

The Elysee Palace Said French President Emmanuel Macron Will Meet President Ebrahim Raisi On the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York and Discuss Different Issues

IRAN NEWS

On the Eve of Sacred Defense Week, a Group of the Veterans of The Sacred Defense and the Families of the Martyrs Will Meet With the Leader of the Islamic Revolution Today (Wednesday)

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WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 21, 2022 - SHAHRIVAR 30, 1401

2 DOMESTIC

Tehran, Doha Vow to Expand Mutual Ties



> SEE PAGE 2

3 DOMESTIC

ECO Members Urged To Use their Trade Exchange Potentials



> SEE PAGE 3

4 INTERNATIONAL

Zelenskiy Vows No Let-Up as Ukrainian Troops Cross Key River



> SEE PAGE 4

8 SPORTS

Tagovailoa Shines As Dolphins Rally Past Ravens



> SEE PAGE 8

Iran to Buy, Swap 15 mcm Per Day of Russia Gas Via Azerbaijan

TEHRAN (PressTV) - Iran will import Russian gas through pipelines from Azerbaijan under arrangements agreed in a major deal between Tehran and Moscow two months ago, according to a report published in the local media.

The semi-official Fars news agency said in a Monday report that Iran will buy some 9 million cubic meters (mcm) per day of gas from Russia and will take delivery of another 6 mcm per day under a swap deal for the purpose of delivery to Russian gas customers in the south of Iran.

The report cited data from an internal report of the Iranian Oil Ministry and said the purchase and swap arrangements are related to a \$40 billion deal signed in July between Iran's state oil company the NIOC and Russia's Gazprom.

Earlier reports had indicated that Iran could take delivery of Russian gas from Turkmenistan for the purpose of swap delivery to Turkey and Iraq.

However, the new data suggest Iran will use the 15 mcm per day of gas supply from Russia to strengthen its domestic supply network in the densely populated regions in the northwest while being able to export increased amounts of natural gas to Turkey and Iraq through pipelines in the west of the country. **See Page 7**

Iran Ready to Send Fuel Ships to Lebanon

TEHRAN (IFP) - The Iranian embassy in Beirut has said that Tehran is ready to send fuel ships to Lebanon within one or two weeks to help the Mediterranean country run its power plants.

"Ships loaded with Iranian fuel are ready to sail towards Lebanon within a week or two and dock at any ports specified by the Lebanese side," the Iranian embassy in Beirut told Al-Manar TV on Monday.

The report added that a Lebanese delegation has been in Tehran since last week to discuss bilateral energy cooperation, namely Iran's provision of fuel to Lebanon, construction of new power plants, and fixing of electrical power networks.

The Lebanese delegation's visit to Tehran comes as Lebanese Prime Minister Najib Mikati and Energy Minister Walid Fayad have earlier agreed to fuel deliveries from Iran, the report added.

In a meeting with Iranian ambassador to Lebanon Mojtaba Amani last week, Fayad said an Iranian fuel delivery, planned to reach the Arab country in the near future, will be vital to Beirut's plans to reform its electricity supply system. **See Page 7**

Hegemony Culture Trying to Prevent Other States From Progress



IRAN NEWS POLITICAL DESK

TEHRAN - President Seyed Ebrahim Raisi says that the culture of hegemony sees its benefits in preventing other countries from development and by creating an unfair global order tries to prevent other countries from progress and development.

"Human knowledge takes pride in Iranian scientists. Iran's history of civilization started with science and knowledge and was elevated by the Islamic culture which based its pillars on heavenly thoughts. The Holy religion of Islam is constantly inviting human beings to education with the aim of administration of justice and expansion of spirituality," President Raisi said on Monday afternoon local time in New York at the Transforming Education Summit organized by UNESCO.

"Progress and development are among the major concerns of all countries. Although on different occasions countries have implemented international recommendations and prescriptions in this regard, concurrently some serious challenges, too, have emerged for the indigenous and national cultures of the countries of the world," he added.

"We believe that in order to face educational challenges, we need to identify their root causes. We have been fundamentally critical of the international bodies' reading and interpretation of the global contemporary history and their classification of issues. If our cause is to create a dignified life and a safe world, we should refrain from providing a unilateral gathering of globalization, and instead, emphasize the role-playing of all parties within the framework of multilateral approaches," the Iranian President noted.

He went on to say, "The Islamic Republic of Iran believes that development, education, family, justice, and spirituality should not be delved into as separate unrelated entities. Any initiative regarding the development and satisfaction of human needs should also include educational and moral requirements as well. At the same time, the family should be placed at the center of the initiative. Of course, when we say family, we mean it in the real sense of the word and not self-made versions of a family which lead to the extinction of humanity. Development, when not accompanied by spirituality and ethics, will not be sustainable and will lead to degeneration of the society. Cultural dominance and knowledge blockade are the worst types of oppression and injustice."

"Unfortunately, the culture of hegemony sees its benefits in preventing other countries from development and by creating an unfair global order, misusing the international bodies and setting up their own cultural and thought systems try to prevent other countries from progress and development," Raisi underlined. **See Page 7**

ViewPoint Iran, Land of Lions And Brave Fighters

Iranians have always through the history proved that they are peace-loving nation and they will not start any war but if they are attacked by the aliens, they will show their guts and bravery and will bring down the enemies to their knees and after the victory of the Islamic Revolution, this spirit of bravery and resistance against bullies and invasions has been reinforced through belief in the Islamic values.

On Thursday September 22, the Islamic Republic of Iran will start marking the Sacred Defense Week by holding some military parades, exhibitions and programs. The Sacred Defense Week is an Iranian annual commemoration of the 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq War. It is marked by different programs to remind the new generation of the braveries of sons of this territory in the past. It is set by the Iranian calendar and begins on Shahrivar 31, September 22.

In 1980 and when the Islamic Revolution was just strengthening its foothold in Iran and the country was gradually being cleared of the former regime's elements, it was invaded by Iraq Dictator Saddam Hussein Forces. The Iraqi dictator tore up the 1975 Algerian agreement by appearing in front of Iraqi television cameras, announcing the start of the Ba'athist regime's invasion of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

He thought that Iran was in weak and shaky position because of the revolution and therefore he tried to expand Iraq's land and seize some southern areas of Iran but he never thought of an all-out resistance and fight from Iranians.

At that time, Iraqi forces were reinforced by the Western arms and fighter jets and Iran was alone and it had to fight with its normal arms existing in the country. While Iraq used to get sophisticated weapons, Iran just resorted to the belief of its brave fighters like its 13-year old Martyr Hossein Fakhmideh to repel attacks.

But Iranians through unity and bravery repelled the Iraqi forces and they forced Iraqis to accept the UN Resolution and it was just a beginning for the victory of Islamic Revolution and collapse of Saddam Hussein.

Now after almost for decades since that imposed war, the Islamic Republic of Iran has turned into a powerful country in the region and it is now self-sufficient in its weapons and no country dares to attack it.

Consecutive achievements on military section like producing different kinds of missiles especially the ballistic ones as well as amazing progress in manufacturing different types of drones and achievements have put the country in a position that even big powers do not dare to have ill-wishes against the country. **See Page 7**

U.S. Adds Iranian Cargo Planes To Export Violation List

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) - The administration of U.S. President Joe Biden has added three cargo airplanes operated by Iranian airlines to a list of aircraft which are claimed to have violated U.S. export controls as part of Washington's sanctions against Moscow over the Russian military operation in Ukraine.

The U.S. Commerce Department said on Monday that three Boeing 747 airplanes operated by Mahan Air, Qeshm Fars Air, and Iran Air were added to the violation list over what it claimed to be "flying and transporting goods" to Russia.

"Using commercially available data, the Commerce Department's Bureau of Industry and Security identified planes operated by Mahan Air, Qeshm Fars Air, and Iran Air flying and transporting goods, including electronic items, to Russia in apparent violation of the Commerce Department's stringent export controls on Russia," the department said.

There are now a total of 183 aircraft on the list identified for apparent violations of the export controls, the department added.

Biden has repeatedly dismissed former President Donald Trump administration's "maximum pressure" campaign against Iran as a failure but he has been pursuing and even expanding the same failed policy in practice. **See Page 7**

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No Chance of Iran Deal Breakthrough at UN

NEW YORK (Dispatches) - EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell tamped down expectations of a breakthrough on the Iran nuclear deal at the United Nations General Assembly this week, saying he does not believe a meeting with Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi would be productive.

In an interview with POLITICO on the sidelines of the General Assembly, Borrell said the EU has been pushing all parties "to finally run the last 10 meters" in the process to restore the 2015 nuclear agreement. But he said he did not predict any major progress soon on this issue amid the ongoing EU-led negotiations.

"For the past three months, the interaction, the multistep process was converging. The activity between the parties was improving the result. But in the last weeks, this was not the case. Now we are at a stalemate. Now we are stopped," Borrell said. "The past proposal, the last request from the Iranian side, was not exactly pushing for an agreement and if we had to say today if something happened this week, I would say 'I don't think so.'"

The landmark 2015 deal was negotiated under Barack Obama's administration in the U.S., along with the other permanent members of the U.N. Security Council - China, France, Russia and the United Kingdom - plus Germany, with facilitation by the EU. It lifted sanctions on Iran in exchange for curbs on its nuclear program. But it hit a roadblock in 2018 when then U.S. President Donald Trump pulled out of the agreement. Behind the scenes, negotiations to revive the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), as the deal is officially known, have been taking place sporadically for roughly a year and a half. But a "final text" negotiated by the EU last month has yet to be endorsed by Iran or the U.S.

When asked by POLITICO if he would be prepared to meet Raisi, who is also in New York for the General Assembly, Borrell noted he had traveled to Tehran in June to try to unblock the process: "They promised me, they went to Doha. They went to Vienna." He added: "I don't think it's something that can be solved meeting the president."

The EU's Iran point-man, Enrique Mora, is also attending the U.N. General Assembly, while U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken too is in New York, though the State Department has played down any possibility of a face-to-face meeting with the Iranian representatives.

Majlis to Push for Morality Police Reforms

TEHRAN (IFP) - After the recent death of a young Iranian woman caused a huge uproar nationwide, the speaker of the Iranian parliament has tasked the Domestic Affairs Committee of the legislature with investigating and improving the morality police's performance.

Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf expressed condolences over the death of Mahsa Amini who went into a coma after being arrested by the police on Tuesday for her 'improper hijab' and died on Friday.

Police say she had a heart attack while in custody.

Mahsa was on a visit to the capital Tehran from the Western Iranian city of Saqez, in Kurdistan Province, with her family when she was taken to the morality police headquarters 'to get instructions on hijab'.

Ghalibaf stressed that the Iranian parliament would look into different aspects of Mahsa's death to prevent a repeat of similar incidents.

Tehran, Doha Vow to Expand Mutual Ties

TEHRAN (PressTV) - Iranian and Qatari foreign ministers have talked about the latest developments in the course of Vienna talks on the revival of the 2015 nuclear deal and explored avenues for further expansion of relations between the two Muslim countries.

Qatari Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani said in a tweet that he was pleased to discuss the fate of the nuclear deal, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), with his Iranian counterpart Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian.

The two foreign ministers met in New York on Monday ahead of the 77th United Nations General Assembly session.

"Pleased to meet Amirabdollahian, Foreign Minister of #Iran, to discuss ways to strengthen bilateral relations & the latest developments in the negotiations to return to the Joint Action Plan with the US Looking forward to our cooperative efforts in this regard. #UNGA77," Sheikh Mohammed tweeted.

Earlier in the day, Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman said experts from Tehran and the remaining parties to the JCPOA - Russia, China, France, the



United Kingdom and Germany - may convene a meeting in New York on the sidelines of the forthcoming 77th UNGA session, to discuss the removal of Washington's anti-Iran sanctions.

Meanwhile, Amirabdollahian also met separately with his counterparts from South Korea and Lebanon, discussing issues of mutual interest.

In the meeting with South Korean Foreign Minister Park Jin in New York on Monday, Amirabdollahian held talks about a host of topics, including ways to boost bilateral relations between Tehran and Seoul in diverse fields.

The Iranian foreign minister also met with his Lebanese counterpart Abdallah Bou Habib. During the talks, the top diplomats exchanged views about various issues ranging from bilateral ties between Iran and Arab countries to the most important developments in the Middle East region and the world.

Iran Exports Dates To Over 85 States

TEHRAN (PressTV) - Iran exports dates to more than 85 countries, including in Europe, despite the cruel sanctions which affect most sectors of the economy, chairman of the agricultural committee of Iran Chamber of Cooperatives says.

According to Arsalan Qassemi, Iran's date export is global, thanks to the quality and production of different varieties of the sweet fruit in the country.

"Iran occupies the first place in the world in terms of the number of date varieties, which is due to the diversity of climates in this region," he told Tasnim news agency.

Medjool dates, chiefly grown in southeastern Kerman and Sistan and Baluchestan, are the most suitable for export. With their deep amber-brown color and crinkly skin, Medjool dates are one of the most popular, known for their large size, soft texture and rich flavor.

However, the most coveted and cultivated dates in the domestic market are Kabkab and Mozafati varieties.

Qassemi said most dates are consumed inside the countries that produce them. For example, Iran exported 320,000 tons of dates last year, and the rest of the product estimated at around 1.1 million tones was consumed inside.

The main target markets of Iran for exporting dates are Pakistan, India, Afghanistan, Turkey and UAE.

"Consuming dates has many benefits for the human body. In other words, 100 grams of dates meet 20% of a person's daily need for potassium," he said.

"The date has two grams of protein and several types of antioxidants. It is a good source of manganese, copper, vitamin B6, iron and magnesium."

In December 2019, UNESCO included date palm trees and traditions associated with them on its list of the world's important intangible cultural heritage in recognition of their pivotal role in the cultures of the Middle East.

In the nomination, the date was noted for its role in sustaining societies in hot and dry parts of the world.

The cultivation of date palms goes back to the dawn of civilization in Mesopotamia and prehistoric Egypt. Some researchers say Iranians were probably the first nation to use the date as a food and for medicine.

Egypt is the world's biggest producer of the fruit followed by Iran, Saudi Arabia, Yemen and Iraq. In 2020, Tunisia was the largest exporter of dates worldwide, with exports amounting to \$311 million, followed by Iran with exports worth about \$296.5 million.

However, changes in temperature are decimating crops while in Iran's case, US sanctions are dealing a double blow. The production of dates in Iran, Qassemi said, has declined from 1.3 million tonnes to less than 1.1 million tons in recent years.

Sanctions, Terrorism, War Results of Unilateralism

TEHRAN (MNA) - President Seyed Ebrahim Raisi described sanctions, terrorism, and war as manifestations of unilateralism and said, "Unilateralism causes suffering in human societies".

Raisi made the remarks on Monday upon his arrival in New York to take part in the 77th annual meeting of the United Nations General Assembly.

Asked about the subject matters that the president will address during his visit and address the UN session, the Iranian chief executive said he will use the opportunity to explain the Islamic Republic's standpoints and perspectives.

"The United Nations should be truly an organization for all nations. It must not be an organization for powerful governments," Iran's president said.

"We are now faced with a host of global problems and issues, which can be naturally discussed in such meetings to find solutions," Raisi said.

He noted that since such problems are general problems affecting the entire world, their solutions must be found through collective wisdom.

Elsewhere in his remarks, the Iranian president reflected on the issue of unilateral sanctions imposed on countries.

Raisi described sanctions as a "weapon in the hands of big powers, which they use in order to apply pressure on [other] nations."

Iran's president said such unilateral coercive measures are at odds with "peace, calm, and security," and mostly harm nations.

"Naturally, other nations [which are subjected to

unilateral sanctions] will have to resort to countermeasures," Raisi said, referring to the countermeasures that the Islamic Republic has been employing in reaction to the sanctions.

Turning to the issue of terrorism, Raisi said this phenomenon is the source of a large part of displacements across the world. He also criticized the support provided by certain countries and international plays for terrorist groups.

"These issues must be discussed and their solutions, as I said before, are [recourse to] collective wisdom and discussions [among nations]," he said.

"All these [three major] problems are results of unilateralism in the world; I mean, unilateralism gives birth to such issues that are currently tormenting the human societies," Iran's president said.

Tehran, Caracas Sign 60 MoUs to Strengthen Bilateral Ties

TEHRAN (MNA) - Iran and Venezuela signed 60 Memorandums of Understanding to strengthen and develop their bilateral relations.

Gabriela Jiménez Ramírez, the Vice President of the science, technology, education and health of the Venezuelan presidency made the announcement at the end of the Iran-Venezuela Industrial Scientific and Technological Expo fair.

During the four-day exhibition, more than 200 business roundtables were held between Iranian and Venezuelan companies with the aim of signing agreements and strengthening cooperation, she said in an interview with the state television channel of Venezuela.

Emphasizing the importance of bolstering relations with Iran, Ramírez cited "mutual understanding, creating complementary links, strategic alliances, technology exchange and transfer, trade and cooperation" as examples.

Earlier, Nicolás Maduro, the president of Venezuela, opened the exhibition

and after the opening, he visited the Iranian pavilions of Iranian knowledge-based companies and the section in which the cars manufactured by Iran's Saipa were displayed.

Four Iranian car variants at the prices of between \$12,000 and 16,000, will be assembled in Venezuela in cooperation with Venirauto Industrias C.A.

Also, Ramón Blázquez, the Minister of Transportation of Venezuela announced the signing of four memorandums of understanding with Iran in order to promote the development of Venezuela's automotive industry during the four-day exhibition, which was attended by about 15,000 people.



Iran Receives Messages Showing IAEA Wants to Close Its Nuclear Case

TEHRAN (IFP) - The director of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran says it has received messages from the International Atomic Energy Agency that show the UN watchdog is going to close down the case of nuclear material in alleged Iranian sites.

Mohammad Eslami says he hopes the IAEA is sincere in its message and does not waste more time, warning that they cannot pressure Iran by such allegations.

Eslami added that the key point is that the current will for political pressure against Iran should be replaced by the political will to close down the case of the country at the IAEA.



The vice president noted that Iran is engaged in no unannounced nuclear activity and the country's nuclear program is under the full supervision of the agency.

Eslami said Iran is subject to some 25 percent of the inspections the IAEA is conducting around the world, while hosting just around 2 percent of the global nuclear capacity.

He further said there are signs that Europeans have decided to close down Iran's nuclear case, though he said this is aimed at getting a nuclear agreement that helps them buy time and weaken Iran.

The official stressed that they do not want Iran to have the full nuclear fuel cycle.

Iran to Take Part in Minsk Int'l Film Festival

IRAN NEWS ART DESK

TEHRAN - Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Belarus to the Islamic Republic of Iran Dmitry Koltsov met with Iranian Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance Mohammad Mehdi Esmaili on Tuesday.

During the conversation, the parties welcomed constructive interaction in the field of culture. The Belarusian diplomat and the Iranian minister discussed topical issues on the bilateral agenda, including plans to mark the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Republic of Belarus and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Dmitry Koltsov and Mohammad Mehdi Esmaili discussed in detail the participation of Iranian filmmakers in the 28th edition of the Minsk International Film Festival Listapad.

Belarus and Iran established diplomatic relations on 18 March 1993. The Belarusian embassy in Tehran opened on 8 March 1998, and the Iranian embassy has been operating in Minsk since February 2001.



Deputy Minister Visits Chadormalu Co. Pavilion at MINEX

IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

TEHRAN - Deputy Minister of Industry, Mine and Trade Eng. Mohtashami Pour visited Chadormalu Mining and Industrial Company's pavilion in the 11th International Investment Opportunities in Iran Mines and Mining Industries Exhibition and Conference (MINEX) which is underway at Imam Khomeini Mosalla of Tehran.

According to reports, Mr. Mohtashami Pour visited the pavilion and got acquainted with activities of Chadormalu Company like operational actions in Ariz Mine (D19) and said that acceleration in stripping operation and fast access to the iron ore reserves in this mine is very important.

It is worth noting that so far over 64m tons of waste has been removed from Ariz Mine and according to the schedule, access to the iron ore will be possible by the mid-next year.

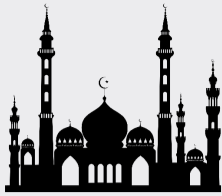
Chadormalu Company along with its affiliate companies have participated in this exhibition and have put on display their achievements and activities.



tender announcement No.24-1401(renewed)

Gol Gohar Mining and Industrial Company (Public Joint Stock Company) intends to purchase "70,000 metric tons of iron ore required by processing plants" by holding a public tender through qualified manufacturers and suppliers. Therefore, in order to obtain the tender documents, the applicants can refer to the company's website at WWW.GEG.IR at the tender and auction section and download the mentioned documents along with the suppliers' evaluation questionnaire form. The deadline for delivery of envelopes is 2:00 pm on Sunday 2022 October 9 at the office of the Complex Trading Commission or the Secretariat of the Tehran Central Office. Golgozar Mining and Industrial Company is free to accept or reject any of the offers without mentioning the reason and without compensation.

Golgozar mining and industrial company



PRAYER TIME

■ Noon (Zohr)	12:57
■ Evening (Maghreb)	19:21
■ Tomorrow's Dawn (Fajr)	05:28
■ Tomorrow's Sunrise	06:52

58. So he broke them to pieces, (all) but the biggest of them, that they might turn (and address themselves) to it.

59. They said, "Who has done this to our gods?"

He must indeed be some man of impiety!"

Surah 21. The Prophets (58 - 59)

ECO Members Urged To Use their Trade Exchange Potentials

IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

TEHRAN – Head of Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mine and Agriculture (ICCIMA) Mr. Gholam-Hossein Shafei in meeting with the Head of ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) Mr. Seyed Komail Tayebi urged the ECO (Economic Cooperation Organization) members to use their trade exchange potentials.

In the meeting, Shafei pointed to the low economic exchanges among the ECO member states and reiterated that member states should identify their capacities and potentials and move on course of joint investments.

He added that today the most important economic problem in the country is scientific poverty in the economy, adding that of course some ECO members once had the same problem but they have passed this stage. He added that when the Central Asian countries became independent, the economic condition was very horrible there but they are now experiencing a very different condition and now getting visa for Turkmenistan is even much more difficult than getting the U.S. visa.

Shafei went on to say that reviewing the condition and history of cooperation between the ECO members is very disappointing, adding that the trade exchange among the ECO member states does hardly reach 10% but the number of signed agreements is very high. He added that if we look at the ASEAN bloc, ECO condition is not comparable with ASEAN.

He reiterated that according to a study conducted some years ago, ECO members



and Persian Gulf States possess almost half of the world wealth but where they stand is something debatable.

He expressed hope the ECO member states would use their economic capacities to improve condition for cooperation.

Then Head of ECOSF Mr. Tayebi, for his part, said that ECO economic zone is an intact zone where there are very good cooperation grounds, for example, the opportunity for cooperation between knowledge-based or exporting technical and engineering services is very high. He added that by the way ECOSF is an inter-governmental foundation which is located on Islamabad and it can ease connection of the scientific sector to the economy of ECO member states and called for creating the required grounds for it.

He reiterated that this foundation is one of the specialized agencies of ECO that it can pursue the route of knowledge transfer through management knowledge. He noted that the foundation in this regard can use the models of other blocs like the ASEAN through cooperation.

Tayebi stated that ECOSF pursues the plan for training skills and it has good cooperation with China and Pakistan and it needs the help of ICCIMA and expressed hope good cooperation would be shaped on this course.

He also noted that the foundation should identify capacities of ECO member states and operationalization of these agreements should be reviewed.

ICCIMA to Host Iran-Poland Trade Forum on Oct.9

IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

TEHRAN – Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mine and Trade (ICCIMA) will host Iran-Poland Trade Forum on October 9.



According to reports, a trade delegation from Poland led by deputy head of Poland Chamber of Commerce is to visit Tehran and attend the forum on October 9 at the ICCIMA.

Economic activists from different sectors as well as the members of the ICCIMA are to attend in the forum.

The Polish delegation will include representatives of different fields like medicines and medical equipment, livestock, oil, gas and petrochemical, industrial and production machineries, auto parts, cosmetics and transportation.

As announced by the spokesman of the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA), the country's non-oil export to Poland has recorded 114 percent growth in the previous Iranian calendar year (ended on March 20).

According to Rouhollah Latifi, more than 22,664 tons of non-oil goods, valued at \$53.198 million, were exchanged between Iran and Poland last year, showing a 79 and 28 percent growth in terms of weight and value respectively as compared to the preceding year.

Capital Flight Amounts to \$45 in Recent 4 Years



IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC NEWS

TEHRAN – Head of Tehran Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mine and Agriculture (TCCIMA) says some \$45b of capitals have been taken out of the country in recent four years and it seems the figure to be more than this because considerable part of Iran's economy is underground.

Speaking in the 38th meeting of representatives of the chamber in presence of Head of the National Development Fund Mr. Mehdi Ghazanfari, Head of TCCIMA Mr. Masoud Khansari admitted that some \$45b of capital has flown out of the country in recent four years.

He said that sharp decline in social investment is the major reason for decline in the investments in the country, adding that investment has shifted towards the early-yielding investments which is a plague for the national economy.

Khansari went on to say that the annual flight of elites has increased, and emphasized that last year some 160 elites and heart specialists left the country and if this condition continues, in the upcoming years the country will face with shortage of specialists.

Khansari blasted the sanctions and compared it with termite which destroying the country and said that the final cost of products in Iran is high and the prices now are uncompetitive and Iran has lost many markets. He continued to say that the annual export volume of engineering and technical services was once \$5b and it has declined to \$300m now.

He said that the average inflation rate of prices has been 4.7% and it means we have witnessed 100% rise in prices every year.

Khansari also pointed to the Seventh Five-Year Development Plan and said that the plan has forecasted 8% economic growth and single rate inflation but we should be realistic and analyze reasons for failures in the past because the country was to achieve 46.9% growth in the previous plan while the economy saw 3.44% growth.

He expressed satisfaction over Iran's joining the Shanghai Cooperation Summit.

Coal Exports to Pakistan Begin

IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

TEHRAN – A member of Iran-Pakistan Joint Chamber of Commerce says exports of coal from Iran to Pakistan have started, admitting that the barter trade with Pakistan has not been operationalized yet.

Speaking to ILNA, Ali Rigi Mirjaveh said that Pakistan government has asked its traders to import all of its required goods from Iran and it has been decided Pakistan to import required coal from Iran. He added that the ceiling of coal exports to Pakistan has not been determined yet but it seems Pakistan to import 500,000 tons of coal annually from Iran.

He went on to say that trade between Iran and Pakistan through barter has not been operationalized yet, adding that currently the trade between Iran and Pakistan is something like barter and it means Iran exports goods to Pakistan and in return it imports goods and the trade in dollar form has been almost eliminated.

Rigi stated that currently the border market is in good condition and the chamber is working to increase the trade volume of Iran and Pakistan to \$5b but currently the figure stands at between \$1.5b to \$2b.



He also said that challenges ahead of bartering Iran's apple with Pakistan have been resolved, adding that to date Iran has not succeeded in exporting apple to Pakistan because it was decided apple to be exported in exchange with importing tangerine, reiterating apple has not entered the market yet but next month exports of apple and grape to Pakistan will start.

Rigi also pointed to devaluation of Pakistan's rupee against the U.S. dollar and said that in the past months each dollar was traded for 150 rupees but today each dollar is traded for 240 rupees and this has created challenges for exports between the two states.

He then pointed to the destruction of road construction in Pakistan due to recent floods in this country and said that Iranian trucks can go to Gwadar in Pakistan while before the floods happen, they could go to Karachi and Lahore because according to Pakistan's approved laws, foreign trucks can only move into the country for 80 kilometers.

Rigi said that perishable goods should be carried with refrigerator trucks but in Pakistan it is carried with normal trucks.

Maduro Visits Iranian Auto Giant Exhibition in Caracas

TEHRAN (MNA) - Venezuela president Nicolas Maduro has visited an Iranian exhibition in the capital Caracas which showcases the Iranian knowledge-based companies' products as well as the giant Iranian automaker Saipa group.

With the efforts of the Iranian Vice Presidency for Scientific Affairs, about 80 knowledge-based companies and Iranian car manufacturers have participated in the Iran exclusive exhibition in order to display their products and technologies.

Nicolás Maduro, the president of Venezuela, opened the exhibition and after the opening, he visited the Iranian pavilions of Iranian knowledge-based companies and the section in which the cars manufactured by Iran's Saipa were displayed.

Four Iranian car variants at the prices of between \$12,000 and 16,000, will be assembled in Venezuela in cooperation with Venirauto Industrias C.A. Maduro told reporters that the production of those cars will save the people of his country a lot of money because they need only seven liters of fuel per 100 kilometers.

There is an agreement between Venezuela and Iranian car manufacturers to import Iranian-made cars by the government of Venezuela, and in the exhibition, by holding meetings with the presence of the Minister of Security and Iranian car manufacturers, with the Ministers of Roads and Transportation, Energy and Industries of Venezuela, ways to implement that agreement were reviewed.

Also, on the sidelines of the exhibition, the Iranian industry minister and representatives of the Iranian automakers discussed the ways to implement the bilateral agreement with Venezuela's ministers of road and transport, energy and industries.



12m Tons of Goods Exported From Bushehr

TEHRAN (MNA) - As many as 12 million tons of commodities were exported from Bushehr province in the first 5 months of the Iranian calendar year (starting from March 21), an official said.

Deputy Coordinator of Economic Affairs of Bushehr Governorate Ali Bastin said that the products are worth above \$6.3 billion.

The products of Bushehr province have been exported to over 56 states, with China, the UAE and India the most receiving goods, he noted.

It is estimated that from the beginning of this year to late September, 13.8 million tons of goods worth over 7.5 billion dollars will be exported from Bushehr province to various countries, he said.

New Appointment in PGSOC

IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

TEHRAN – The CEO of Persian Gulf Star Oil Company (PGSOC) Mr. Alireza Jafarpour in a decree appointed Mr. Alidad Vahedi as the caretaker of the public relations and international affairs of the biggest gas condensate refinery of the word.



In his decree, Mr. Jafarpour pointed to the good experiences of Mr. Vahedi and called him to use his experience, knowledge and capabilities for improving the public relations of the company for better and effective communication with the addressees.

In his decree, Mr. Jafarpour called for promoting the position of the company through holding exhibitions and distributing required pamphlets and brochure, leaflets and devising plans for better communication with the mass media.

Before this appointment, Mr. Vahedi was in charge of several cultural bodies and he is a member of cultural council of the refinery. He was one of the top Holy Quran reciters in Qods Razavi and IRIB and he has won many awards in this field.

Tehran Hosting Exhibit on Investment Opportunities in Mining Sector

TEHRAN (MNA) - The 11th International Exhibition on Investment Opportunities in Iran's Mines and Mining Industries kicked off at Tehran's Imam Khomeini Grand Prayer Campus (Mosalla) on Tuesday.

As reported, companies from 25 countries, including South Africa, Germany, China, Turkey, Russia, England, Japan, Spain, South Korea, Holland and Italy are showcasing their products in the three-day event.

In the conference part of this event, in addition to the officials of the Ministry of Industry, Mining and Trade, Parliament, Trade Promotion Organization (TPO), Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA), House of Industry, Mining and Trade, heads of related unions and industrialists and miners, ambassadors of 23 countries including Brazil, Chile, Japan, South Korea, India, Kenya, Nigeria, Nicaragua, Bolivia, Slovakia and representatives of some other countries will also be present to examine the field of investment in mines and mining industries in different regions of Iran.

The event is considered one of the prestigious exhibitions of the mineral industries of the country and the West Asia, where 130 booths present the products, industries and machines of this sector and expose them to the eyes of those interested. Having 81 different types of minerals, Iran is one of the top 10 mineral-rich countries across the globe. In this regard, the Iranian government is pursuing several programs for promoting the mining sector as a major contributor to the country's economic growth.

Hurricane Fiona Slams Dominican Republic



SAN JUAN (Dispatches) - Hurricane Fiona made landfall in the Dominican Republic on Monday and Puerto Rico braced for another day of heavy rainfall and life-threatening flooding, a U.S. government agency said, one day after the island was hit by a widespread power outage.

The Dominican Republic is being battered with "extremely heavy rainfall" and winds as strong as 90 miles per hour, Eric Blake of the U.S. National Hurricane Center said, as storm conditions in Puerto Rico begin to subside.

Hurricane Fiona made landfall in Puerto Rico on Sunday afternoon, five years after the U.S. Caribbean territory was ravaged by Hurricane Maria.

China Lodges Complaint After Biden Remarks



BEIJING (Dispatches) - The Chinese foreign ministry said on Monday that China has lodged "stern representations" with the United States, after U.S. President Joe Biden said U.S. forces would defend Taiwan in the event of a Chinese invasion.

China reserves the right to take all necessary measures in response to activities that split the nation apart, said Mao Ning, spokesperson at the foreign ministry, at a regular media briefing.

"We are willing to do our best to strive for peaceful reunification. At the same time, we will not tolerate any activities aimed at secession," Mao said.

Zelenskiy Vows No Let-Up as Ukrainian Troops Cross Key River



KYIV (Dispatches) - President Volodymyr Zelenskiy vowed there would be no let-up in Ukraine's fight to regain its territory as Kyiv said its troops had crossed a major river, paving the way for an assault on Russia's occupation forces in the eastern Donbas region.

Reflecting the dramatic change in momentum since Ukrainian forces routed Russian troops earlier this month in the northeast, U.S. President Joe Biden offered his strongest prediction so far that the Ukraine would win the war. "They're defeating Russia," Biden said in an interview with CBS's "60 Minutes".

Victory would come only when Russian forces were completely driven from Ukrainian territory, and the United States would support Ukraine "as long as it takes", Biden said.

"Russia's turning out not to be as competent and capable as many people thought they were going to be."

Crossing the Oskil River is another important milestone in Ukraine's counter-offensive in the northeastern Kharkiv region. The river flows south into the Siversky Donets, which snakes through the Donbas, the main focus of Russia's invasion.

Further beyond lies Luhansk province, the base for Russia's separatist proxies since 2014 and fully in Russian hands since July after some of the war's bloodiest battles.

Ukrainian troops "have pushed across the Oskil. From yesterday, Ukraine controls the east bank", the Ukrainian Armed Forces wrote on Telegram late on Sunday.

Serhiy Gaidai, Ukrainian governor of Luhansk, wrote on Telegram: "Luhansk region is right next door. De-occupation is not far away."

Gaidai said Ukrainian forces had regained full control of the town of Kreminna and the village of Bilohorivka. The two settlements are located on roads on the northern approach to the city of Lysychansk, whose fall after weeks of grinding battles in July put Luhansk wholly under Russian control.

Bilohorivka, the nearer of the two to Lysychansk, is located just 8 km (5 miles) from the city's outskirts.

Ukrainian forces swept through the Kharkiv region this month after bursting through the front line, sending thousands of Russian troops fleeing and abandoning their tanks and ammunition. In recent days, the pace of the Ukrainian advance has again slowed, but Zelenskiy said this was only because the forces were consolidating and preparing for further offensives.

"Perhaps it seems to some of you that after a series of victories we now have a lull of sorts," he said in his regular nightly address on Sunday. "But there will be no lull. There is preparation for the next series ... For Ukraine must be free. All of it."

Ukraine accused Russian forces on Monday of shelling near the Pivdenoukrainsk nuclear power plant in the country's southern Mykolaiv region.

A blast occurred 300 meters (yards) away from the reactors and damaged power plant buildings shortly after midnight, Ukraine's atomic power operator Energoatom said in a statement. The reactors were not damaged and no staff were hurt, it said, publishing photographs showing a huge crater it said was caused by the blast.

U.S. Military Base in Syria Targeted in Failed Rocket Attack

DAMASCUS (Dispatches) - A rocket attack has been launched against the United States military's Green Village base in northeast Syria, but failed to hit the US or coalition forces and equipment, the US Central Command said.

Three 107-mm (4.2-inch) rockets attacked the base on Sunday and a fourth rocket along with rocket tubes was found at the launch point, about five kilometres (three miles) away, the command said in a statement.

The Green Village base was hit last month during violence between the US military and Iran-backed rebels leaving at least one US military service member in Syria with a minor injury.

The incident triggered a US response that killed two or three fighters conducting the attacks.

The Central Command said it was investigating the latest failed attack, which struck at approximately 7:05pm local time (16:05 GMT) in Syria.

It gave no further details.

In last month's attack, at least two fighters, described by US Central Command as "suspected Iran-backed militants", were also killed, in what the US military described as rocket attacks on two facilities.

It said that several rockets landed inside the perimeter of Mission Support Site Conoco in northeast Syria, quickly followed by another near Mission Support Site Green Village, run by the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), a US-backed Kurdish-led group.

The developments came a day after the US said it had carried out raids in Deir Az Zor, a strategic oil-rich province that borders Iraq, on groups linked to Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC).

US forces first deployed in Syria during the Obama administration's campaign against ISIL, partnering with the SDF. There are about 900 US troops in Syria, most of them in the east.

Brett McGurk, the White House coordinator for the Middle East and North Africa, said last year that US troops have four main objectives in Syria: to reduce violence, maintain military pressure on ISIL (ISIS), address Syria's humanitarian crisis, and support Israel.

The Syrian government has constantly expressed its opposition to the US role in Syria, and demanded that US forces withdraw.



Taliban Release American Engineer Frerichs in Prisoner Swap



KABUL (Dispatches) - Afghanistan's Taliban freed American engineer Mark Frerichs in exchange for an Afghan tribal leader linked to the Taliban who the United States had imprisoned for drug smuggling since 2005, officials said.

Frerichs, an engineer abducted in 2020 while working in Afghanistan, was exchanged at the airport in Kabul for Bashir Noorzai, acting foreign minister Amir Khan Muttaqi told a news conference in the Afghan capital.

"The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan is ready to solve problems by negotiation with all including the United States," Muttaqi said, referring to the Taliban. U.S. President Joe Biden said Frerichs' release was "the culmination of years of tireless work by dedicated public servants across our government and other partner governments".

Biden's administration has been under pressure from the families of Americans detained by hostile foreign governments and has vowed to step up efforts for their release.

"Bringing the negotiations that led to Mark's freedom to a successful resolution required difficult decisions, which I did not take lightly," Biden said in a statement, without confirming the release of Noorzai.

A senior U.S. administration official, who declined to be named, said Biden had granted clemency to Noorzai, who had spent 17 years in U.S. custody for heroin smuggling, a charge he denied.

Frerichs is an engineer and U.S. Navy veteran from Lombard, Illinois, who worked in Afghanistan for a decade on development projects. He was kidnapped in February 2020.

Frerichs arrived in Doha on a plane from Kabul at around 1:30 p.m. (6.30 a.m. EST) and is in good health, according to a source familiar with his situation. It was not immediately clear when he would arrive back in the United States.

Noorzai was detained by the United States on suspicion of smuggling more than \$50 million worth of heroin into the United States and Europe. A court in New York sentenced him to life in prison in 2009.

Russia and China Agree to Expand Security Ties

MOSCOW (Dispatches) - A top Russian security official has declared on a visit to China that the Kremlin considers beefing up ties with Beijing as a top policy goal.

Nikolai Patrushev, secretary of the national Security Council chaired by Russian President Vladimir Putin, described the "strengthening of comprehensive partnership and strategic cooperation with Beijing as an unconditional priority of Russia's foreign policy".

Patrushev is one of Putin's closest associates. Speaking during a meeting with Guo Shengkun, a top official of China's Communist Party, he said on Monday that "in the current conditions, our countries must show even greater readiness for mutual support and development of cooperation".

Patrushev's office said in a statement after the talks in the city of Nanping that the parties agreed to "expand information exchanges on countering extremism and foreign attempts to undermine constitutional order of both countries".

The Chinese and Russian officials also emphasized a need to expand cooperation on cybersecurity.

Putin met Chinese President Xi Jinping last week in Uzbekistan, their first encounter since the Russian leader sent troops into Ukraine in late February.

A Chinese government statement issued after the meeting did not specifically mention Ukraine but said Xi promised "strong support" for Russia's "core interests".

The statement did not give specifics, but Beijing uses "core interests" to describe issues such as national sovereignty and the ruling Communist Party's claim to Taiwan, over which it is willing to go to war.

Xi's government, which said it had a "no-limits" friendship with Moscow before the February 24 invasion of Ukraine, has refused to criticise Russia's military actions. China and India have increased imports of Russian oil and gas, helping Moscow offset Western sanctions imposed over its actions in Ukraine.

Queen Elizabeth's Coffin Lowered Into Vault Ahead of Burial



WINDSOR (Dispatches) - Queen Elizabeth's coffin was lowered into a vault at Windsor Castle, her final resting place, after a day of inimitable pageantry that drew world leaders to her funeral and huge crowds to the streets to say farewell to a revered monarch.

Hundreds of thousands of well-wishers lined the route her hearse took from London, throwing flowers, cheering and clapping as it passed from the city to the English countryside that she so loved much.

Many more had crammed into the capital to witness the procession and funeral, in a moving tribute to Britain's longest-serving monarch who won global respect during 70 years on the throne.

Inside the majestic Westminster Abbey where the funeral was held, some 500 presidents, prime ministers, foreign royal family members and dignitaries, including Joe Biden of the United States, were among the 2,000 congregation.

Later the attention switched to St George's Chapel in Windsor Castle, where some 800 guests attended a committal service ahead of her burial.

It concluded with the crown, orb and sceptre - symbols of the monarch's power and governance - being removed from the coffin and placed on the altar. The Lord Chamberlain, the most senior official in the royal household, then broke his 'Wand of Office', signifying the end of his service to the sovereign, and placed it on the casket before it slowly descended into the royal vault.

As the congregation sang the national anthem, King Charles appeared to be fighting back tears. Later in the evening, in a private family service, the coffin of Elizabeth and her husband of more than seven decades, Prince Philip, who died last year aged 99, will be buried together in the same chapel where her parents and sister, Princess Margaret, also rest.

It was in the same vast building that the queen was photographed mourning Philip alone during the pandemic lockdown, reinforcing the sense of a monarch in synch with her people during a testing time.

At the funeral, Justin Welby, the Archbishop of Canterbury, told those present that the grief felt by so many across Britain and the wider world reflected the late monarch's "abundant life and loving service".

Bank Holdups Snowball In Lebanon as Depositors Demand Their Own Money



BEIRUT (Dispatches) - Five Lebanese banks were held up by depositors seeking access to their own money frozen in the banking system, in a spiralling spate of holdups this week spurred by frustration over a financial implosion with no end in sight.

Seven banks have been held up since Wednesday in Lebanon, where commercial banks have locked most depositors out of their savings since an economic crisis took hold three years ago, leaving much of the population unable to pay for basics.

On Friday morning, an armed man identified as Abed Soubra entered BLOM Bank in the capital's Tariq Jdeidh neighbourhood demanding his deposit, the bank told Reuters.

He later handed his gun to security forces but remained locked in the bank past sunset, negotiating with bank officials to withdraw his \$300,000 in savings in cash, he told Reuters.

Soubra eventually left the bank with no money as part of a settlement negotiated by an influential sheikh, local media reported. He was not taken into custody.

Throughout the day, he had been cheered on by a large crowd of people gathered outside, including Bassam al-Sheikh Hussein, who carried out a hold-up in August to get his own deposits from his bank, which dropped charges against him.

"We're going to keep seeing this happen as long as people have money inside. What do you want them to do? They don't have another solution," said Hussein.

The Depositors' Union, an advocacy group established to help clients get access to their funds, described Friday's hold-up spree as "the depositors' uprising" and a "natural and justified reaction" to banks' restrictions.

Lebanon's banks association announced a three-day closure next week over security concerns and urged the government to pass laws to deal with the crisis.

Jawad Slim, the man who held up an LGB Bank branch seeking his own savings, is escorted by police as he leaves the bank, in Ramlet al-Bayda area in Beirut

Authorities have been slow to pass reforms that would grant access to \$3 billion from the International Monetary Fund, and on Friday failed to pass a 2022 budget.

Without a capital controls law, banks have imposed unilateral limits on what most depositors can retrieve each week in U.S. dollars or the Lebanese lira, which has lost more than 95% of its value since 2019.

The four other hold-ups on Friday concluded in partial pay-outs with a total of \$60,000 cash given to the assailants, most of whom were arrested while one went into hiding.

Jawad Slim entered a branch of LGB Bank in Beirut's Ramlet al-Bayda area on Friday morning.

By nightfall, he agreed with the bank to leave with \$15,000 in U.S. dollars and a cheque for \$35,000 which he could cash in at a haircut, his brother told local media.

Security forces took him into custody but it was not immediately clear what charges would be pressed. Separately, Lebanese citizen Mohammad al-Moussawi got \$20,000 in cash from his account at the Banque Libano-Francaise bank after threatening employees with a fake gun.

"This banking system is tricking us and it's worth my shoe," he said, telling Reuters he would be going into hiding. BLF confirmed the incident took place.

In the fifth incident on Friday afternoon, a former member of the military got \$25,000 in cash from his account at a BankMed branch outside of Beirut after firing shots inside the branch and threatening to commit suicide if he did not get the full amount, an industry source told Reuters.

The source said the man handed the money to his mother and was subsequently detained by security forces.

Tokyo Aims to Make Practical Use of Artificial Rain Technology



TOKYO (Dispatches) - With the world facing the prospect of more extreme weather events including droughts, Japan is one of a number of countries making efforts to advance artificial rain technology to help mitigate water shortages when rainfall is sparse.

In Tokyo, metropolitan authorities set up artificial rain generators on the eve of the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics last year with the aim of increasing the amount of water stored in dams during dry spells.

One is erected inside a newly built shed near the Ogouchi Dam, upstream of the Tama River system in Okutama, western Tokyo. Pipes stretch around a silver-colored tank connected to a retractable roof in the facility, dubbed the "Ogouchi Smoke Station."

"The material that will become the seeds of raindrops is blown into the sky from here," explains Tetsuo Nakamura, head of the management office of the Ogouchi reservoir, located some 65 kilometers west of the Japanese capital.

In the "seeding" process, smoke generated by burning liquid silver iodide mixed with acetone is emitted from the facility, with the silver iodide becoming the nucleus around which water condenses to form a raindrop.

It is a method of weather modification that experts admit has limited effectiveness and almost no practical application today. Nevertheless, the metropolitan government has three more generators at sites on the west side of the dam in Yamanashi Prefecture.

According to the Tokyo government, silver iodide is a substance that is hard for the body to absorb, and there have been no reports of harmful effects of man-made rain on the human body or environment.

Tokyo introduced artificial rain generators in 1965. But due to aging, it jointly developed new models with the Meteorological Research Institute of the Japan Meteorological Agency, having replaced two old generators at a cost of 80 million yen (\$570,000) since 2020.

With the use of overseas know-how, the city was able to improve the combustion method and concentration of the solution, enabling a more efficient way of dispersing the raindrop nuclei than is usual, a metropolitan government official said.

However, only 5 percent of rainfall can be expected to be increased using the rain generator, and only if certain weather conditions, such as wind direction, are met.

Although the rain generators were made available to address a possible water shortage during the Olympics and Paralympics, there were no opportunities to operate them.

Since 1965, the devices have been operated for about 800 days, and have not been put to practical use since 2001. Although there were droughts in 2013 and 2016, the machines were operated only on a trial basis, partly because of the development of water sources other than the Tama River system.

"Artificial rain generators alone cannot solve water shortages," the metropolitan government official said. "But just the fact of operating them implicitly conveys the seriousness of a situation to citizens and is a way of asking for their cooperation in restricting their water intake."

Artificial rain technology has been adopted by 50 countries around the world, including Thailand, which experiences severe water shortages during its dry season.

In Japan, research into weather modification started in the 1950s. Masataka Murakami, a specially appointed professor at Nagoya University who was involved in the development of rain generators for the Tokyo government, said their effects on increasing rain and snow have been "scientifically proven" in recent years.



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Bitcoin Falls Below \$19,000

SINGAPORE (Dispatches) - Cryptocurrencies fell to fresh lows on regulatory concerns and as investors globally turned shy on risky assets with interest rate rises looming around the world. Bitcoin, the biggest cryptocurrency by market value, fell about 5% to a three-month low of \$18,387. Ether, the second largest cryptocurrency, dropped 3% to a two-month low of \$1,285 and is down more than 10% in the last 24 hours. Most other smaller tokens were deeper in the red. The Ethereum blockchain, which underpins the ether token, had a major upgrade over the weekend called the Merge that changes the way transactions are processed and cuts energy use.



OECD Cuts S. Korea's 2023 Growth Outlook to 2.2%

SEJONG (Dispatches) - The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development predicted that the gross domestic product growth of South Korea would stay in the low 2 percent range next year.

In particular, the Paris-based OECD forecast that the nation's exports and private consumption would post slower-than-expected growth in 2023.

In the 2022 OECD Economic Survey of Korea, the organization revised its outlook on the 2023 GDP growth of Korea to 2.2 percent, from its suggestion of 2.5 percent in June, pointing to several uncertainties.

It said possible unfavorable factors surrounding the Korean economy include the prolonged war between Ukraine and Russia, China's lockdown of major cities and geopolitical risks on the Korean Peninsula.

"Russia's invasion of Ukraine is weighing on economic activity and exposes supply chain dependencies," it said. "A dependence on the two countries for raw materials to produce semiconductors highlights the need for resilience and diversification in the sourcing of key inputs for industry."

The OECD revised its projection on the 2023 export growth of Korea down to 3.2 percent, from its earlier suggestion of 4.1 percent. It also cut the outlook on the private consumption from 2.9 percent to 2.4 percent.

In addition, the nation's inflation is projected to reach 3.9 percent next year, compared to earlier suggestion of 3.8 percent.

It's recommended that Korea "continue to move towards a less accommodative monetary policy stance with a view to keep inflation expectations in check."

For the 2022 outlook, the OECD revised upward its forecast on the GDP of Korea to 2.8 percent from its earlier suggestion of 2.7 percent.

"Employment has surpassed pre-crisis levels, led by health and public services jobs and job creation programs," it said. "Manufacturing jobs have recovered to pre-crisis levels, while contact-intensive services lag behind."

It also said the preemptive moves have helped keep inflation expectations anchored.

Nonetheless, the organization predicted the export growth is projected to stay at 4.7 percent this year, while its earlier suggestion reached a 9.2 percent growth.

The OECD hinted that high increases in consumer prices are restricting growth, revising the 2022 inflation figure upward to 5.2 percent, from its earlier estimate of 4.8 percent.

Meanwhile, the International Monetary Fund had revised its outlook on the 2022 and 2023 growth of Korea to 2.3 percent and 2.1 percent, from its earlier suggestions of 2.5 percent and 2.9 percent, respectively.

In a meeting at the Government Complex Sejong on Monday, Korea's Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Choo Kyung-ho said the government would extend the expiry of offering subsidies diesel vehicle drivers to the end of the year in a bid to help ease their cost burden from high energy prices.

In May, the government launched the subsidy scheme for cargo truck drivers and others using diesel vehicles in the wake of tight supply and high prices amid the Ukraine-Russia war.

While the support measure was supposed to end this month, policymakers have decided to extend it by three months, according to the Finance Ministry.

Sri Lanka to Present Debt Restructuring

LONDON (Dispatches) - Crisis-hit Sri Lanka will make a presentation to its international creditors on Friday, laying out the full extent of its economic troubles and plans for a debt restructuring and multi-billion dollar International Monetary Fund (IMF) bailout.

Years of economic mismanagement combined with the Covid-19 pandemic have left Sri Lanka in its worst economic crisis since independence from Britain in 1948, causing it to default on its sovereign debt.

The country's Ministry of Finance said in a statement via legal firm Clifford Chance that an online call on September 23 would be open to all its external creditors and be "an interactive session" in which participants can ask questions.

Sri Lanka's woes came to a head in July when then-President Gotabaya Rajapaksa fled the country and resigned after violent public protests.

His replacement Ranil Wickremesinghe has managed to reach a preliminary deal with the IMF that if formalized would provide the country \$2.9 billion in loans over four years.

"Authorities intend to update their external creditors on the most recent macroeconomic developments, the main objectives of the reform package agreed with the IMF ... and the next steps of the debt restructuring process," the statement dated September 17 said.

Debt crisis veterans cite uniquely difficult elements in Sri Lanka. The impoverished population that forced Rajapaksa to flee still needs to accept Wickremesinghe, seen by many as of the same political ilk, and who faces a bristling opposition.

The country's borrowings are so complex that estimates of the total range from \$85 billion to well over \$100 billion. Perhaps most challenging of all, competing regional powers China, India and Japan must also find common ground on how to reduce debt they are owed by Colombo.



Gold Price Seen Hitting \$1,800 Per Ounce by Yearend

KUALA LUMPUR (Dispatches) - The price of gold is expected to recover and end the year higher at \$1,800 per ounce from the current \$1,670 per ounce on the back of a more stable market environment.

"It will reach US\$1,800 per ounce by the end of the year. (Beyond that), the price of gold will (depend) on next year's scenarios but it will not suddenly surge to the US\$2,000 per ounce level," said Singapore Bullion Market Association chief executive officer Albert Cheng.

The current rising interest rate environment, strong US dollar, as well as uncertainty in the trade and equity markets, have taken a toll on the price of gold, he added.

He said there are people who switched to gold in times of uncertainty, inflation, and financial calamity, but its high liquid asset feature compared with other asset classes, as well as bargain hunting activities, have contributed to gold's downtrend.

"The strong interest rate environment will continue for a while, and the US dollar will continue to be strong because it is also considered a safe-haven currency, (as such) people will flock to the US dollar when there is uncertainty."

"So looking at the next six months, I think the price of gold will remain at the current territory but I do not think it will go too low," Cheng told reporters after the relaunch of the gold futures contract on Bursa Malaysia Derivatives here today.

Cheng said it is hard to predict how the commodity will perform as the price of gold very much depends on the global geopolitical situation and whether the interest rate environment will stabilize or not.

India Spending Forex Reserves at Quicker Pace Than During Taper Tantrum

MUMBAI (Dispatches) - India's central bank is using up its foreign exchange reserves at a quicker pace than during the taper-tantrum period in 2013 as it tries to prevent an overshoot in the rupee, but a larger pool of reserves may allow it to support the currency for some more time, economists said.

The Reserve Bank of India has sold a net of \$38.8 billion from its forex reserves between January and July this year, data released on Friday showed.

A net of \$19 billion was sold in July alone, the most recent data available, and intervention remained heavy in August when the rupee fell below 80 against the dollar, traders said.

Alongside its intervention in the spot market, the central bank's forward dollar holdings have fallen to \$22 billion from \$64 billion in April.

In 2013, the RBI had sold a net of \$14 billion in the June to September period after the so-called taper tantrum—when U.S. Treasury yields spiked after the Federal Reserve said it would slow its pace of bond buybacks—had put pressure on emerging economy currencies, including the rupee.

"The starting point of India's foreign reserves was at a much higher level in this cycle compared to the taper tantrum, providing a much thicker cushion to withstand global volatility/ shocks," said Radhika Rao, senior economist at DBS Bank.

India's forex reserves have fallen to a two-year low of \$550 billion from a peak of \$642 billion in October 2021. Apart from actual dollar sales, reserves are also impacted by a drop in major currencies like the euro and yen against the greenback and a lower valuation of dollar-denominated securities.

The decline in forex reserves and a pick-up in imports has meant that this pool is now adequate to cover about nine months of imports compared to 16 months at the peak.

At the time of the taper tantrum, India's forex reserves-to-imports cover had fallen to below seven months.

Sticky and elevated imports amid depleting forex reserves led to the import cover falling to its lowest since August 2018, Elara Capital economists Garima Kapoor and Subhankar Sanyal said in a report earlier this month. Forex reserves to external short-term debt moved further below five months.

"Further forex reserve depletion by the RBI to arrest volatility remains the key risk," said Kapoor and Sanyal.

The RBI's defense of the rupee at a time when most currencies are weakening against the dollar has meant the local unit has appreciated against trading peers.

Pakistan Will Absolutely Not Default on Debts Despite Floods

ISLAMABAD (Reuters) - Pakistan will "absolutely not" default on debt obligations despite catastrophic floods, the finance minister said, signalling there would be no major deviation from reforms designed to stabilize a struggling economy.

Floods have affected 33 million Pakistanis, inflicted billions of dollars in damage, and killed over 1,500 people - creating concern that Pakistan will not meet debts.

"The path to stability was narrow, given the challenging environment, and it has become narrower still," Finance Minister Miftah Ismail told Reuters at his office.

"But if we continue to take prudent decisions - and we will - then we're not going to default. Absolutely not."

Pakistan was able to bring an International Monetary Fund (IMF) program back on track after months of delay, thanks to tough policy decisions. But the positive sentiment was short-lived before the catastrophic rainfall hit.

Despite the disaster, Ismail said that most stabilization policies and targets were still on track, including increasing dwindling foreign exchange reserves.

Central bank reserves stand at \$8.6 billion, despite the influx of \$1.12 billion in IMF funding in late August, which are only enough for about a month of imports. The end-year target was to increase the buffer up to 2.2 months.

He said Pakistan will still be able to increase reserves by up to \$4 billion, even if the floods hurt the current account balance by \$4 billion in more imports, such as cotton, and a negative impact on exports.

However, he estimated the current account deficit will not increase by more than \$2 billion following the floods.

"Yes, there has been substantial loss to the very poorest people and their lives will never be made whole again. But in terms of servicing our external and local debt, and being micro- macro-economically stable, those things are under control."

He said global markets were "jittery" about Pakistan, given the economy had suffered at least \$18 billion in losses after the floods, which could go as high as \$30 billion.

"Yes, our credit default risk has gone up, our bond prices have fallen. But...I think within 15 to 20 days, the market will normalize, and I think will understand that Pakistan is committed to being prudent."

Pakistan's next big payment - \$1 billion in international bonds - is due in December, and Ismail said that payment would "absolutely" be met. The IMF said on Sunday that it will work with the international community to support Pakistan's relief and reconstruction efforts and the endeavor to ensure sustainability and stability.

Ismail said external financing sources were secured, including over \$4 billion from the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and World Bank.

China to Accelerate Projects, Boost Consumption to Spur Recovery



BEIJING (Dispatches) - China will speed up fund injections to expedite project construction and boost domestic consumption, China's state planner said on Monday, even after the economy showed signs of renewed momentum last month.

The world's second-biggest economy slowed sharply in the second quarter, dragged down by a deepening property crisis, and slowing exports and imports.

However, it showed surprising resilience in August, with faster-than-expected growth in factory output and retail sales, although the property crisis continues to hang over recovery prospects.

"The economy is at a critical juncture in its recovery, as the foundation of the domestic economic recovery is still weak despite main economic indicators showing positive changes," said spokeswoman Meng Wei at the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC).

Shanghai, which lifted a two-month Covid lockdown in June, said it would hand out "consumption vouchers" worth around 100 million yuan (\$14.3 million) to residents starting Tuesday, for use in a major shopping district.

The southern island province of Hainan on Monday also said it would issue vouchers, again totalling 100 million yuan, to make consumption the main driver of the recovery.

China's cabinet has rolled out a raft of measures since late May to bolster an economy ravaged by disruptions caused by government restrictions and lockdowns.

"Stringent COVID restrictions amid the Omicron variant have led to frequent local lockdowns and weighed on China's economic activity this year," said Goldman Sachs in a research note.

"We estimate the current level of restrictions is suppressing the level of GDP in China by 4-5%."

“World War III” to Represent Iran at 2023 Oscar

TEHRAN (IRNA) - Iran's film "World War III" directed by Houman Seyedi will compete at the 2023 Oscar. Earlier in Italy, Iran's Mohsen Tanabandeh won the Orizzonti (Horizons) award for best actor at the 79th Venice International Film Festival. Tanabandeh was awarded the prize in the Orizzonti section for performing in the film "World War III" by Houman Seyedi. The film tells the story of a worker named Shakib and played by Tanabandeh, who loses his wife and child in an earthquake and then meets a deaf girl called Ladan.



Hopes Grow for Win-Win Effect of Inbound Tourism in Japan, Weak Yen

TOKYO (Dispatches) - Japanese policymakers expect that a further reopening of Japan's borders to foreign visitors will breathe life into inbound tourism that had been hit by COVID-19 travel restrictions.

The hope is that a weaker yen will be an additional boost, providing a win-win situation for foreign tourists, who would be compelled to splurge by taking advantage of the currency effect, and for Japan, where the negative side of the yen's slide, especially against the U.S. dollar, has become all the more visible.

Japan has raised its daily entry cap on arrivals to 50,000 from 20,000 in early September and has begun accepting foreign travelers on tours without a guide in a further relaxing, albeit at a gradual pace, of its COVID-19 border control steps criticized as being too stringent.

Facing growing calls for more easing, on par with other Group of Seven advanced economies, the government is considering eliminating the daily entry cap even as the number of new coronavirus cases remains high.

The coronavirus pandemic has hampered Japan's efforts to boost inbound tourism as an engine of economic growth, and it remains uncertain how quickly foreign tourists will return. Japan ranked first as the best travel destination in the travel and tourism development index by the World Economic Forum in 2021, despite the country being closed to foreign tourists.

If more restrictions are removed, including those on individual and spontaneous trips, as well as the daily entry cap on arrivals, Japan is expected to see spending by inbound tourists recover to about 2.5 trillion yen (\$17.5 billion) in a year, or around half of the pre-pandemic level in 2019, according to economists at SMBC Nikko Securities Inc.

That is partly because a weaker yen makes traveling overseas to Japan cheaper and boosts the appetite for spending. Given the Japanese currency is trading past 140 versus the U.S. dollar, a traveler is estimated to spend around 190,000 yen for a trip, up roughly 20 percent from approximately 160,000 yen in pre-pandemic 2019 when the currency was around 109.

"Past data show when the yen weakens, foreign tourists tend to step up spending during their stay in Japan on cosmetics, souvenirs and other items," said Naoto Sekiguchi, a junior economist at SMBC Nikko Securities.

Still, the recovery in the number of inbound tourists is expected to be slow, given that it will likely take longer for those from China to return due to strict antiviral restrictions by Beijing, which has a "zero-COVID" policy, industry watchers say.

Before the COVID-19 outbreak, the wind was apparently blowing in Japan's favor. A record 31.9 million tourists visited Japan in 2019, with over 2 million visitors a month. The monthly figure for July this year was 144,500, according to the Japan National Tourism Organization.

As more Japanese consumers are feeling the pinch of accelerating inflation, growing criticism that the weak yen is the culprit is something unwanted for Prime Minister Fumio Kishida.

He has thrown his support behind the Bank of Japan's efforts to maintain an ultralow rate policy and achieve its 2 percent inflation target.

"It's important to bolster our earning power by promoting farm exports and inbound tourism...to enjoy the merits of the weaker yen," Kishida told a government



panel meeting on Wednesday.

The Japan Association of Corporate Executives urges the government to resume accepting individual travel and allowing visa-free short-term visits while scrapping the entry cap.

"It will become difficult to capture inbound demand this winter, and only the negative impact of the weaker yen on the economy will stand out" unless the travel restrictions are removed, the group said, adding that a recovery in international travel is far slower than in other G-7 nations.

The yen fell close to the psychologically important 145 line on Wednesday, which apparently raised the alert level among Japanese monetary authorities and prompted stepped-up warnings of direct intervention to avert a further slide.

The U.S. Federal Reserve is expected to raise interest rates further to curb soaring inflation, while the Bank of Japan is unlikely to budge.

Policy options for the government seem increasingly limited to directly address the yen's falling trend as the dollar has been gaining strength broadly against other currencies, too.

Many market players believe direct intervention by Japanese authorities to buy the yen for the dollar would still be improbable and ineffective.

Under such circumstances, a revival in inbound tourism would help improve the current account balance and affect the dollar-yen pair because demand for yen-buying will increase, economists say.

If the travel surplus -- meaning the amount of money spent by foreign travelers in Japan was larger than that spent by Japanese overseas -- recovers to a pre-pandemic level of about 3 trillion yen a year, it would have the effect of lowering the dollar-yen pair by roughly 2 yen, according to economists at Daiwa Securities Co.

"It may be smaller than the roughly 30 yen (gain of the dollar) seen so far this year, but inbound tourism will still have a certain impact on the dollar-yen," said Toru Suehiro, a senior economist at Daiwa Securities.

"The dollar has been bought, not just against the yen but other currencies as well. The main reason is widening interest rate differentials, but it also reflects the strength of the U.S. economy," Suehiro said. "If the Japanese economy can draw strength from inbound tourism, it would also help ease some yen-selling pressure."

Iran, Land of Lions...

FROM PAGE 1

Now the country is preparing to mark the week while it has progressed considerably comparing to the beginning of war in 1980. Iran has now turned into a major arms exporter and in case sanctions are lifted, it can earn huge amount of forex through exporting its arms to those countries which need it.



This year's Sacred Defense Week will be held in different climate as the country is in talks for the revival of the JCPOA and it is under sanctions but Iranians have proved this point that they will not bow to any pressure as they resisted during eight years of war with Iraqi forces by sacrificing thousands brave fighters.

Now the belief among Iranians has become much stronger and they have great trust on their military capabilities and they can put on play their military achievements and products in the parades on the occasion of the week to show the independent countries in the world that if there is a will there is a way and if you want to be independent and seek freedom, you have to fight for it even you face hardship but the outcome will be sweet, and independence and grandeur will be the major achievements of this fight as Iranians did it and do it against the invaders and ill-wishers.

So on Thursday Iranians will pay homage to the founder of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini who cherished this belief among the nation and to the Supreme Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei who continued his path after his demise and sailed the country safely to the shore of victory and grandeur.

Hegemony Culture Trying to...

FROM PAGE 1

"This is our question: Should education and principally human beings be at the service of sustainable development or should sustainable development be placed at the service of human beings? If educational transformation does not lead to human progress and development, it will only bring about humanity's weakness. We expect the international bodies to respect the right to cultural and educational sovereignty of all countries and to protect them against cultural invasion. We believe that educational transformation without paying attention to "family, justice, and spirituality" would not be possible," the President said. "We should focus on moral values including honouring the family, respect for the environment, justice, rejection of violence and extremism, and creating a safe, moral, clean, and efficient cyber space as our priorities for educational transformation," he added.

The Iranian President stressed, "Accordingly, the Islamic Republic of Iran has codified its educational transformation document based on Iranian-Islamic educational philosophy and, thus, has not solely relied upon the one-dimensional secular approaches mentioned in the 2030 Document. With the aim of enhancing quality in Iran's new educational system, we have moved from focusing on a memorization-based curriculum to one based on research, innovation, skill acquiring and commitment to education and cultural and religious values. While committing to its principled policies, the Islamic Republic of Iran also stands ready to ensure interaction dialogue with others within the framework of its educational system which is based on exalted and elevated human values."

Blaming Iran for Current Situation in JCPOA Talks "Not Fair"

TEHRAN (MNA) - Russian representative in Vienna-based international organizations says even if the nuclear talks in Vienna have reached a dead end, it is not fair to put all the blame on Iran.

"Finger pointing seems to be a sign that the ViennaTalks are at a stalemate. If so, it's the result of a number of various factors. Attempts to put all the blame on #Iran aren't fair," Mikhail Ulyanov, Russian representative in Vienna-based international organizations said on his Twitter account on Monday.

The talks are too much dependent on the domestic political schedule of another participant, he added.

Ulyanov made the comments in reaction to a tweet

that said, "EU's JosepBorrellF: "We are at a stalemate. Now we are stopped... The past proposal, the last request from the Iranian side, was not exactly pushing for an agreement and if we had to say today if something happened this week, I would say 'I don't think so.'"

The United States, under former president Donald Trump, abandoned the Iran deal, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), in May 2018 and reinstated unilateral sanctions that the agreement had lifted.

The talks to salvage the agreement kicked off in the Austrian capital city of Vienna in April last year,

months after Joe Biden succeeded Trump, with the intention of examining Washington's seriousness in rejoining the deal and removing anti-Iran sanctions.

Despite notable progress, the U.S. indecisiveness and procrastination caused multiple interruptions in the marathon talks.

Iranian officials have, time and again, asserted that upon potentially lifting the sanctions, Washington should be able to guarantee that it would not return the bans again.

Iranian foreign minister recently said that an agreement is possible if the American side adopts a realistic approach towards the JCPOA negotiations.

Iran Ready to Send...

FROM PAGE 1

He added that fuel deliveries from Iran will enable the Lebanese Energy Ministry to boost its finances by increasing electricity supply to customers in the country.

He admitted, however, that Hezbollah Leader Seyyed Hassan Nasrallah and leader of the Lebanese Free Patriotic Movement Gebran Bassil had been influential in the success of Iran's initiative to send fuel to Lebanon.

Reports also suggest that Amani had met Mikati to extend Iran's offer of fuel deliveries to Lebanon at a time of economic hardship in the country.

Meanwhile the Iranian Foreign Ministry's spokesperson rejected reports that the country plans to ship free fuel to Lebanon. In comments at a press conference on Monday, Nasser Kanaani made it clear that Iran and Lebanon are engaged in negotiations about a package of proposals for the supply of energy, while there is no talk of sending free fuel to the Arab country. "The relations between Iran and Lebanon are friendly and Iran has always tried to play its constructive role in helping resolve Lebanon's problems," he added, stating that helping the friends to settle their economic problems is part of Iran's principled policy.

"Upon a request from the Lebanese government, Iran expressed readiness to weigh solutions for economic assistance to Lebanon. The negotiations are underway within that framework," the spokesman explained.

In July, Nasrallah expressed Hezbollah's readiness to provide Iranian fuel to Lebanese power plants for free, conditioning the proposal to the Lebanese government's approval. Later in August, Nasrallah slammed the US' false promises for the transfer of natural gas and electricity from Egypt and Jordan to Lebanon, saying one year has passed since the US ambassador's promise but nothing has happened in practice. Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani also said in his weekly presser on Monday that sending fuel shipments to Lebanon is aimed to aid Lebanon with its energy crisis.

U.S. Adds Iranian Cargo...

FROM PAGE 1

Back in May 2018, Trump unilaterally pulled the US out of the nuclear deal, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), and initiated the so-called maximum pressure campaign against Tehran despite its full compliance with the pact. While the Biden administration had voiced willingness to undo Trump's "failed" policy toward Tehran and rejoin the ailing deal, it has retained the anti-Iran sanctions as leverage since talks began last year in the Austrian capital of Vienna to bring the US back into the deal.

However, Tehran insists all sanctions must first be removed in a verifiable manner before it reverses the "remedial measures" it has taken in response to the US withdrawal and maximum pressure policy.

First Announcement

شناسه آگهی: ۱۳۸۱۸۶۱

TENDER NO.:
08-21-0040005



National Iranian South Oilfields Company (NISOC) intends to purchase the following goods

Items	Material Description	Quantity
01	CASING 7IN, 35 PPF DRIFT: STANDARD API GRADE C-110, SEAMLESS "VAM"/"N.VAM" THREAD, RANGE 3(MAX LEN: 40.5 FT) AS PER API 5CT/ISO11960 SIZE(OD), WIGHT(PPF), AS SPECIFIED	4000 LE
02	COUPLING, CASING, API GRADE C-110, SEAMLESS IN ACCORDANCE WITH API5CT & NACE MR0175 PHOSFATED COATING COUPLING SIZEM WIGHT & THREAD AS SPECIFIED 7 IN 35 PPF N. VAM	150 NO

Vendors who intend to participate in aforesaid tender are requested to send their "Intention To Participate" letter via fax to the following number along with their resume according to Qualitative Assessment Form no.2, available at: www.nisoc.ir, not later than 14 days after the second announcement, otherwise, their requests for participation in the tender will be disregarded.

The applicants should have relevant background in supplying the required goods and capability to provide and submit a bid bond of 184,469 EURO 49,778,587,545 RIAL, in favor of NISOC.

Tender documents including the materials thorough technical specifications and Qualitative Assessment Forms can be accessed via: www.nisoc.ir-material procurement management tab

ONLY ACCEPTABLE DELIVERY TERM IS D.D.P. NISOC'S WAREHOUSE, AGHAJARI, IRAN
PAYMENT TERM IS C.O.D. SUBSEQUENT TO NISOC'S MATERIAL APPROVAL
NO ADVANCE PAYMENT WILL BE PAID

FOREIGN PURCHASING DEPARTMENT

Bldg. No. 104, Material Procurement Management Complex, Kouy-e-Fadaeian Islam (New Site), Ahvaz, Iran
Tel. No.: 061 341 25010 Fax No.: 061 34 457437

Public Relations

www.shana.ir www.nisoc.ir <http://iets.mporg.ir>

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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Blvd., Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran
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Smith Wins LIV Golf Event in Second Start

London (Dispatches) - British Open champion Cameron Smith claimed his first LIV Golf victory in only his second start on the lucrative Saudi Arabia-backed circuit with a three-shot triumph over Dustin Johnson and Peter Uihlein just outside Chicago. Smith, one of 12 major champions in the 48-player field at Rich Harvest Farms, shot a three-under-par 69 in the final round of the 54-hole event to reach 13 under and secure the \$4 million first prize.

De Zerbi Appointed New Brighton Boss

London (Dispatches) - Brighton appointed Roberto De Zerbi as the club's new manager, with the Italian handed a four-year contract. De Zerbi replaces Graham Potter, who left to take charge of Chelsea last week, with the Seagulls fourth in the Premier League. The 43-year-old former Sassuolo and Shakhtar Donetsk boss agreed final contractual terms late on Sunday afternoon. De Zerbi made his name during three years in charge of Sassuolo, where he married an attractive style of football with finishing eighth in Serie A two seasons in a row in 2020 and 2021.

Tagovailoa Shines as Dolphins Rally Past Ravens

New York (Dispatches) - Tua Tagovailoa rallied the Dolphins from a 21-point deficit in the fourth quarter and his sixth touchdown pass of the game with 14 seconds remaining pushed Miami past the host Baltimore Ravens 42-38.

Tagovailoa shrugged off two first-half interceptions and threw a 7-yard laser to Jaylen Waddle for the go-ahead score in the fourth quarter, marching 68 yards in six plays to respond to Justin Tucker's 51-yard field goal, a kick that gave Baltimore a brief 38-35 lead with 2:18 on the clock. Tagovailoa completed 36 of 50 passes for 469 yards and six TD passes, tied for the second-most in a single game in NFL history. Waddle and Tyreek Hill had 11 receptions apiece in the game, with Hill totaling 190 yards receiving and Waddle gaining 171 yards. No wide receiver tandem has had 170-plus yards and two touchdowns each in the same game since at least 1950, per the NFL.

Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson had nine carries for 119 yards and threw three TD passes for Baltimore.

Cardinals 29, Raiders 23 (OT)

In an improbable outcome, Arizona overcame a 20-0 halftime deficit to defeat host Las Vegas in overtime when cornerback Byron Murphy Jr. recovered a fumble and dashed 59 yards for the winning touchdown.

After stopping the Raiders (0-2), the Cardinals drove 73 yards in 18 plays and Kyler Murray scored on a 3-yard run on fourth down with no time remaining on the clock. Murray then connected with wide receiver A.J. Green for the tying points. The drive was extended when Raiders safety Roderic Teamer was called for holding on fourth-and-4 from the 6-yard line with 30 seconds remaining in regulation.

The Raiders had built the 20-0 first-half lead as they outgained the Cardinals, 258-86. Murray completed 31 of 49 passes for 277 yards. Derek Carr was on fire in the first half, completing 18 of 24 passes for 210 yards, but was only 7-for-15 for 42 yards in the second half plus overtime.

49ers 27, Seahawks 7

Jimmy Garoppolo came off the bench for an injured Trey Lance and guided San Francisco to a victory against visiting NFC West rival Seattle in Santa Clara, Calif.

Garoppolo completed 13 of 21 passes for 154 yards and a touchdown and also scored on a 1-yard sneak with 1:51 remaining to clinch the victory. The 49ers (1-1) also got key contributions from two other injury replacements. Jeff Wilson Jr. filled in as the lead running back for Elijah Mitchell and



had a game-high 84 rushing yards on 18 carries. Tight end Ross Dwelley, subbing in for George Kittle, made a 38-yard touchdown reception and recovered two fumbles.

The Seahawks (1-1) managed just 216 yards of total offense and committed three turnovers. Geno Smith was 24-of-30 passing for 197 yards and an interception.

Jets 31, Browns 30

Rookie Garrett Wilson caught a 15-yard touchdown pass with 22 seconds remaining as New York pulled off a comeback to edge host Cleveland.

Nick Chubb scored from 12 yards out for his third touchdown with 1:55 remaining, which seemingly had the Browns (1-1) on their way to their first 2-0 start since 1993. New York got within 30-24 when Joe Flacco found a wide-open Corey Davis for a 66-yard touchdown with 82 seconds left.

The Jets (1-1) then recovered an onside kick by cornerback Justin Hardee at the New York 47 to set up Wilson's second score of the game. Flacco finished with 307 passing yards and four touchdowns.

Buccaneers 20, Saints 10

Tom Brady threw a tiebreaking touchdown pass to Breshad Perriman as visiting Tampa Bay defeated New Orleans.

Brady completed just 18 of 34 for 190 yards, but Mike Edwards' 68-yard interception return for a touchdown and Ryan Succop's pair of 47-yard field goals enabled the Buccaneers (2-0) to end a seven-game losing streak against the Saints in the regular season.

Former Buc Jameis Winston, reportedly playing with four broken bones in his back, completed 25 of 40 for 236 yards for the Saints (1-1). Winston threw three interceptions in the fourth quarter.



Murray Hopes to Play In Davis Cup Again

London (Dispatches) - Britain's Andy Murray said he felt "a bit emotional" over the idea he may have made his last appearance in the Davis Cup but the three-times Grand Slam champion added that he hopes to be selected again.

Murray defeated Kazakhstan's Dmitry Popko 6-3 6-4 in Sunday's dead rubber following Britain's losses to the United States and the Netherlands.

The 35-year-old led Britain to their first Davis Cup title for 79 years in 2015, but has struggled to regain top form since undergoing two hip surgeries and is currently ranked 43rd in the world.

Murray said he felt emotional in the final moments of Sunday's match in front of his home crowd in Glasgow.

"I only thought about it at about 5-2 today, to be honest, in the second set," Murray told reporters when asked whether he thought it could be his last Davis Cup match.

"I wasn't thinking about it before the weekend or during any of the doubles matches or anything... I lost my focus a bit and felt a little bit emotional about that."

The former world number one said getting the opportunity to play for Britain again would be difficult due to the competition for places in the team.

"It's obviously not going to be easy with the players that we have... Then obviously don't know which way the captain will go with the doubles after the results here, as well," Murray said.

Lloris, Hernandez Join France's Nations League Injury List

Paris (Dispatches) - Captain Hugo Lloris and defender Theo Hernandez have joined France's growing injury list ahead of this week's Nations League games against Austria and Denmark, the French Football Federation (FFF) said.

Nantes goalkeeper Alban Lafont and Aston Villa defender Lucas Digne have both been called in as replacements for the matches against Austria on Thursday and Denmark on Sunday.

Lloris suffered a right thigh injury while Hernandez has a torn right adductor, further weakening the world champions who have been hit by a wave of injuries.

In addition to the absence of Paul Pogba, recovering after a knee operation, coach Didier Deschamps is without Presnel Kimpembe, Lucas Hernandez, N'Golo Kante, Kingsley Coman and Karim Benzema.

The misfortune continued with Juventus midfielder suffering a muscle injury, and his replacement Boubacar Kamara picking up a knee problem.

AC Milan's Mike Maignan is expected to deputise for Lloris, France's second-most capped player with 139 appearances.

There were first call-ups for the Eintracht Frankfurt striker Randal Kolo Muani as well as Monaco centre-back Benoit Badjiashile and his club colleague Youssef Fofana.

Siniakova Outlasts Rybakina in Marathon to Win Title

Portoroz (Dispatches) - Katerina Siniakova battled back after losing the first set to beat Wimbledon champion Elena Rybakina in 6-7 (4/7), 7-6 (7/5), 6-4 in the WTA final in Portoroz, Slovenia.

Kazakhstan's Rybakina, ranked 25th in the world and the last remaining seed in this hard court tournament, raced to a 5-0 lead in the first set but needed a tiebreak after Czech Siniakova fought back.

Rybakina was a break up at 4-3 in the second set, but Siniakova again fought back and this time took the tiebreak with her third set point.



Kahn Backs Coach Nagelsmann Despite Poor League Form

Berlin (Dispatches) - Bayern Munich CEO Oliver Kahn said the club are "dissatisfied" with their poor run of league results but still have faith in head coach Julian Nagelsmann.

Bayern's 1-0 defeat to Augsburg on Saturday was the first time in 87 matches they had failed to score in a league game and marked the first time in 20 years they have

gone four league games without a win.

Bayern, who are fifth in the Bundesliga, next host Bayer Leverkusen on Sept. 30 and Kahn urged the team to respond with an attacking performance.

"We are not dealing with any other coaches now. We are totally convinced of Julian," Kahn told Sky Sports on Sunday.

"Of course we are all dissatisfied, in a bad mood. We have to get to the bottom of it. And assume that as soon as it starts again against Leverkusen, we will and must fully attack."

"Maybe the belief has taken root in one or two people that you can do the Bundesliga on the side. But that is not the case."

Alcaraz Puts Spain Into Davis Cup Quarters

Paris (Dispatches) - World number one Carlos Alcaraz sealed Spain's berth in the Davis Cup quarter-finals on Sunday by beating South Korea's Kwon Soon-woo in straight sets.

US Open champion Alcaraz won 6-4, 7-6 (7/1) against his 74th-ranked opponent at home in Valencia, after Roberto Bautista Agut had earlier beaten Hong Seong-Chan 6-1, 6-3.

After their surprise 2-1 loss to Canada on Friday, in which Alcaraz lost to Canadian Felix Auger-Aliassime, the Spaniards won in the singles against South Korea.

"Playing the Davis Cup here is an honour for me," Alcaraz told the crowd after the match. "But it's even better to come here being No. 1 in the world and US Open champion, to share this moment with all my people, my family, my friends."

First in Group B ahead of Canada, the Spaniards will meet Croatia in the quarter-finals in November, in front of their home crowd in Malaga. Serbia, in third, have been eliminated.

In Hamburg, Germany took the top spot in Group C ahead of Australia after doubles pairing Kevin Krawietz and Tim Puetz's 6-4, 6-4 victory over Matthew Ebden and Max Purcell.

That gave the hosts a 2-1 victory.

In singles, Thanasi Kokkinakis beat Oscar Otte 7-6 (8/6), 6-1 to keep Australia in the tie after Germany's Jan-Lennard Struff eased past Purcell 6-1, 7-5.

Germany and Australia had already secured the top two spots in Group C with wins over France and Belgium earlier in the group stage.

The Germans next meet Canada and Australia play the Netherlands.



Atletico Fans Filmed Chanting Racist Abuse at Vinicius

Madrid (Dispatches) - Atletico Madrid fans were filmed racially abusing Real Madrid's Brazilian forward Vinicius Jr. outside their Metropolitan Stadium ahead of the Madrid derby.

Hundreds of Atletico supporters could be heard singing "Vinicius, you are a monkey, you are monkey" in a video published on social media by radio station Cope in the build up to the game that Real went on to win 2-1. Local media also reported that monkey noises and chants of "Vinicius, die" were heard throughout the game.

Atletico Madrid did not immediately respond to a request for comment, but said on Twitter: "Support Atleti with passion and respect for opponents."

Pedro Bravo, the head of the Spanish Football Agents Association, was criticised last week for saying Vinicius needed to stop "monkeying around" when celebrating goals, with a number of Brazilian footballers, including Neymar and Dani Alves, denouncing the comments as racist.

Bravo said that the comment was not intended to be interpreted as racist, and instead was just a common turn of phrase used in Spanish.

Vinicius and Real, however, both released statements condemning the racist abuse the player has suffered during in his career.

Vinicius and scorer Rodrygo celebrated Real's opening goal in the game by dancing in front of the Atletico fans as Real continued their perfect start to the season.

Vinicius posted a picture on Instagram with the caption "Dance where you want", while his international team mate Gabriel Jesus of Arsenal said earlier on Sunday that his dancing celebration for his goal against Brentford in the Premier League was dedicated to his friend.

