two countries.

He also pointed to the construction of a 100-meter bridge at the shared border and the completion of the Rasht-Astara railway corridor as two very important projects which will be discussed during this trip to be finalized.

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Iran Slapped Americans Six Times in 18 Months



IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK

TEHRAN - The commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Navy says during confrontations in the Persian Gulf over the past 18 months, Iranian forces have "slapped" the Americans six times.

Rear Admiral Alireza Tangsiri, speaking to a gathering of Basij students at the former U.S. embassy compound in Tehran Saturday, was apparently referring to the period since the U.S. assassination of Iran's legendary commander General Qassem Soleimani in Baghdad.

The Iranian youth, he said, should know "the importance of the Persian Gulf and the fact that our country is of great geographical significance".

"This importance has led us to slap the Americans six times in one and a half years of confrontation, many of which have not been covered by the media yet," Admiral Tangsiri said.

He cited the IRGC Navy's intervention last month to prevent US forces from stealing an Iranian oil cargo in the Sea of Oman in a dramatic operation which involved Iranian forces rappelling to the ship's deck, calling it the latest slap.

"The tanker was carrying Iranian oil, but with the support of the Americans, it was refusing to deliver its cargo to our country; of course, this was the second ship we confiscated and the previous one was not reported," the commander explained.

"In order to stop it, the first group of our forces landed on the deck of the oil tanker in a heliborne operation and the second group entered the ship after traveling by vessels. However, as soon as the tanker headed to our waters, two American destroyers quickly approached from both sides to prevent its transfer to our waters," he recounted.

Six Iranian speed boats and two vessels were then dispatched to the scene, warning away a U.S. helicopter which fired chaff as it fled, thinking it might be targeted by Iranian missiles, Admiral Tangsiri said.

"Of course, we also had missiles as well as combat and reconnaissance drones in the area, but we only deployed our gunboats to confront the U.S. destroyers because we wanted to humiliate them," he added.

The commander said the Americans refrain from entering Iran's territorial waters lest it could lead into a confrontation with IRGC naval forces.

He touched on the history of direct confrontations between U.S. and Iranian forces in the Persian Gulf, most importantly during the 1980-1988 Iraqi war under the former dictator Saddam Hussein in Iran.

"In the eight years of the Sacred Defense, when Iraq became helpless in the face of Iran, the Americans entered into a direct conflict with Iran in the Persian Gulf in 1987 to support Saddam's army," Admiral Tangsiri said.

"We in the IRGC Navy have sacrificed nine martyrs in direct battles with the Americans to defend the territory of our beloved country in the Persian Gulf. Of course, some of the confrontations have not been covered by the media for some reason," he said.

"For the nine martyrs sacrificed in direct battles with the Americans, we were able to give them nine memorable slaps, and today they have realized the sovereignty of the Islamic Republic in the maritime domain."

He also said that IRGC Navy will be equipped with three new warships this year, including a homegrown vessel launching missiles with a range of 300 kilometers, a top commander said.

Tangsiri said his forces will receive three new military vessels in the current Iranian year, including a warship furnished with defense missiles.

He said the IRGC and the Defense Ministry are developing two advanced warships named after two martyrs, General Mohammad Nazeri and Lt. General Qassem Soleimani, noting that the vessels are 55 meters and 65 meters long, respectively.

Chabahar Sees Increase in Traffic as Taliban Backs Trade Via Port

NEW DELHI (Dispatches) - The Chabahar port in Iran developed by India seems to be resuming normal operations after assurances by the Taliban that they want good diplomatic and trade ties with India and that they were going to support the role of the port in facilitating regional and global trade.

After operations were hit initially by the return of the Taliban in Afghanistan, the port is now seeing an increase in traffic with Russia emerging, after India, as a key contributor to this transit trade surge.

Developed by India to boost regional connectivity, while bypassing Pakistan, the port is seen as a more "economical, stable and secure route" for access to India and to the global market by Afghanistan and landlocked Central Asian countries.

Despite instability in Afghanistan, traffic at Chabahar is increasing, official sources said. While operations were affected by the Taliban takeover of Kabul on August 15, work resumed on September 2 and the Shahid Beheshti Terminal since then is said to have handled cargo from Russia, Qatar, Romania and Australia. The cargo has included food products like barley, wheat and corn. The increase in traffic followed assurances by then head of Taliban political office Sher Abbas Stanekzai in late August that Taliban wanted to have good trade and diplomatic ties with India and his appeal to traders to use the port.

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ViewPoint

By: Hamid Reza Naghashian

British, the Godfather of Zionists

As long as the West supports vehemently the Zionists, this illegal and usurping regime will continue its crimes regardless of any resolution adopted by the United Nations against it because they are well aware that the U.N.'s resolution against them should not be taken seriously because of being toothless.

On Friday and in an unexpected move but it seems on the occasion of the anniversary of the Balfour Declaration, the British government announced that it intended to label Hamas "a terrorist organization" on Friday. British Home Secretary Priti Patel said on Twitter that she had "acted to proscribe Hamas in its entirety" as the military wing of the resistance movement has been banned in the UK since 2001. The ban, which requires parliamentary approval, would make it illegal in Britain to be a member of Hamas or to express support for the movement, with a maximum penalty of 14 years in jail.

This British move faced protests and strong reactions by the Muslim states and Palestinians but it pleased the Zionists who saw the British support of them publicly. Of course the move was unexpected but it was not strange because everybody is well aware of the history of the emergence of the Zionist regime as this regime was almost created by the British.

The Balfour Declaration was a public statement issued by the British government in 1917 during the First World War, which laid the foundations for the entity of Israel. The declaration is seen as a catalyst for the 1948 Nakba (catastrophe) where more than 750,000 Palestinians were expelled from their homes. The Balfour Declaration came in the form of a letter from Britain's then-foreign secretary, Arthur Balfour, addressed to Lionel Walter Rothschild, a figurehead of the British Jewish community. It was published on November 2, 1917.

So Priti's announcement was not strange but it was somewhat strange because of timing of its announcement while the world is trying to solve the Palestinian issue.

The Palestinian resistance movement of Hamas has decried the British government's decision to designate the group "a terrorist organization" as "continued aggression" on Palestinians and their rights. In a press release on Friday, Hamas said, "Unfortunately, Britain continues with its old delusion, supporting the aggressors at the expense of the victims, instead of apologizing and fixing its historical sin against the Palestinian people," referring to the Balfour Declaration and the British mandate that handed over Palestinian lands to the Zionist movement.

The British move demonstrates the occupying regime's attempts to criminalize the struggle of the Palestinian people and therefore the regime needs public support of its mentors like UK and the West.

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Mahan Air Foils Cyberattack

TEHRAN (PressTV) - Iran's Mahan Air has announced it foiled a cyberattack targeting the company's "internal systems" and that all flights were operating on schedule.

"Immediately after the cyberattack was launched, Mahan Air's cyber security team came into action to thwart the threat," a Mahan Air spokesman said on state TV on Sunday. Amirhossein Zolanvari said in the announcement that it was the first time that the airline came under cyberattack.

"It has already been the target on several occasions due to its important position in the country's aviation industry," he said.

Zolanvari added that the latest cyberattack had not caused any "major issue" and all of Mahan Air's international and domestic flights were operating on schedule.

However, the company's website was down and the cyber security team was working to restore it.

Private-sector Mahan Air is the nation's second-largest airline after Iran Air.

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Heads of Three Branches Meet

TEHRAN (President.ir) - The heads of the executive, legislative and judicial branches stressed the need to coordinate executive measures to solve economic problems.

The most important national issues were discussed at the weekly meeting of the heads of the three branches, which was hosted by Ayatollah Seyed Ebrahim Raisi at the President's office this evening.

Raisi, Judiciary Chief Hojatolislam val-Moslemi Mohseni Ejei and Majlis Speaker Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf discussed executive policies to resolve economic problems and improve people's livelihoods and ways of systematic support and further coordination in this regard.

Free Trade Zones Should Turn Into Hub of Iranian Exports

TEHRAN - President Seyed Ebrahim Raisi called for a major change in the function of the country's free trade zones, saying they must turn into the hub of exports and financial relations, especially with the neighbors.

In comments on Sunday, Raisi deplored the low volume of non-oil exports from the Iranian free trade zones, urging a serious development in the function of the free trade and special economic zones.

The FTZs must turn into the hub of exports, boom in production, and financial exchanges, he added.

"The free (trade) zones have proper capacities and requirements for booming production, increased exports, and job creation," the president noted, saying their proximity to foreign states makes them a suitable option for the export of commodities to the neighbors.

He also emphasized that the free trade zones should by no means function as the



center of uncontrolled imports, particularly the import of goods which are manufactured inside Iran.

In January, 60 economic and infrastructural projects were inaugurated in six different free trade and industrial zones and special economic zones of Iran.

The projects, including industrial plants, steel production factories, oil refineries, and port development plans, provided employment for more than 3,200 people.

Leader Commends Book "Cry Alone"

TEHRAN (IP) - Leader of the Islamic Revolution described the book "Cry Alone", as "superb", which narrates the memories of the mothers of the unknown Iranian martyrs during the eight-year Sacred Defense.

In September 1980, immediately after the Islamic Revolution, Iran entered an imposed war started by Saddam Hussein and supported by many Western powers.

This war lasted for eight years and constituted an important part of the history and identity of the Iranian people and the Islamic Revolution.

The book "Cry Alone", which Imam Khamenei described as "superb," narrates the memories of the mothers of the unknown Iranian martyrs during the eight-year Sacred Defense. The text of Imam Khamenei's commendation follows:

In the Name of God, the Beneficent, the Merciful

I read this amazing book with enthusiasm and eagerness, and my eyes and heart were washed with my tears when reading it. Everything in this book is superb. The narration, the narrator, the writing and the style used in compiling the material are all superb.

Moreover, there is the martyr spoken about in this book and Imam Hussain's affectionate look toward him and his mother with utter magnificence and sublimity. There is no spiritual asset better than this for the country, the nation and the Revolution. Another valuable asset is the power of eloquent writing, as depicted in this story of motherly love. The author should be sincerely thanked.

ICCIMA Officials Meet With Tourism Minister

TEHRAN (MNA) - The 18th meeting of the Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA) board of representatives was held on Sunday in the presence of the Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts Minister Ezzatollah Zarghami, the ICCIMA portal reported.

The main focus of this meeting, which was chaired by the ICCIMA Head Gholam-Hossein Shafei, was the issues that the country's private sector active in the tourism industry is currently facing.

Speaking in the meeting, the head of ICCIMA Tourism Committee Ali-Akbar Abdolmaleki underlined the importance of the tourism industry in the global economy and stressed the need for placing more importance on this sector.

"Over 11 percent of the world's total employment is in the field of tourism and about 10 percent of the country's GDP is accounted for by the tourism industry; the arrival of each tourist brings the country nearly 1000 dollars," Abdolmaleki said.

According to the official, one of the potential opportunities for economic growth in the field of tourism and combating Iranophobia is to use the capacity of Iranians abroad.

"This capacity can be used to introduce Iran and attract investors and counter Iranophobia. I must point out that one of the complementary capacities in this regard is Iran's joint chambers with other countries," he added.

Further in the meeting, Shafei pointed the problems and issues in the field of tourism, saying that the government should pay serious attention to the cultural and historical heritage and use the capacities in this industry to develop the country's economy.

Tokyo Paralympics Medalists Honored

TEHRAN (IP) - Supporters of sports for the disabled awarded medalists of the 2020 Tokyo Paralympics.

In this ceremony, which was held this morning at Iran's Sports Federation for Disabled, the Tokyo Paralympics medalists were awarded plaques, cash prizes, and gifts by supporters of sports for the disabled.

Members of Iran's sitting volleyball, running, and shooting teams, along with officials from the Iranian Paralympic Committee and Sports Federation for Disabled, and some officials from the Ministry of Sports and Youth, attended the ceremony.

Shervin Asbaghian, President of Iran's Sports Federation for Disabled, said in an exclusive interview with Iran Press News Agency: "Paralympics athletes, in addition to success in sports, have been role models in cultural fields and preservation of Islamic values."

Also, Hadi Rezaei, the head of the Tokyo Paralympic convoy, said in an interview with Iran Press about the ceremony: "The efforts that athletes have made to win medals in the Olympics and Paralympics are commendable, and such a ceremony will increase the motivation of athletes."

Germany Urged Responsibly to Secure Iran's Diplomatic Missions

IRAN NEWS POLITICAL DESK

TEHRAN - Iran has condemned an attack by unknown people on the building of its consulate general in the German city of Hamburg, urging the European country to act "seriously" and "responsibly" to secure Iranian diplomatic missions.

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh said the German government needs to fulfill its responsibilities in securing the Islamic Republic's diplomatic missions in the European state in accordance with the Vienna Convention.

"The German government is expected to adopt consistent and effective strategies to prevent a recurrence of such attacks while carefully examining the details and dealing seriously with its perpetrator(s)," Khatibzadeh added.

The attack that took place in Winterhude district resulted in some damage to the building, but no one was reported hurt. According to the German newspaper Bild, the driver of a passing car saw smoke rising from the entrance of the Iranian consulate on Friday and also two men who were speeding away from the area.

Local media reported that the fire was caused by a Molotov cocktail thrown by the assailant or assailants.

The police immediately launched a major manhunt and subways were stopped and searched.

Basij at Service of Iranian People

TEHRAN (IP) - The Head of Iran's Basij Organization says Basij forces do their best in serving the people all across the country.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of 2,550 developmental and anti-deprivation projects throughout the country, Brigadier-General Gholamreza Soleimani said Iran has unique and significant capacities to develop the country.

Brigadier General Soleimani commemorated Basij week with 'Mobilization' as a part of the people's motto, saying with support of the new administration and people, the Basij movement would do



those in need, especially the underprivileged.

"With jihadi spirit and all-out multifunctional capabilities, Basij takes great steps in solving the problems of people of all walks of life, warding off deprivation," the commander recalled.

He further said: "Basij as an organization of the Islamic Revolution in the 'Second phase of the Islamic Revolution' seeks to strengthen and expand itself with new capacity-building and attraction so that all young people and adolescents can enter this organization and run the society."

Iran's Power Talks First in Region



TEHRAN (IP) - Iran's First Vice President says the Islamic Republic of Iran talks first in the region as a power. Speaking at the opening ceremony of 2,550 development and anti-deprivation projects throughout Iran, Mohammad Mokhber said it is nearly 40 years since the dominance system has been lurking to damage the country, but yet could not succeed in doing so.

No country can make decisions without Iran's consultation in the region, Mokhber said, noting that the country owes its victory, dignity, and development to its people.

He added that the Iranian people have always been ready to resolve the country's problems.

He then went on to commemorate Basij Week, saying: "In floods, in earthquakes, in deprivation, Basij was the first team ready to help."

"Basij which is run by people has not been allocated to any special groups but to all and with its all-out capacities can ward off deprivation," he said, describing Basij movement.

In tight cooperation with Basij, the first vice president said the government is also ready to offer help anywhere needed and provide its nonstop services to people.

No New Provision or Change to JCPOA

TEHRAN (IFP) - A top Iranian lawmaker has ruled out any change to the Iran nuclear deal in the upcoming Vienna talks in November's end.

Mojtaba Zonnuri, a member of Parliament's National Security and Foreign Policy Committee says the country's negotiators are commissioned to focus on the implementation of the 2015 Iran nuclear deal known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) during the talks in Vienna slated for November 29, 2021.

"In fact, we will not negotiate on the JCPOA or on making changes to it, and we will not accept any new provisions being added to the JCPOA," Zonnuri added.

"We are holding talks on the implementation of the JCPOA," he reiterated.

"Negotiations on the JCPOA have been held before and it cannot be renegotiated," the lawmaker said.

"So, the Islamic Republic of Iran is ready to implement the JCPOA, and our negotiators are attending the talks on November 29 to accomplish this very mission," the legislator explained. He then criticized the remaining signatories to the JCPOA for failing to live up to their commitments. "We haven't seen any goodwill gestures from them, so far," he noted.

"They owe us. We have paid the costs of the JCPOA, but haven't reaped its benefits. We are seeking to obtain our benefits under the deal," he said. "We are not going to kill time and make the issue drag on," he added.

Tehran's Air Pollution a Threat for Citizens

IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK

TEHRAN - A health ministry official announced the "unhealthy" situation in tehran's air for "all groups" and urged citizens living in the capital to avoid unnecessary traffic throughout the city or stay outdoors as much as possible.

Abbas Shahsavani, head of the ministry of health's department of air health and climate change, said the pollution index has been reported above 150 in 16 stations in Tehran.

According to the health ministry official, "In district 2, we are seeing the most severe pollution conditions and the air quality in the area is very unhealthy."

Poonak, Shahrara, Gisha, Tehran Villa, Shahrak-e Gharb and Saadat Abad neighborhoods are located in district 2 of Tehran municipality.

In this report, all citizens of Tehran have been asked to avoid outdoor sports and fewer people are present in the open, also sensitive groups such as the elderly, respiratory and cardiac patients, pregnant women and children have been asked not to travel as much as possible in the city.

Doha-Tehran to Expand Sports Ties

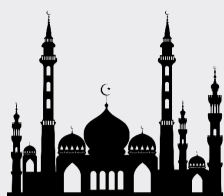
TEHRAN (IRNA) - Qatar Olympic Committee (QOC) Secretary-General Jassim Rashid al-Buenain said in his meeting with President of National Olympic Committee of the Islamic Republic of Iran Reza Salehi Amiri that Tehran and Doha have good ties, adding that the level of sports relations between the two countries should also increase.

Jassim Rashid al-Buenain made these remarks on Sunday on the sidelines of the General Assembly of the Asian

Olympic Council, adding that undoubtedly, the development of sports ties will increase friendship and world peace.

This Qatari official added that Iran and Qatar can use each other's potentials, noting that Qatar welcomes the increase of sports ties between the two countries.

Salehi Amiri, for his part in the meeting, referred to the favorable relations between Tehran and Doha, saying that holding various sporting events in Qatar shows the good facilities and planning of this country.



PRAYER TIME

■ Noon (Zohr)	11:50
■ Evening (Maghreb)	17:13
■ Tomorrow's Dawn (Fajr)	05:20
■ Tomorrow's Sunrise	06:48

83. Jacob said: "Nay, but ye have yourselves contrived a story (good enough) for you. So patience is most fitting (for me). Maybe Allah will bring them (back) all to me (in the end). For He is indeed full of knowledge and wisdom."
84. And he turned away from them, and said: "How great is my grief for Joseph!" And his eyes became white with sorrow, and he fell into silent melancholy. Surah 12. Joseph (83 - 84)

Tehran, Baku To Sign New Cooperation Documents

IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

TEHRAN – Oil Minister Javad Owji and the Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan announced the signing of new documents on Tehran-Baku cooperation in the oil and gas sector in the near future.

Javad Owji after meeting with Deputy Prime Minister of Azerbaijan Republic Shahin Mustafayev, told reporters: "A constructive meeting was held with the Azerbaijani delegation and good agreements were reached."

He underlined Iran's huge oil and gas reserves, and said that given this capacity, Iran and Azerbaijan could have good cooperation with each other, adding that the Republic of Azerbaijan also has a good capacity in the oil and gas sector.

The Oil Minister stated that in today's meeting, a good agreement was reached with the Republic of Azerbaijan on gas swaps from neighboring countries to the Republic of Azerbaijan, such as Turkmenistan, adding: "Good agreements were reached on the gas contract to Nakhichevan."

Owji noted the development of oil and gas fields in the Caspian Sea as another focus of negotiations with the Azerbaijani delegation, and said: "Initial talks were held in this regard and expert delegations of the two countries are negotiating."



He expressed hope that in the coming weeks good agreements would be signed with Azerbaijan in the field of oil, gas and development of Caspian oil and gas fields.

For his part, the Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan told the media: "The Republic of Azerbaijan and Iran are friendly and neighboring countries and there is a historical connection between the people of the two countries."

He said that there is successful cooperation between Iran and Azerbaijan in all areas, especially energy, adding: "Cooperation between Iran and Azerbaijan in the oil and gas sector has been fruitful."

The Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan stated that during the meeting with the Iranian Minister of Petroleum the avenues of expanding cooperation between the two countries in the energy sector were discussed, adding: "Iran and Azerbaijan discussed a number of new projects in the energy sector. New documents will be signed in this regard."

Mustafayev noted the presence of a group of Azerbaijani experts in Iran, and said: "This group is going to discuss the details of the talks between Iran and Azerbaijan."

Copper Anode Production Surpassing 208,000 Tons

TEHRAN (MNA) - Iran produced 208,509 tons of copper anode in the first seven months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21-September 22), which was two percent more than the output in the same period of time in the past year.



Copper anode production stood at 29,725 tons in the seventh month of this year, indicating 16 percent rise from that of the previous year.

The periodical reports and statistics indicate that Iran's metals sector is progressing both in terms of production and export despite the limitations imposed by the U.S. sanctions.

The country's copper industry is moving forward noticeably, as some outstanding projects are implemented.

In early April, the managing director of National Iranian Copper Industries Company (NICIC) announced the discovery of one billion tons of new copper reserves in the country.

NICIC carried out 101,000 meters of deep drilling to identify new copper reserves across the country in the previous Iranian calendar year (ended on March 20), which resulted in the discovery of one billion tons of new reserves, Ardeshir Sa'd-Mohammadi said in a press conference.

Sa'd-Mohammadi put the value of the discovered reserves at 350 trillion rials (about \$8.3 billion).

According to the official, NICIC had also discovered 523 million tons of copper reserves across the country during the Iranian calendar year 1398 (March 2019- March 2020).

Considering the new discoveries, NICIC's total copper reserves across the country have currently surpassed eight billion tons.

The official put the country's total copper reserves at 40 billion tons, saying that Iran currently has the world's seventh-largest copper reserves, and hopefully the country will climb to sixth place in the current Iranian calendar year.

South Pars Condensate Loading Capacity Soars



IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

TEHRAN – Pars Oil and Gas Company (POGC) has put a new single point mooring (SPM) into operation at phase 19 of South Pars gas field to increase the condensate loading capacity of the giant field, an official with the company announced.

According to the Operator of South Pars phase 19 development project Seyed Hossein Azimi, a one-million-barrel cargo has been loaded from this SPM for the first time, the POGC portal reported on Sunday.

"With the fourth single point mooring of South Pars going operational, in addition to increasing the condensate loading capacity in the export terminal of South Pars Site 2, the field's operational flexibility will increase and will lead to stable production of gas and gas condensate in South Pars Site 2 during the coming winter," he said.

POGC, which is in charge of developing the South Pars gas field in the Persian Gulf, had installed this SPM system at Site 2 of the field in January to facilitate gas condensate exports from the region.

The SPM, which is the second one at Site 2 of South Pars, has a loading capacity of 7,000 cubic meters per hour of gas condensate.

Prior to the inauguration of this SPM, the gas condensate produced at Pars 2 region was sent through a subsea pipeline to the SPM No. 1 of the South Pars Phase 12 to be loaded for exports, now this second SPM is also connected to the site by a 36-inch subsea pipeline with a length of 6.8 kilometers.

According to Azimi, the new SPM will increase the operational flexibility for gas condensate exports by making POGC able to carry out periodic facility repairs on both SPM systems, and will also prevent the deterioration of condensate measuring and loading equipment by balancing the operational loads between the two systems.

In late December 2020, Iran inaugurated its strategic gas condensate storage facilities in the South Pars region in a move to boost the storage and exports of the mentioned commodity.

Iran Produces 3D Fabrics Woven From Glass Yarn

TEHRAN (IP) - Iranian knowledge-based company has successfully produced three-dimensional fabrics woven from glass yarn. By localizing the technology of weaving three-dimensional glass fabric, Iranian knowledge-based company made Iran one of the few countries.

The localization of this technology has made Iran one of the top 5 manufacturers of machines and producers of advanced textiles and building components globally.

3D fabric woven with glass yarn and a variety of composite sheets reinforced with this type of fabric is made hollow or filled with a variety of light and heavy mortar to help this innovative solution and its various applications to promote the construction industry. This product is used in construction, road and transportation, water and sewage, oil and petrochemical industries, composite sheds, rooms and shelters, structures and their strengthening, industrial greenhouses, civil engineering, urban facilities, and protection of concrete walls.

Gov't Imported 4m Tons of Wheat This Year

IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

TEHRAN – The government said it had imported four million tons of wheat since late April.

"This year 4.5 tons of wheat was bought from Iranian farmers ... And since late April, 4 million tons of wheat were imported," ILNA quoted Hassan Hanan, deputy minister of domestic trade, as saying.

Food, medicine and other humanitarian supplies including animal feed are exempt from U.S. sanctions.

The Government Trading Corporation (GTC) of Iran said in a report this month wheat imports would reach record levels until March amid a sharp fall in the domestic crop caused by drought. It said in addition to the \$1.2 billion worth of imported wheat, Iran had imported 5.5 million tons of corn and 2.2 million tons of barley.

Oil Minister Warns of Gas Overconsumption

IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

TEHRAN – Oil Minister warned the nation over misuse of gas and its overconsumption which may lead to shortage during the winter.

Javad Owji once again warned against consuming this type of energy, especially to "ill-consumers."

He said, "Optimal consumption-encouraged subscribers and ill-consumed subscribers will definitely be fined by government approval."

Meanwhile, according to the deputy minister of oil, gas consumption reached 508 million cubic meters as temperatures dropped to 508 million cubic meters and the consumption of this energy in the household sector is expected to reach 540 million cubic meters per day. According to Majid Chegeni, deputy oil minister for gas affairs, the average gas consumption increased by an average of 90 million cubic meters per day compared to the same period last year, "partly due to early cold", which started in early November.

The figures come as gas company officials, without giving details, have repeatedly said that 25 percent of the country's most consumed and ill-consumed gas subscribers consume about 50 percent of the country's gas and have warned of fines.

Owji earlier on November 12 said that 12 percent increase in gas consumption occurred this year as production has not increased due to a lack of investment in the country's gas production sector over the past three years.

He also said that \$160 billion should be invested in oil and gas to meet the country's needs, otherwise Iran would become an importer of these products in the future.

Iran Eyes Increasing Investment in Renewable Energy

IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

TEHRAN - Iran is seeking to attract foreign and domestic investors in the renewable energy sector as the power consumption in industries grows, Managing Director of Mehrabad Renewable Energy Company said.

The power consumption in industries including steel, petrochemical, and cement has increased 40 percent in the past three years, Mohammad Pour Ahmadi.

Iran Minister of Energy recently noted the country's good potential in renewable power generation and the need to develop renewable energy.

Following the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), Iran's renewable energy sector attracted the highest rate of foreign investors compared to other sectors that were later followed by domestic investors leading to the construction of big power plants projects in the country.

The previous administration approach and its delayed debt payment have caused foreign and domestic investors to avoid investment in the construction of power plants due to considerable risks.

MahTaab Developer Company, the biggest renewable power generation company has still not received its payment.

Working Life of Continuous Casting Molds At MSC Surpassing Global Standard



IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK

TEHRAN – Head of Repair Workshop of the Continuous Casting Unit of Mobarakeh Steel Company (MSC) says with reliance on the capabilities of the experts of MSC, the company could boost the working life of the continuous casting molds in Machines 2 and 5 of the unit beyond the global standard.

Ruhollah Beiranvand said that the continuous casting machines have been comprised of a continuous casting mold plus some segments that based on the design of the machine have been put and installed back-to-back in a certain form.

He noted that in the big reputed companies, the normal molds are usually targeted for a 45,000-ton working life and if some operations for coverage of the copper shits are carried out, the working life can increase to 90,000 tons.

Beiranvand noted that in recent years some measures have been taken in the MSC on improving the molds like covering the copper shits which have been great achievement.

He then explained some actions of the company for improving the molds and in October, adding that Mold No.44 was installed in the casting machine No.2 of the continuous casting unit with in a working record and without any repair and replacement, and it became operational by end of October and totally some 98,100 tons of steel slab was casted by this mold which is 8,100 tons above the favorable global standard and it was another proof for the capability and knowhow of the continuous casting unit of the company.

He noted that such a measure was taken on casting machine No.5 of the company which led to casting of 93,600 tons of slab which is 3,600 tons above the global standard.

ICC Suspends Investigation of Philippines War on Drugs

THE HAGUE (Dispatches) - The International Criminal Court has suspended its investigation into suspected rights abuses committed under Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte's "war on drugs" following a request from Manila.

The Hague-based court in September authorized a probe of the campaign that has left thousands of people dead, saying it resembled an illegitimate and systematic attack on civilians.

Duterte was elected in 2016 on a campaign promise to get rid of the Philippines' drug problem, openly ordering police to kill drug suspects if officers' lives were in danger.



Saakashvili Agrees to End 50-Day Hunger Strike

TBILISI (Dispatches) - Former Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili agreed to end a 50-day hunger strike once authorities transferred him to a military hospital, his lawyers said.

Lawyer Dito Sadzaglishvili told Reuters the former leader would be moved from a prison hospital in the capital Tbilisi to the military hospital in the town of Gori on Friday night.

The transfer, proposed by Georgia's Justice Ministry earlier in the day, appeared to mark a breakthrough in a long stand-off that had prompted the United States and others to raise concerns for his health.



Thousands Rally Against Covid Curbs in Austria and Australia



VIENNA (Dispatches) - Thousands took to the streets in Austria and Australia Saturday as anger mounted over new Covid restrictions imposed to tackle a resurgent pandemic, sparking overnight riots in a Dutch city and a French island.

Europe is battling a fresh wave of infections and several countries have tightened curbs, with Austria on Friday announcing a national partial lockdown -- the most dramatic restrictions in Western Europe for months.

Other nations on the continent have resorted to less severe restrictions, often choosing to ban unvaccinated people from venues like restaurants and bars.

Some 10,000 people marched in Sydney and there were protests in other major Australian cities against vaccine mandates, which are not universal and have only been applied to certain occupations by state authorities.

"In Australia where a fanatical cult runs our health bureaucracies, they say it's ok (to vaccinate children)," right-wing politician Craig Kelly told the Sydney crowd to large cheers.

Violence marred protests on Friday in the Dutch port city of Rotterdam where police fired warning shots as protesters set fires. Two people were hospitalised with bullet wounds.

There was also arson and looting overnight in the French Caribbean island of Guadeloupe where a night curfew has been imposed.

Thousands gathered Saturday in central Vienna near the Chancellery, responding to a call by the far right FPÖ party, to denounce the new measures.

They held up banners decrying "Corona dictatorship" and slamming the "division of society".

"It's not normal that the government deprives us of our rights," said 42-year-old Katarina Gierscher, who travelled for six hours to get to the rally.

"The government wants to divide us. We must remain united."

From Monday, 8.9 million Austrians will not be allowed to leave home except to go to work, shop for essentials and exercise. The restrictions will initially last 20 days with an evaluation after 10 days.

Vaccination against Covid-19 in the Alpine nation will be mandatory from February 1 next year.

Organizers cancelled a Dutch protest on Saturday but a few hundred people still gathered in Amsterdam and a similar number marched through the southern city of Breda.

The group that cancelled the Amsterdam rally said on Facebook it acted because "last night, all hell broke loose in Rotterdam".

"The riots and extreme violence against police, riot police and firefighters last night in Rotterdam are horrifying," said Dutch security minister Ferd Grapperhaus.

The French overseas territory of Guadeloupe was also volatile overnight.

"The night was very turbulent," a police source told AFP, adding that live bullets had been fired at a police car.

Houthi Drone Attacks Target Several Saudi Cities

SANAA (Dispatches) - Yemen's Houthi fighters said they fired 14 drones at several Saudi cities on Saturday, including at Saudi Aramco facilities in Jeddah, with the Saudi state news agency reporting that the Saudi-led coalition attacked 13 targets in Yemen during a military operation against the group.

Yahya Saree, the Houthi military spokesman, said in a televised press conference on Saturday that the group had attacked Aramco's refineries in Jeddah as well as military targets in Riyadh, Jeddah, Abha, Jizan and Najran.

Saree said the attacks were in response to the escalation of "aggression" by the Saudi-led Arab coalition "and the continuation of its crimes and siege" of Yemen.

However, inaccuracies were reported in Saree's statement - it mentioned the wrong name for the international airport in Jeddah and the wrong location for King Khalid base, saying it was in Riyadh when it is actually in the south of the kingdom.

While there has been no comment from the Saudi-led coalition on the drone-attack claims, the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) said the coalition's operation in Yemen on Saturday hit weapons depots, air defence systems and drones' communication systems in the capital Sanaa as well as Saada and Marib provinces.

The Houthi group regularly announces rocket and drone attacks on Saudi territories, saying they are a reaction to the coalition's assault on Yemen.

Raiman Al Hamdani of the Yemen Policy Center told Al Jazeera that there are many reports "coming out now that Saudi Arabia does not want to continue its investment in the conflict in Yemen, but rather [it wants to] move its investment towards protecting its borders."

"So, the more the Houthis shoot drones or even claim - even though they may not have been attacking all these drones - it sounds good for them because it makes Saudi Arabia look a little weaker and it makes them look like they're in charge of the battle," Al Hamdani said.

The pact, aimed at maintaining political stability while the country recovers from the COVID-19 crisis, includes a promise by Ismail Sabri not to dissolve parliament before the end of July 2022.

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Malaysia PM's Coalition Wins Crucial State Vote

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The 12-day campaign saw UMNO contesting as part of its traditional Barisan Nasional coalition against another consisting of its chief allies: Islamist party PAS and Bersatu, led by Ismail Sabri's predecessor Muhyiddin Yassin, whose administration had collapsed due to infighting.

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Dutch Police Fire Warning Shots at Protesters

ROTTERDAM (Dispatches) - Dutch police fired warning shots, injuring several people, after rioters against a partial Covid lockdown torched a police car and hurled stones in Rotterdam.

Chaos broke out after a protest in the port city against the coronavirus restrictions and government plans to restrict access for unvaccinated people to some venues.

Dozens of people were arrested and seven people were injured in total, including police officers, during the nighttime rampage on one of Rotterdam's main shopping streets.

The Netherlands went back into Western Europe's first partial lockdown of the winter last Saturday with at least three weeks of curbs on restaurants, shops and sports.

Rotterdam mayor Ahmed Aboutaleb described the riots as an "orgy of violence".

"The police have felt the need to draw a police weapon in the end to defend themselves," he told reporters.

Police said in a statement that the demonstration that started on the Coolingsingel street "has resulted in riots. Fires have been set in several places. Fireworks were set off and police fired several warning shots."

"There are injuries related to the fired shots," they added. They did not give a number but public broadcaster NOS said two people were hurt.

Dutch media said several hundred protesters shouted slogans including "freedom", then threw

stones at police and firefighters and set fire to several electric scooters.

The situation had largely calmed later but the smoking wreckage of a burned-out police car and dozens of smashed bicycles littered the scene, an AFP reporter said.

Riot police carrying shields and batons were directing groups of people away from the area. Officers on horseback and in police vans patrolled the streets.

Police also cordoned off several scenes to comb for evidence, with a human finger visible on the ground at one of them, the AFP correspondent said.

"Most of the demonstrators are now gone. There only remain a few groups in a few places," police spokesman Jesse Brobbel told AFP.

Dutch police said units from around the country were brought in to "restore order" to Rotterdam.

"Dozens of arrests have now been made, it is expected that more arrests will follow. Around seven people have been injured, including on the side of the police," a police statement said.

Rotterdam authorities issued an emergency order banning people from gathering in the area "to maintain public order", while its main railway station was closed.

"This is a very serious situation which requires action with the highest priority," said the emergency order by the Rotterdam municipality.



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On Friday, small groups of protesters rallied in several neighbourhoods after prayers against the military coup, especially in North Khartoum, where people were seen building barricades across the roads. Security forces sporadically fired teargas to disperse them.

The United States on Friday condemned the deadly crackdown. "We call for those responsible for human rights abuses and violations, including the excessive use of force against peaceful protesters, to be held accountable," State Department spokesman Ned Price said in a statement.

Washington said Sudanese should "be free to voice their opinions without fear of violence", and called for those arrested since the takeover to be freed. "In advance of upcoming protests, we call on Sudanese authorities to use restraint and allow peaceful demonstrations," the U.S. added.

The Sudanese Professionals Association (SPA) have urged protesters to keep up their campaign, reporting Friday that security forces had "stormed homes and mosques" in North Khartoum.



Death Toll of Sudan Anti-Coup Protests Rises to 40

KHARTOUM (Dispatches) - The death toll in Sudan from anti-coup protests since last month's military takeover has risen to at least 40, medics said Saturday after a teenager shot in the head days earlier died.

Sudan's top general Abdel Fattah al-Burhan on October 25 declared a state of emergency, ousted the government and detained the civilian leadership.

The military takeover upended a two-year transition to civilian rule, drew wide international condemnation and punitive measures, as well as provoking people to take to the streets. Protests on Wednesday provoked the deadliest day so far, with the toll of those killed now standing at 16, according to medics.

"One martyr passed away... after he succumbed to severe wounds after being hit by live rounds to the head and the leg on November 17," the independent Central Committee of Sudanese Doctors said. He was aged 16, it added.

Most of those killed on Wednesday were in North Khartoum, which lies across the Nile river from the capital, medics said. Police officials deny using any live ammunition and insist they have used "minimum force" to disperse the protests.

They have recorded only one death, among demonstrators in North Khartoum.

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Kamranieh (\$3200)
220sq.m, 3bdrs
S/p, Sauna
J, balcony
marble fl
fireplace
pkg, & F.F

Shanon (adviser)

Zaferanieh Villa (\$8000)
1000sq.m
5bdrs, S/p
Sauna, J
green yard
Fully Furn

Parsian

Kamranieh Apt (\$3000)
260sq.m, 3bdrs, S/p, F.F

Darrous Apt (\$2700)
300sq.m, 4bdrs
S/pool, S, J, pkg
Fully Furn

Jordan (\$1800)
3bdrs, S/p, S, J, F.F

Feresachteh bldg (\$6000)
4storey, 15bdrs
enough pkg lots
Semi Furn

Shahrak-e-Gharb (\$1700)
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OPEC + Oil Output Below Target Again in Oct.

LONDON (Reuters) - OPEC+ compliance with oil production cuts stood at 116% in October, up from 115% the previous month, internal data seen by Reuters showed, indicating the group continues to produce less than its agreed targets.

Compliance for participating OPEC members in the group rose from 115% in September to 121% in October, the highest since May, the data showed.

Compliance for non-OPEC participating producers stood at 106% in October, down from 114% in September.



Japan PM Confirms Oil Reserves May Be Released to Curb Prices

TOKYO (Reuters) - Japan is considering releasing oil from its reserves for the first time to curb surging oil prices, Kyodo news agency reported on Saturday, as Prime Minister Fumio Kishida signalled his readiness to counter oil price hikes following a request from the United States.

However, Japan may struggle to justify such a move, as under its own laws the country can release reserves only at a time of supply constraints or natural disasters, but not to lower prices.

The U.S. administration of President Joe Biden, who faces falling approval ratings and higher gasoline prices, has pressed some of the world's biggest economies to consider releasing oil from their strategic reserves to quell high energy prices.

The requests include asking China for the first time to consider releasing stocks of crude.

"We're proceeding with consideration as to what we can do legally on the premise that Japan will coordinate with the United States and other countries concerned," Kishida told reporters.

"We want to draw a conclusion after thoroughly considering the situation each country faces and what Japan can do."

Japan has tapped its reserves in the past to deal with the fallout of the Gulf War in the early 1990s and the deadly earthquake and tsunami in 2011.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Hirokazu Matsuno said on Thursday that Tokyo was closely watching the impact of rising oil prices on the world's third-biggest economy.

"While urging oil-producing nations to ramp up oil output, we will strive to stabilise energy markets by coordinating with major consumer nations and international organisations such as IEA (the International Energy Agency)," Matsuno said.

Resource-poor Japan gets the vast majority of its oil from the Middle East. Recent surging oil prices and a weakening yen are driving up the cost of imports, dealing a double blow to a trade-dependent nation.

Kishida's government on Friday unveiled a record \$490 billion stimulus plan including measures to counter higher oil prices. It plans to subsidise oil refiners in the hope of capping wholesale gasoline and fuel prices to ease the pain to households and firms from rising oil costs.

"What's important is to urge oil-producing countries to ramp up oil production," Kishida said last month after discussions with cabinet ministers. "We will arrange concrete measures after confirming what industry sectors are being affected."

India's Reliance Ditches \$15b Saudi Aramco Deal

MUMBAI (Dispatches) - India's Reliance oil-to-telecoms giant is abandoning a \$15 billion deal for Saudi Aramco to buy a 20 per cent stake in its oil refining and chemicals unit, it said, as the firm pivots towards renewable energy.

The deal was announced more than two years ago by Reliance chairman Mukesh Ambani, Asia's richest man, and touted as the biggest foreign investment in the conglomerate's history.

But Reliance and other major Indian firms have since poured billions of dollars into green power as the government pushes to reduce its dependence on imported fossil fuels and as the country's cities are assailed by pollution.

Saudi Aramco is the world's biggest oil-producing company and vies with Apple for the title of the most valuable firm on the planet. Ambani in June this year pledged to invest \$10 billion in renewable energy over the next three years.

Reliance said in a late-night statement today that due to its "evolving" portfolio of businesses, the two firms had "mutually determined that it would be beneficial for both parties to re-evaluate the proposed investment".

It was withdrawing a legal application that would have paved the way for Saudi Aramco to take the stake in its oil-to-chemicals division, it added. The unit includes Reliance's refining, petrochemicals and fuels marketing businesses, among them the giant Jamnagar refinery in Gujarat, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's political powerbase.

Reliance recently announced it would build four "giga factories" at Jamnagar making solar panels, storage batteries, and hydrogen-related products to create one of the largest integrated renewable energy manufacturing facilities in the world.

The Mumbai-headquartered firm's rise was powered by its oil and petrochemicals businesses but in recent years it has diversified into areas ranging from telecoms to retail.

U.S. Investing in Africa Without Unsustainable Debt

DAKAR (Dispatches) - U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said today his country was investing in Africa without imposing unsustainable levels of debt, as he witnessed the signing of contracts worth more than \$1 billion in Senegal's capital Dakar.

The deals between four U.S. companies and Senegal are being billed as part of his country's pitch to help Africa build infrastructure with transparent and sustainable deals.

Careful not to directly criticize Chinese infrastructure projects, which have proliferated in the past decade, Blinken said during a visit to Nigeria on Friday that international deals

were too often opaque and coercive.

The United States is investing "without saddling the country with a debt that it cannot handle," he said during the signing ceremony with Senegal's Economy Minister Amadou Hott.

The deals will help improve infrastructure, create jobs and reinforce public safety and climate resilience, he added.

Senegal is the final stop on Blinken's three-country tour of Africa, following visits to Kenya and Nigeria, where he has attempted strike a new tone from the era of former President Donald Trump, who disparaged some African nations and barred travel from six of them.

UAE, Russia Form Task Force to Strengthen Co-Operation in Energy Sector



DUBAI (Dispatches) - The UAE and Russia signed a declaration of intent to form a joint task force aimed at strengthening co-operation in the energy sector, particularly in clean energy.

The two countries agreed to collaborate in developing the hydrogen sector to boost clean energy production. The declaration of intent was signed during a joint meeting at the Abu Dhabi International Petroleum Exhibition Conference.

"Similar partnerships could help to implement the plans for transitioning into clean energy and assist both countries in drafting projects and initiatives that support the Paris climate change agreement," said Sharif Al Olama, Undersecretary of for Energy and Petroleum Affairs in the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure.

The agreement comes as major oil producers such as the UAE, Saudi Arabia and Russia revealed their targets to achieve net zero emissions by the middle of the century.

These countries are expected to significantly boost their investments in clean energy to cut emissions and develop more sustainably. The UAE has pledged to invest Dh600 billion in clean energy over the next three decades as it seeks to reduce carbon emissions by 2050.

Currently, the Persian Gulf country has the world's cheapest solar power and is home to three of the largest solar complexes in the world. It is also the first Arab country to develop a peaceful nuclear energy program.

The UAE plans to become a key player in the hydrogen fuel industry and revealed a program called the UAE Hydrogen Leadership Roadmap at the Cop26 summit. The road map is expected to help it to use the clean fuel to assist its transition.

Under the latest deal, the UAE and Russia will develop artificial intelligence and digital services, exchange expertise and share best practice in the clean energy sector, including the use of hydrogen.

The declaration of intent "represents the strength of bilateral economic relations between the two countries", said Pavel Sorokin, Russia's Deputy Minister of Energy.

Russia expects to intensify co-operation with the UAE at all levels, he said. The two countries enjoy strong trade and investment ties, both in the energy and non-energy sectors.

Toyota Plans to Invest Billion of Dollars in Battery Plant in U.S.



TOKYO (Dispatches) - Toyota Motor is planning to invest billions of dollars in a battery plant to be built on the outskirts of Greensboro, North Carolina, as part of the automaker's efforts to ramp up output of electric vehicles in the U.S., according to people familiar with the matter.

The car manufacturer has not made a final decision, but it is expected to partner with Panasonic in the construction of the facility, said sources, who declined to be named as the discussions are private.

No formal commitment has been made and the plan could still evolve, they said.

While details of the ownership and operation of the plant are still unclear, it will likely be via the two Japanese companies' battery joint-venture Prime Planet Energy and Solutions, according to sources.

Toyota spokesman Hideaki Homma said nothing new had been decided regarding the company's battery investments in the U.S. Prime Planet spokesman Masato Tokuhisa said the company was "always considering what's best in regard to our production", without commenting on specifics. Panasonic spokeswoman Yayoi Watanabe declined to comment.

The factory would be the anchor tenant in an industrial park called the Greensboro-Randolph Megasite, which the Randolph County Economic Development Corporation describes as a 738-hectare parcel of former farmland rezoned for heavy industry and located near several interstate highways at the state's center. Representatives for the site couldn't be reached for comment.

The North Carolina plant would be the latest in a string of announcements by major carmakers laying the groundwork for the industry's pivot towards full electrification. Ford Motor and South Korea's SK Innovation said in September they will spend \$11.4 billion on a trio of battery factories and a vehicle assembly plant in Tennessee and Kentucky, while Jeep maker Stellantis plans a US plant with Samsung SDI, another Korean battery player.

Embraer Expects Latin America to Need 2,400 Aircraft by 2040

BRASILIA (Dispatches) - The Brazilian OEM Embraer expects the Latin American and Caribbean region to need 2,400 new aircraft by 2040, according to its latest market outlook. There's an excellent opportunity to introduce new aircraft types for greater fleet versatility in this region, said Embraer. Let's investigate further.

Latin American and the Caribbean has one of the most untapped markets in the world. Many countries average less than one trip per capita every year, making the region fertile for airlines to attract new travelers consistently.

Actually, that's one of the strategies of low-cost carriers in Latin America, creating a new market by taking passengers off the bus lines rather than competing with

legacy airlines. Embraer understands there are many underserved low and medium density cities with poor or no air service.

These markets are perfect for Embraer's portfolio of aircraft. The Brazilian OEM believes the turboprop and up to 150 seats jets segments could have up to 940 new deliveries in the next two decades. Latin America & the Caribbean account for 8.0% and 8.8% of the future deliveries of both segments worldwide until 2040, said Embraer.

In the last decade, the number of orders and deliveries has been growing slowly, and sometimes even flat, in the Latin American and Caribbean region, said Embraer.

"The failure to adequately develop air travel connectivity throughout Latin America has impeded economic prosperity in the region for decades. The need for more cohesive commercial airline networks will become more urgent post-pandemic."

Brazil has been the highlight in Latin America for the last ten years. The key to its growth was providing more reliable, convenient, and affordable air service to medium and small communities. According to Embraer, these markets have been eager to attract economic development. Nevertheless, their size did not justify the use of larger aircraft, and the answer has been the introduction of smaller-capacity jets. Therefore, the number of aircraft up to 120 seats in Brazil grew from 7% in 2008 to 31% in 2019.

Nonetheless, in other markets like Mexico, Colombia, and Argentina, the segment of jets up to 120 seats have lost its presence. In 2008, 59% of Mexico's fleet was composed of jets with up to 120 seats; now, the percentage is only 34%. In Colombia, the decrease was from 57% to 20% and from 24% to 17% in Argentina.

Despite its Latin American roots, Embraer is not the region's leading OEM. Nor is it Boeing. Airbus has nearly 60% of the unfilled orders in the Latin American region, thanks to its dominance among the low-cost carrier segment.

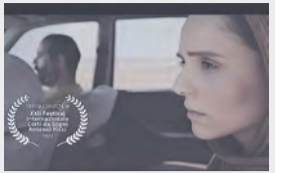


"Psycho" to Vie at Italian Film Festival

TEHRAN (MNA) - Iranian short film 'Psycho' by Mostafa Davtalab will take part in the international film festival in Italy dubbed as "Corti da Sogni - Antonio Ricci".

Written and directed by Iranian filmmaker Mostafa Davtalab, the Iranian short film "Psycho" has made it to International Festival "Corti da Sogni - Antonio Ricci" in Italy. This Italian festival is scheduled to be held from November 22 to 24, 2021.

"Psycho" will compete with 10 other films in the international short film section of the festival.



Ecuador Planning Bids for Oil Blocks, Refinery in 2022

QUITO (Dispatches) - Ecuador hopes to hold at least four auctions in 2022 to award oil blocks and the operation of Esmeraldas, its largest refinery, to private companies as it seeks to pull in billions of dollars in investments, Energy Minister Juan Carlos Bermeo said.

The blocks up for grabs are currently controlled by state-run oil company Petroecuador, but the government of President Guillermo Lasso hopes to generate \$19 billion in investments and boost oil production to 1 million barrels per day (bpd) by the end of his term in 2025.

The government plans to hold an auction for the offshore Amistad field, located in the Gulf of Guayaquil, where the successful bidder will assume the investment risk for developing and producing gas, the minister said.

Similarly, it hopes to award the Sacha field - one of Ecuador's biggest and which has current daily production of 64,000 bpd - to interested companies.

"The Sacha field has been producing for more than 40 years, with infrastructure that needs investment the government currently cannot give," Bermeo said, estimating that developing the field would need \$2.8 billion in investments.

The new oil contracts will allow companies to take split profits with the government, in order to spark interest in the private sector.

Previous contracts simply paid companies for supplying operating services.

The government hopes to attract \$2.7 billion in investments for the Esmeraldas refinery, which has a capacity to process 110,000 barrels of oil a day (bpd).

"We have everything ready ... we have the contract model ready and we can hopefully launch this process in December this year," the minister said.



Another oil bidding round includes blocks in the Amazon which have high potential but face strong opposition from local indigenous communities. Ecuador currently produces around 485,000 bpd, mostly from Petroecuador.

British, the Godfather...

FROM PAGE 1

Unfortunately the passiveness of the international bodies like the United Nations and indifference of the Western states have emboldened the Zionists to continue their crimes while the world is watching their atrocities.



On Thursday the United Nations has overwhelmingly adopted a resolution, which grants Palestinians permanent sovereignty over their natural resources in the Israeli-occupied territories, including East al-Quds.

The Economic and Financial Committee of the UN General Assembly, also known as the Second Committee, endorsed a draft resolution entitled "Permanent Sovereignty of the Palestinian People in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East al-Quds, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources" by 157-7 votes, with 14 abstentions.

But we can realize by seeing the result of this resolution that although majority of the world supports Palestinians, the U.S. and UK are the main supporters and godfathers of the Zionists as they can veto any resolution against the occupying regime. So such resolutions are waste of time and energy and the world needs a united but effective stance to resolve the Palestinian issue and pushing back the Zionists.

As long as the West's support from the Zionists continues, the Palestinian issue will not be resolved and Palestinians themselves should fight for their lands and they should not wait for any help from the Western-oriented bodies which are under influence of political and financial power of the West.

There are only two solutions for this saga: one is diplomatic and peaceful which is to hold a referendum and to observe the public opinion and the second solution is to fight till dead to save the lands from the hands of usurpers and currently it seems Palestinians have no option but to continue their intifada (Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation) and struggle against the Zionists unless the West and the Zionists come to their senses for choosing the diplomatic and peaceful solution.

1,400 Iranian-Made...

FROM PAGE 1

"Our Azerbaijani friends have invested in the construction of a terminal in Astara of Iran, part of which has been completed while some other parts are remaining, which is going to be discussed over in these negotiations to complete the terminal. We will also hold a meeting in Astara of Azerbaijan."

"We will reactivate the project of the Nakhchivan-Mashhad railway. Road transport and road transit cooperation is one of the most important negotiations of this commission," Qasemi added. "Last year we exported 400 cars and this year, fortunately, it has increased to 1400 cars," the Iranian minister said.

"Also, by launching joint production of Iranian cars in Azerbaijan, we can export cars to other countries in the region through Azerbaijan," he also said.

He further noted that there are problems in the field of transportation, adding that the issue of tolls and transportation costs have been witnessed recently while in the past transit was smooth and normal."

Qasemi also expressed hope that the transit and transportation return to normal on the Azerbaijani soil.

He added, "In the past, we had oil and products relations with Azerbaijan, which we will continue."

He recalled, "We have ongoing talks about energy and power. Iran has high technology in other industries such as automobiles. In addition, Iran Khodro Corporation is ready to make trucks and buses."

He also said, "Iranians have the capability in the construction, urban development, road construction fields and other types of development projects in Azerbaijan, for that, we will cooperate with Azerbaijan to implement technical and engineering projects in the country."

The Iranian minister further pointed out, the Iranian and Azeri sides are seeking to materialize the trade target between the two countries, which will be signed by the joint commission of the two countries in the future.

Mahan Air...

FROM PAGE 1

Last month, gas stations in Iran came under cyberattack, targeting the online fuel delivery service in the country.

Before that, another cyberattack had hit the systems of the Islamic Republic of Iran Railways.

Iran's Supreme Council of Cyberspace said last month that the cyberattacks were possibly carried out from abroad.

Earlier, Fars News published personal information it had obtained about a senior Israeli officer who was engaged in cyberattacks against Iranian targets.

Global Remittances To Set Record in 2021



RIYADH (Dispatches) - Global remittances are set to reach a record level in 2021, fueled by a significant increase in transfers to Latin America and migrants headed for the US, according to forecasts from the World Bank.

Remittances to low and middle-income countries are projected to grow 7.3 percent this year from 2020, the Washington-based development lender said in a report.

Transfers to Latin America and the Caribbean are forecast to have soared 21.6 percent, spurred by factors including concern about Covid-19, hurricanes, improvement in the American economy and a jump in the number of migrants traveling to the US.

Other main drivers include recovery in employment levels and fiscal and social assistance programs in hosting countries, particularly the US, the World Bank said.

Remittances likely increased 9.7 percent for the Middle East and North Africa, 8 percent for South Asia, 6.2 percent for sub-Saharan Africa and 5.3 percent for Europe and Central Asia.

In East Asia and the Pacific, remittances are estimated to have fallen by 4 percent.

The global increase is bigger than the 2.6 percent that the World Bank forecast in May after a drop of 1.6 percent in 2020 — far less than the 20 percent tumble originally predicted, according to Bloomberg.

In 2022, remittances are expected to grow at 4.4 percent, mainly due to a weaker growth outlook for the U.S., according to the report.

1% Rise in Female Employment Could Add \$11.3b in Pakistan GDP

ISLAMABAD (Dispatches) - Simply a 1% increase in female employment would help the economy grow 0.31% further, revealed a study by the South Asian Network on Economic Modeling (Sanem).

The potential of adding \$11.3 billion to the GDP remained untapped as the female participation rate in the labor market is stagnant for the last decade due to the burden of 81.4% of the unpaid domestic work.

In a webinar titled "Integration of Care Economy in Policy Formulation" organised jointly by Sanem and Manusher Jonno Foundation to unveil the study on Saturday, experts and economists called for finding a way to evaluate the value of unpaid domestic work.

Economics Professor Dr Sayema Haque Bidisha, of the University of Dhaka and research director at Sanem, said in a keynote speech women spend a large portion of their time in unpaid care work.

"The unaccounted work should be recognised and given the dignity to reduce domestic violence, ensuring women's participation in formal works," she added.

Professor Bidisha said the female youths of the country aged from 15-29 years spend 5.93 hours of their day at unpaid care work.

"Women who do not participate in the formal labor market spend 6.38 hours on average, in household activities whereas women in the formal labor market are spending an average of 3 hours daily," she further said.



She said employed males are spending only 1.28 hours for family work while the male not in the labor market is spending 1.68 hours of the day on average for family work.

While Bangladesh is passing through the window of demographic dividend, having half of the population working in unpaid care

work for such long hours is a barrier to their economic opportunities, she added.

Referring to the study, Professor Bidisha said women's contribution to unpaid care work equals around 40% of the total GDP of Bangladesh if it is given a monetary value.

But the recognition and reduction of the burden of the women's unpaid care work are more important than assigning a monetary value to it, she added.

She said the burden of an additional 1 hour of unpaid family work would reduce the probability of female labor participation in Bangladesh by 1.8 percentage points. Having children lower than the age of five years reduces the probability of women's labor force participation by 2.4%.

She urged a care economy model which shows direct and indirect means. Under the direct means, the government can facilitate various training programs and can incentivize the private sector through fiscal policies like tax rebates. Under the indirect means, cash transfer, child care voucher, community-based arrangements for the poorer population and subsidized daycare centers.

Taliban Claim Collecting \$270m Revenue in Afghanistan

KABUL (Dispatches) - The Taliban's interim administration in Afghanistan announced on Saturday that they have collected over \$270 million in revenue since taking power in August.

Ahmad Wali Haqmal, the spokesman for the Finance Ministry, told a news conference in Kabul that revenue collection is picking up momentum with each passing day. Without going into detail, he identified customs and other taxes as the primary sources of revenue.

According to the local Hasht-e-Subh daily, the previous government was generating a lowest average of about 22 billion afghanis (\$235 million) revenue a month even during the coronavirus pandemic when businesses were down.

The Taliban official added a regular mechanism would be put in place to pay all government civil servants the unpaid salary for the past three months in one go. He added that pending pensions would be paid to all retirees.

Charging the previous government of corruption, the Taliban official said over 60,000 pensioners have not been paid their dues over a year.

The cash-strapped country, which has been ravaged by 20 years of war, is now in a catastrophic economic crisis, with some people selling assets and begging for bread to survive.

On Aug. 17, two days after the Taliban seized control of Kabul, the U.S. government froze about \$9.5 billion of Afghanistan's central bank assets. Many donors and international organizations, including the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, have stopped making payments to the interim Taliban regime.

The UN forecasts that around 22.8 million people or over half of Afghanistan's population, will face severe food problems. Afghanistan is facing famine, the Human Rights Watch warned earlier this month urging the UN, and international financial institutions to urgently adjust existing restrictions and sanctions affecting the country's economy and banking sector.

Chabahar Sees...

FROM PAGE 1

Since September this year, Russia has sent 8 shipments to Chabahar comprising, among other things, 5.3 lakh tons of wheat.

In the past 2 months, the port is also said to have facilitated exports to UAE, Kuwait and, for the first time, to Bangladesh. The Indian government sees it as a significant achievement. As per latest government data, the port has handled shipments and transshipments from Russia, Brazil, Thailand, Germany, Ukraine, Qatar, Australia, Kuwait, Romania, Bangladesh and UAE. Commodities mostly handled included wheat, maize, barley, corn, sugar and livestock.

Iran is also learnt to have also agreed "in principle" to allow Afghan traders to export fresh and dried fruits to India via the Dogarun-Chabahar route which was shut after the Taliban takeover.

In the first week of October 2021, Iran's Tasnim News had reported that Tehran had

agreed to evaluate Taliban's proposals for the transportation of Afghanistan's trade cargoes and export of fresh and dried fruits to India via the Chabahar route. It reported Iran and the Taliban had agreed to maintain round-the-clock operation at the Islam Qala-Dogarun border crossing and take practical measures to improve and develop the land routes at the border crossing.

India had earlier proposed the inclusion of the port in the International North South Transport Corridor linking Mumbai to Moscow.

Last year, the port had facilitated transshipments of Afghanistan's dried fruits to Tianjin Port, China and of Iran's aquatic products to Thailand. Indian authorities have in the past described these shipments as significant milestones for Chabahar in facilitating trade between Central Asian countries and Afghanistan with countries in South and Southeast Asia and the Far East "by establishing container transportation services".

Boutier Leads LPGA Tour Championship

MIAMI (AFP) - Celine Boutier fired six of her eight birdies on the back nine on Friday on the way to a second straight seven-under 65 and a four-shot lead in the U.S. LPGA Tour Championship. France's Boutier, coming off a confidence-building seven-under effort on Thursday, was even par through eight holes after a birdie at Tiburon Golf Club in Naples, Florida. She caught fire with back-to-back birdies at nine and 10, then added two more birdies at 12 and 13 -- where she chipped in from in front of the green.

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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McIlroy Back On Top in Dubai

DUBAI (AFP) - A gutsy shot by Rory McIlroy on the par-3 17th hole helped him wrest back the lead after the third round of the DP World Tour Championship, the season-ending event of the European Tour. McIlroy faced an impossible-looking chip shot from the rocks in the hazard. A penalty drop looked like the best option, but the Northern Irishman decided to take on the very risky shot, and nearly holed the return chip thereafter for a par.

Watford Infract More Misery on Man Utd

LONDON (Dispatches) - Manchester United slumped to another damaging defeat for manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer in losing 4-1 at Watford on Saturday as Chelsea thrashed Leicester to extend their Premier League lead to six points.

Solskjaer has clung onto his job despite a run of just one win in seven Premier League games to slip to seventh, 12 points adrift of the leaders.

A managerial change made an instant impact for Aston Villa as late goals from Ollie Watkins and Tyrone Mings beat Brighton 2-0 to give Steven Gerrard a winning start to his coaching career in the Premier League.

However, Newcastle slipped to the bottom of the table in the absence of their new boss Eddie Howe, who tested positive for coronavirus on Friday, as the Magpies were held 3-3 at home by Brentford. United's hierarchy has remained loyal to Solskjaer despite intense pressure in recent weeks to make a change.

But even their resolve will be tested after a fifth defeat in seven league games against the struggling Hornets.

Watford could even afford to miss an early penalty twice as David de Gea saved from Ismaila Sarr and Kiko Femenia's follow-up from the first spot-kick was ruled out for encroaching.

Joshua King worked under Solskjaer in the United youth ranks and did his old boss no favours by converting a low cross on 28 minutes to give the home side a deserved lead.

Sarr made amends for his penalty misses just before the break by drilling home from a narrow angle.

Solskjaer responded by introducing Donny Van de Beek at half-time and his refusal to give the Dutchman more opportunities will be questioned after he made an instant impact to turn home Cristiano Ronaldo's header across goal.

However, just as the visitors were building momentum, captain Harry Maguire's miserable season suffered another setback when he was sent off for a second bookable offence.

Joao Pedro and Emmanuel Dennis rubbed more salt into United's wounds in stoppage time.

After a tough Champions League trip to Villarreal on Tuesday, United travel to the league leaders Chelsea next weekend with the question again whether Solskjaer will still be in charge.

Djokovic Backs WTA Threat to Cut Ties With China

TURIN (AFP) - Novak Djokovic said on Friday that he backed the WTA's threat to cut lucrative business ties with China if tennis star Peng Shuai remains unaccounted for and her sexual assault allegations against a top Communist Party official are not investigated.

Talking to reporters after beating Cameron Norrie at the ATP Finals in Turin, men's world number one Djokovic offered his support to Women's Tennis Association boss Steve Simon, who said Thursday that he is willing to lose hundreds of millions of dollars worth of Chinese business to ensure Peng's safety.

"I hope that she's found and that she's healthy and that everything is fine, at least the worst is avoided. I support the statement of the WTA as an organisation and also their president absolutely," said Djokovic, a 20-time Grand Slam champion.

"The whole tennis community needs to back her up and her family and make sure that she is safe and sound. Because if you have tournaments on Chinese soil without resolving this situation it would be a little bit strange, so I understand why the WTA has taken a stance like that."

Former Wimbledon and French Open doubles champion Peng alleged on Chinese social media earlier this month that former vice-premier Zhang Gaoli had "forced" her into sex and they had an on-off relationship.

The claims were quickly scrubbed from the Twitter-like Weibo platform and the 35-year-old has not been seen since.

Her disappearance has sparked a flurry of calls for China to reveal her whereabouts, including from women's tennis icons Serena Williams and Naomi Osaka.

The Professional Tennis Players Association, co-founded by Djokovic, said they would be willing to take action if verifiable evidence of Peng's safety wasn't given by China.

"We must stand together, whether it's a male or female player, whether it's one player or more players who are experiencing something like this, it's necessary and kind of logical that we stand behind our peers in trying to give support in one way or another," Djokovic added.



The Blues were dominant as they toyed with Leicester in a 3-0 win despite still missing record signing Romelu Lukaku through injury.

Antonio Rudiger's header opened the scoring before N'Golo Kante came back to haunt his old side with a brilliant run and strike from the edge of the box.

Substitute Christian Pulisic put the seal on a brilliant all-round performance from the European champions, who also had two goals ruled out for offside.

"It's a good away game, an excellent result," said Chelsea boss Thomas Tuchel. "We knew we needed to be strong from first to last minute. This is what we did."

Gerrard got off to a dream start at Villa Park as his new side moved four points clear of the relegation zone. England internationals Watkins and Mings produced stunning finishes in the final six minutes to edge a nervy contest against Brighton.

Howe had to watch a thriller at St. James' Park from a hotel in isolation. The Magpies twice had to come from behind after Ivan Toney cancelled out Jamaal Lascelles' opener for the home side.

Rico Henry put Brentford in front before the much-maligned Joelinton levelled. Lascelles then netted at the wrong end, but Allan Saint-Maximin salvaged a point for Howe's men that does little for their bid to beat relegation as they are five points adrift of safety.

Norwich also got a bounce from a new manager as they moved off the foot of the table in Dean Smith's first match in charge thanks to a 2-1 win over Southampton.



LEVI (AFP) - Slovakia's Petra Vlhova was faster than American star Mikaela Shiffrin on both runs as she won the World Cup slalom at Levi in Finland.

Shiffrin was a narrow second in the first run, but came third on the second descent through the tight 65 gates in temperatures that had plunged well below freezing.

Winning by 0.31sec Vlhova, the overall World Cup champion, racked up her 21st victory. Vlhova and Shiffrin have won 33 of the last 36 slaloms raced over the past four years.

Germany's Lena Duerr sneaked onto the podium in third after outpacing early season revelation, Slovenia's Andreja Slokar, who was third in the first run.

A three-time overall World Cup champion, Shiffrin finished fourth behind Vlhova for last season's big crystal globe after focusing purely on slalom and giant slalom.

The 26-year-old from Colorado has won the slalom at the Finnish ski station of Levi four times in her career but is recovering from a back injury she picked up in Soelden.

UAE Wants to Buy Two Brazilian Soccer Teams



BRASILEIRÃO ASSAI 2019

Fakhar Leads Pakistan To Series Win Over Bangladesh

DHAKA (AFP) - Pakistan's Fakhar Zaman struck an unbeaten half-century as his side made light work of beating Bangladesh by eight wickets in their second Twenty20 international in Dhaka, taking an unassailable 2-0 series lead.

Fakhar hit 57 off 51 balls and put on 85 runs with Mohammad Rizwan (39) for the second wicket, guiding Pakistan to 109-2 in 18.1 overs.

Shaheen Afridi and Shadab Khan earlier claimed two wickets each to help the visitors restrict struggling Bangladesh to 108-7 after the home side opted to bat first.

Pakistan skipper Babar Azam fell for just one in the third over, dragging a Mustafizur Rahman delivery onto his stumps.

But Fakhar -- who smashed two fours and three sixes but was dropped by Saif Hassan on 26 -- and Rizwan denied Bangladesh further momentum with their calm approach.

Aminul finally dismissed Rizwan as Saif took the catch at extra cover, but it came too late as Fakhar soon sealed the contest and the series with a single through cover off part-timer Saif.

"The series win is a team effort," said Babar. "The boys responded well as a unit and we carried forward the momentum" from the World Cup.

Bangladesh captain Mahmudullah Riyad rued their batting towards the end of their innings. "I and Shanto (Najmul) were trying to get a partnership but we couldn't capitalise in the end overs. For a team like us, we need a set batter to be there at the end but it didn't happen today," he said.

Pakistan dominated the match right from the start after dismissing both Bangladeshi openers in the first two overs.

Shaheen Afridi went for a golden duck to Saif, and Mohammad Naim fell to Mohammad Wasim for two edging to Fakhar at slip, as Bangladesh were reduced to 5-2.



Medvedev Strolls Past Ruud to Make Turin Final

TURIN (Dispatches) - Daniil Medvedev booked his place in the final of the ATP Finals after cruising to a straight-sets 6-4, 6-2 win over Casper Ruud.

World number two Medvedev will face either Novak Djokovic or Alexander Zverev in the final at the Pala Alpitour in Turin after breezing to victory over Norwegian Ruud.

Winner of the Finals last year, the 25-year-old has now won nine straight matches at the season-ending tournament and looked unruffled as he dealt with eighth seed Ruud, whose positive debut Finals comes to an end.

"It was a great match because I felt that watching Casper this year he's one of the smartest players on the tour," said Medvedev.

"It's a tough match no matter the score and I'm pleased that I managed to break him from time to time and this made the difference today."

Medvedev dropped just five points on his own serve on his way to claiming the first set, three of those coming in game four after he had already broken Ruud in the previous game.

The fact that the Russian did not have to defend a single break point highlighted the easy dominance he held over Ruud.

Medvedev ended Ruud's resistance when he broke serve at the third attempt in a long game five of the second set, a 13-point exchange which put him in the perfect position to close out the match.

He then cruised through his service game to make it 4-2 in the set and again piled the pressure on Ruud in the next game, eventually breaking again to set up an easy service game and close out the match.

