

The First Humanitarian Aid Consignment of the Islamic Republic of Iran Has Been Dispatched to the Gaza Strip in the Presence of the Head of the Iranian Red Crescent Society Pre-Hossein Koulivand

A Ringleader of a Group associated With Daesh, Dubbed A.H., Has Been Arrested by Iranian Intelligence Forces in the Country's Southeastern Province of Sistan and Baluchestan

## Iran Calls for Urgent Int'l Attention to Palestine Amid Israel's Brutal Aggression

TEHRAN (PressTV) - Iran's permanent ambassador to the United Nations has called for urgent international attention to the situation in Palestine as the Israeli regime presses ahead with its unrelenting aggression against Palestinians in the besieged Gaza Strip. Amir Saeid Iravani made the remarks while addressing a UN Security Council meeting, themed "Maintenance of International Peace and Security: Contribution of Regional Mechanisms to Peace and Security," in New York on Friday. "The Palestinian situation demands urgent international attention," Iravani said. "For decades, Palestinians have suffered occupation, aggression, discrimination, and apartheid policies by the Israeli regime. Israel's brutal bombardment of Gaza began on October 7 in response to a surprise military operation by the Palestinian resistance movement Hamas, which itself was a response to intensified Israeli crimes against Palestinians in the occupied West Bank. More than 4,000 Palestinians, mainly civilians, have been killed across the Gaza Strip as a result of Israeli bombardments. Nearly 13,500 have also been injured. Earlier in the week, the occupying regime carried out fatal strikes on al-Ahli al-Arab Hospital and many mosques in Gaza, where people displaced by the Israeli aggression had sought sanctuary. On Thursday, Israel bombed the Greek Orthodox Saint Porphyrius Church where many Christians and Muslims had taken refuge. Today, the international community is witnessing yet another horrific uptick in atrocities and collective punishment against the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip by the Israeli regime, particularly the heinous terrorist attacks at al-Ahli al-Arab Hospital," the Iranian diplomat said. "The deliberate targeting of a hospital, a clear violation of international humanitarian law, is nothing short of a war crime," he maintained. "Equally, the indiscriminate killing of innocent people in Gaza, including women and children during the 14-day aerial bombardment, which devastated critical and civilian infrastructure, amounts to war crimes of the gravest nature." The Iranian ambassador further denounced the Israeli aggression against Palestinians as genocide and

called on the world body to take urgent action to end the tragedy in Gaza. "We are very disappointed by the council's inability to adopt a basic resolution calling for an immediate ceasefire and addressing the catastrophic humanitarian situation in Palestine," he said. "We urge the United Nations and the Security Council to take urgent action to put an end to the unfolding tragedy, which amounts to genocide, crime against humanity, and war crime. After seven decades of inertia, the Security Council must now shoulder its responsibility and take decisive action to address the ongoing plight of the Palestinian people," he added. Elsewhere in his address, Iravani pointed to the illegal withdrawal of the United States from the 2015 Iran nuclear deal, also known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), saying Iran's proactive engagement in diplomatic efforts is a testament to the country's unwavering commitment to revive the deal. He said the US pullout, accompanied by subsequent actions by the three European signatories to the JCPOA, violated the deal and created a fundamental challenge to it. "This challenge sadly endured due to the Western parties' excessive demands and the introduction of unrelated issues. However, the return to full implementation of the agreement is still possible if the United States and E3 demonstrate responsibility and a pragmatic approach," he added. Iravani also announced that, as of two days ago, all remaining restrictions on missile activities, the export and import of weapons, and financial transactions involving certain Iranian individuals and entities have been completely terminated and are no longer subject to any Security Council restrictions. "We trust that member states will diligently fulfill their commitments under Article 25 of the UN Charter and honor the termination of restrictions as laid out in Resolution 2231," he noted. Last month, the three European signatories to the JCPOA -- the UK, Germany, and France -- said they plan to terminate their anti-Iran sanctions, including ballistic missile bans, claiming that Iran has not been in compliance with the deal since 2019.

## SPGC Cumulative Gas Output Exceeds \$1.9 tcm in 25 Years



TEHRAN (Dispatches) - The managing director of South Pars Gas Company (SPGC) said that 1.96 trillion cubic meters (tcm) of natural gas have been processed by the complex refineries and injected into the country's gas network since the complex was launched 25 years ago. Speaking to Shana on the occasion of the complex's 25th establishment anniversary, Ahmad Bahoush said: "SPGC was established on 20 October 1998 as one of the subsidiary companies of National Iranian Gas Company (NIGC) which is responsible for the operation of onshore facilities of the South Pars gas field." He said the first official production and processing of natural gas from the second refinery of South Pars (phases 2 and 3) began in the Iranian calendar year 1380 (2001), adding: "At that time, 50 million cubic meters of feed was received from the platforms of the South Pars gas field and 40 million cubic meters of natural gas was processed on a daily basis." According to Bahoush, at the time, 80,000 barrels of gas condensate and 400 tons of sulfur were also produced daily. Emphasizing the significant development of the 13 South Pars refineries over the past 25 years, Bahoush stated: "The feed received by the complex from the platforms of this joint field is now 650 million cubic meters per day, of which 580 million cubic meters of natural gas is produced and transferred to the national network." Back in August, Bahoush said that 75 percent of the country's natural gas is refined at the refineries of the complex. Speaking at a meeting of the country's oil industry managers on August 4, the SPGC head said: "SPGC produces rich gas in the offshore platforms and the produced gas is processed at the complexes 13 onshore refineries." "The output is used as petrochemical feed and light gas is injected into the national gas network," he added. South Pars Gas Company is the largest subsidiary of NIGC which operates the onshore facilities (phases 1 to 24) of the country's giant South Pars gas field. South Pars gas field, which Iran shares with Qatar in the Persian Gulf, is estimated to contain a significant amount of natural gas, accounting for about eight percent of the world's reserves, and approximately 18 billion barrels of condensate. The field is divided into 24 standard phases.

## Int'l Tourism Exhibition of Tabriz Ends With Hopes of Boosting Tourism

By: F. Taherpour

TABRIZ - The 2nd International Tourism Exhibition of Tabriz and the 10th National Handicrafts Exhibition ended in the Tabriz International Exhibition Center on Saturday. The event kicked off on Wednesday by Deputy Minister of Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts Ms. Maryam Jalali in the presence of senior officials Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts of Azarbaijan Province. Union of Tourism Associations of East Azarbaijan was the organizer of the 2nd International Tourism Exhibition of Tabriz with the aim of boosting tourism activities in this province. The exhibitions were held on an 11,000-square-meter area and 27 provinces had their pavilions in the event. Some 50 pavilions for tourism and some 225 pavilions in the handicrafts put on display their activities and achievements. There were some pavilion for historic and classic cars on the sidelines of the event. Turkey was the only foreign country participating in the event. Speaking on the sidelines of the exhibition, Chairman of Union of Tourism Associations of East Azarbaijan Mr. Rashid Rajabpoo who is also chairman of Flamingo Parvaz Tour Operator said that holding tourism exhibition was aimed at boosting tourism activities in the province and urged the government to provide required facilities for boosting tourism industry. He also blamed unskillful and unspecialized managements for the lack of boom in tourism industry of the country. He added that one of the major problems of the tourism industry in Iran is the unspecialized and unprofessionalism of the airlines and experience shows that those countries are successful in tourism which use expertise and professional approaches in their airlines and they do not let unprofessional people enter the job. He deplored that in recent years airlines have been in the hands of unprofessional people which have pushed the tourism to the abyss. Rajabpoo said that East Azarbaijan has great potentials for attracting domestic and foreign tourists, adding that called for real support of the government from tourism activists practically and not in words by granting required facilities and it will help domestic and foreign tourists to flood into the province. He also criticized bad roads for lack of boom in tourism of provinces and called for improving the roads' condition and renovating road transportation fleet. He also reiterated that some of the problems have nothing to do with the sanctions and the mismanagement should be blamed and lack of good management will lead to the decline in the number of tourists. Rajabpoo also pointed to the important role of travel agencies in developing tourism industry and reiterated that this field also needs skillful and expert persons in attracting domestic and foreign tourists. He also blamed the considerable number of decision-makers for issuing licenses for these agencies and it creates more hurdles and troubles for tour operators and travel agencies and this should be resolved if the country wants its tourism industry to pick up.



## Iran's Exemplary Exporters Honored in National Exports Day

IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

TEHRAN - Iran's 27th National Exports Day ceremony was held at Tehran's Islamic Summit Conference Hall on Saturday, in which the country's exemplary exporting companies were honored, IRIB reported. Organized by the Trade Promotion Organization (TPO), the ceremony was attended by high-ranking officials including Industry, Mining and Trade Minister Abbas Ali-Abadi, Deputy Foreign Minister for Economic Diplomacy Mehdi Safari, and TPO Head Mehdi Zeyghami. As reported, the process of registration and evaluation of the top exporters started a few months ago, and one part of this evaluation included self-declaration and another part was based on the statistics regarding the companies' export performance. Speaking at the ceremony, Industry, Mining and Trade Minister Abbas Ali-Abadi mentioned the ministry's efforts for expanding the country's trade, noting that since the beginning of the current government incumbency, the ministry has taken several positive measures for boosting the country's economic relations with its trade partners. As an example, he mentioned the establishment of a barter trade mechanism with Belarus, an achievement which was made during his recent visit to the country. Further in the ceremony, Zeyghami in his speech mentioned the significant increase in the country's non-oil trade in the previous Iranian calendar year (ended on March 20), saying: "Last year, the country's non-oil exports reached more than 53 billion dollars, which was a new record in the history of the country." "In the first six months of this year, although the value of some products, including petrochemicals, decreased, we have had a 29 percent increase in exports in terms of weight. Also, during this period, we had export growth in the fields of industry, mining and agriculture, and the total non-oil export in the first half of this year was more than 24 billion dollars," Zeyghami added. Elsewhere in the event, Safari pointed to the Industry, Mining and Trade Ministry's measures for expanding economic ties with new trade partners, saying: "The policy of the 13th government is to develop trade with neighboring countries, the African continent, Latin America and East Asia."



## Iran Strongly Against Monopolizing Outer Space

NEW YORK (Dispatches) - Managing Director of Foreign Ministry International Peace and Security Office Asadollah Eshraq-Jahromi has said that Iran strongly advocates against monopolizing outer space. "Iran strongly advocates against monopolizing outer space or attempting to curtail the peaceful use of space-related science, technology, and services for developing countries," Eshraq-Jahromi said addressing the Debate on Disarmament Aspects of Outer Space Exposes First Committee Rift over Ways to Sustain Space Security, Prevent Domain's Weaponization. He expressed solidarity with Palestine during these trying times and vehemently denounced barbaric atrocities and heinous crimes committed by the Zionist regime. Iran is deeply troubled by the security risks posed by the deployment of strategic missile defense systems, reiterating the need for a non-discriminatory multilateral approach to address these issues within the United Nations, he said. Turning to the establishment of a new group of governmental experts on the prevention of an arms race in outer space, he said its success hinges on avoiding the entrenchment of politicized positions among its members, he noted. Eshraq-Jahromi called on the United States to withdraw its opposition to the establishment of a special negotiating committee under the prevention of an arms race in outer space while noting sanctions imposed by the United States against Iranian space agencies.



## Capacity of Iran's Renewable Power Plants Reaches 1,088 MW



TEHRAN (Dispatches) - The capacity of Iran's renewable power plants has reached 1,088.18 megawatts (MW), the country's Energy Ministry announced. Based on the Energy Ministry data, of the mentioned total capacity, 364.89 MW is supplied by wind power plants, 465.65 MW is provided by solar power plants, 99.47 MW is supplied by small hydroelectric power plants, and 12.5 MW is provided by biomass plants. Turbo expanders or expansion turbines also account for 9.6 MW, and branching accounts for 136.07 MW of the country's total renewable capacity. Renewables, including hydropower, account for nearly seven percent of the country's total energy generation, versus natural gas' 90 percent share. Last week, Iran's National Development Fund (NDF) and Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Organization (SATBA) signed a memorandum of understand (MOU) worth \$5 billion for financing renewable power plant projects belonging to non-governmental public institutions. The MOU was inked by NDF Deputy Head Alireza Mir-Mohammad Sadeqi and SATBA Head Mahmoud Kamani in a ceremony at the place of NDF. Financing for the construction of renewable power plants up to a ceiling of five billion dollars (within two years) will be carried out by the National Development Fund, and includes the use of other methods for supplying resources based on the statutes and regulations of the NDF. Addressing the signing ceremony of the MOU, NDF Head Mehdi Ghazanfari said that although there are some financial arrears in fossil power plants to the National Development Fund, the successful collaboration of this fund with the Ministry of Energy in the construction of renewable power plants can even exceed agreements amounting to more than \$5 billion in the future. Mahmoud Kamali, the head of SATBA, for his part, referred to concerns about future electricity supply shortages and the effectiveness of such plans, and said: "Network capacity, electricity generation, and power plant fuel supplies are limited. Therefore, the development of renewable power plants, in addition to promoting sustainable network development, can help overcome challenges in fuel supply and fossil fuel production."

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ISSN 1024-6053 P.O. Box: 15875-8551
Address: No 13, Pajouhesh St., Golestan II St,

Golestan St. Marzdaran Blvd., Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran
Distributed by: Cities of Iran Cultural and Artistic Institute
Managing Director: Fereydoon Taherpour Asl



Rallies Held Across Arab World in Support of Gaza



CAIRO (Dispatches) - Demonstrations in support of Gaza and condemning Israel's bombardment of the besieged enclave were held across the Arab world on Friday, including in countries which have normalized relations with Israel.

thousands took to the streets. "There is a desire to take control of the public anger," Cairo University politics professor Mustapha Kamel al-Sayyid told AFP.

arms. In Baghdad, a few thousand people demonstrated on Friday, including sympathizers of the Hashed al-Shaabi, a coalition of armed factions close to Israel's arch foe Iran.

Latin American Presidents to Meet in Mexico for Migration Summit



MEXICO CITY (Dispatches) - When a dozen Latin American presidents and foreign ministers meet on Sunday in Mexico, they'll face a huge task: finding a solution to migration flows roiling two continents as people make their way to the United States.



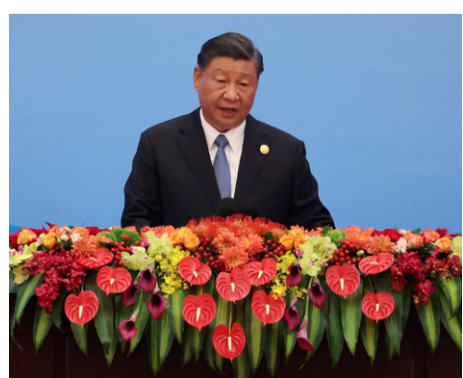
U.S., EU Show United Front on Israel, Ukraine

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) - President Joe Biden and European Union leaders delivered a message of unity Friday on the Israel-Hamas and Ukraine wars, despite worries that political paralysis in Washington could hamper U.S. aid for its allies.

crisis in Gaza. "It is crucial to prevent regional escalation," such as a new front with Lebanon's Iran-backed Hezbollah movement, they said.

Hamas Releases Two U.S. Hostages
GAZA STRIP (Dispatches) - Gaza's Hamas rulers released two Americans on Friday among some 200 hostages they abducted in brutal October 7 attacks in Israel and indicated that more could follow.

China President Offers to Help Sri Lanka



Road" effort. Wickremesinghe was in the Chinese capital for the Belt and Road Forum that ended on Wednesday as well as talks on restructuring debt.

Argentina, Brazil Seek 12.5b Euros of Financial Aid in EU-Mercosur Talks

BRASILIA (Dispatches) - Argentina and Brazil are requesting 12.5 billion euros (\$13.2 billion) in financial aid from the European Union in talks to conclude a trade agreement with South America's Mercosur bloc, according to a document seen by Reuters.



Nawaz Sharif Set for Comeback



ISLAMABAD (Dispatches) - Three-time Pakistani prime minister Nawaz Sharif will return home to return home on Saturday after four years of self-imposed exile, primed to make a political comeback ahead of elections.