

Sistan and Baluchestan Province's Intelligence Department and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps's Intelligence Organization Announced Iranian Security Forces Have Arrested 19 Elements of the Terrorist Group Mojahedin-e Khalgh Organization (MKO) in the Province

IRAN NEWS

Secretary-General of Iran's High Council for Human Rights Kazem Gharibabadi Has Said That International Human Rights Organizations Are Not Even Capable of Showing a Proper Reaction to Crimes Committed by the Zionist Regime in Gaza

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Inflation Rate Falls 0.6%



IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

TEHRAN - The Statistical Center of Iran (SCI) has put the average inflation rate in the twelve-month period ended on October 22, which marks the end of the seventh Iranian calendar month Mehr, at 45.5 percent, falling 0.6 percent from the figure for the twelve-month ended to the sixth month. The center put the country's point-to-point inflation rate at 39.2 percent in the seventh month, which means families have paid an average of 39.2 percent more for purchasing the same package of commodities and services in that month, compared to the same month in the preceding year. The point-to-point inflation rate dropped 0.3 percent in the seventh month from the previous month. The Statistical Center of Iran has put the average inflation rate in the twelve-month period that ended on March 20, 2023, which marks the end of the past Iranian calendar year 1401, at 45.8 percent. The center had put the inflation rate in the twelve-month period that ended on March 20, 2022 (the end of the Iranian calendar year 1400) at 40.2 percent and that of the Iranian calendar year 1399 at 36.4 percent. In mid-July, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in an economic outlook report said inflation in Iran which was reported to be 49 percent in 2022 is expected to fall to 42 percent in 2023 and then to 30 percent in 2024.

IRAN NEWS POLITICAL DESK



Zionists Have Crossed All Red Lines, Int'l Laws in Gaza

TEHRAN - The Israel regime has crossed all the red lines and international laws and regulations, Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman said, referring to the regime's continued crimes in Gaza. Twenty-four days have passed since the beginning of the brutal attacks of the Zionist regime on the Gaza Strip, and in these attacks, this regime has crossed all the red lines and international laws and regulations, Nasser Kanaani said in his weekly presser on Monday. Sending humanitarian aid to the people of Gaza has been a serious concern of Iran since the beginning of the current crisis, he said. Iran emphasizes the end of the military attacks of the Zionist regime as the first issue, he said, adding that the country demands the removal of the oppressive siege and the opening of the crossing, especially Rafah, for the sending of international humanitarian aid. He also condoled the death of morals and human values in the dictionary of the American government and some European regimes to free nations. "We hope that we will soon witness the victory of the Palestinian nation over this aggressor regime and its supporters who violate human rights," he said, expressing respect for the patience, standing, and resistance of the Palestinian nation. Elsewhere in the presser, Kanaani was asked to comment on a recent warning against the Islamic Republic by US Vice President Kamala Harris. "Stop it!" he quipped. In an interview with CBS News published on Sunday, Harris was asked what her message to Iran was, to which she said: "Don't ... One word. Pretty straightforward." On a claim by U.S. authorities that Iran is carrying out attacks in Iraq against American interests, Kanaani said, "You reap what you sow. Supporting tension in the region will lead to reactions, and this is something we have stated many times in our official positions and messages." Speaking about the need for a ceasefire against the oppressed Palestinian people, he said, "As I said, ending the barbaric aggression of the Zionist regime and [reaching] a ceasefire is Iran's number one priority." He added that considering the Zionist regime's failure to fulfill global calls for a ceasefire, the international community should increase its pressure on the occupying regime so as to force it to accept a ceasefire. The Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman referred to the Islamic Republic's initiatives for releasing prisoners, noting that certain countries said their citizens are among the captives in Gaza, who are neither Israeli citizens nor part of the ongoing conflict between the warring sides; so, Iranian and Hamas officials discussed the issue and the resistance movement promised to take action in this regard. Despite the fact that Hamas carried out humanitarian actions in recent days, the Palestinians are not ready to keep on showing good will amid the continuous attacks on Gaza; however, Iran continues holding consultations with the Palestinian side to this end, he argued. Moreover, the top Iranian diplomat conducts consultations with foreign ministers from Qatar and Saudi Arabia in a bid to find a solution and put pressure on the Zionist regime to halt its relentless strikes on the Palestinian people. Touching upon Iran's vote on the recent resolution of the United Nations General Assembly regarding ceasefire in Gaza, Kanaani said that Iran voted in favor of the resolution thanks to the importance of supporting the Palestinian people and putting an end to the Israeli attacks; however, the Islamic Republic expressed its considerations in the final statement of the session.

Iran, EAEU on Verge of Signing FTA to Boost Bilateral Trade




October, 30, 2023 - 12:53 Economy news

TEHRAN (Tasnim) - An adviser to the Trade Promotion Organization of Iran (TPOI) for international affairs said a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between Iran and five members of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) is about to be signed after nearly six years of intensive negotiations. It is for about six years that intensive talk have been ongoing between Iran and the EAEU member states over the implementation of the FTA, Mir Hadi Seyyedi stated. The negotiations have been held in two parts, the first part becoming operational at the approval of Iran's Parliament on October 30, 2019, he added. A Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) was implemented between Iran and EAEU member states for about four years, which led to increased trade and economic activities between the two sides, Seyyedi stated. Iran-EAEU trade exchanges have risen from the previous \$2.5 billion to the current \$5 billion, showing a considerable hike after the implementation of the PTA, he said. "With the studies made in this regard, the two sides (Iran and EAEU member states) enjoy high capacity to increase the level of bilateral trade up to about \$20 billion." One year after the implementation of the PTA in November 2020, talks started for turning the PTA to an FTA, he noted. Today, talks between the two sides have terminated and the five EAEU member states i.e. Belarus, Kazakhstan, Russia, Kyrgyzstan and Armenia have agreed to launch the FTA with Iran in line with enhancing bilateral trade. It is hoped that Iran and the EAEU member states will ink the FTA by the end of the current Iranian calendar year (to end March 20, 2024), details of which will be put into operation after being approved by parliaments of the five Eurasian countries and Iran, Seyyedi added.

Armed Forces Ready to Face Any Threats

IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK



TEHRAN - The Islamic Republic of Iran Air Force (IRIAF) can carry out various non-stop operations, says the deputy chief of the Iranian armed forces. Brigadier General Aziz Nasirzadeh, in an interview with Defa Press published on Monday, lauded the IRIAF for its remarkable military prowess and combat engagement capabilities. "The authority of the Iranian armed forces pleases Iran's allies and friends yet draws the ire of the enemies," he said. He pointed to the recently concluded Eghtedar (Authority) 1402 drills, which were held in the Nasrabad region of the country's central province of Isfahan, stating that different smart munitions with pinpoint accuracy as well as long-range weapons were employed during the massive military exercises. "The Islamic Republic of Iran Air Force proved that it can conduct various day-long, non-stop operations," Nasirzadeh noted. The high-ranking Iranian military commander further said that IRIAF helicopters, equipped with night-vision systems, carried out nocturnal sorties to dispatch troops and managed to successfully conduct surveillance and combat operations - the first of its kind in years - during the two-day-long maneuvers. He underscored that Iranian military forces hold routine exercises in order to boost their combat preparedness, saying that the Islamic Republic of Iran Army Ground Force demonstrated the growth in its combat capabilities on the ground and the readiness to face any potential future threat during Eghtedar 1402 drills. The war game involved troops from all units of the Army Ground Force. The force employed homegrown purpose-built loitering munitions in the exercise to hit fixed and moving targets on the ground within a range of 10 kilometers. Sina and Fateh are the two Iranian loitering munitions, also known as suicide or exploding drones, which can loiter around a specific area until a target is located.

Iran Warns of New War Fronts

TEHRAN - Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian has warned that new war fronts would open if US continues its all-out support for Israel as the Tel Aviv regime presses ahead with its war crimes and genocide against the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip. In an interview with Bloomberg Television published on Saturday, Amir-Abdollahian said the US's unconditional support for Israel has escalated the regime's war against the Palestinian resistance movement Hamas and the killing of civilians, especially women and children. "If the Israelis do not stop the war and continue with the killing and crimes [against the Palestinians], the opening of new fronts will be unavoidable, and that will put Israel in a new situation that will make it regret its actions," he added. He called out the glaring double standard of the United States, saying, "The US is advising others to show self-restraint, but it has sided completely with Israel," which is described by international law as an "occupying power." The top Iranian diplomat emphasized that the continuation of the US's full support for Israel would spiral the situation out of control in the region, warning that it would be detrimental to Washington as well. Amir-Abdollahian also defended the "completely Palestinian decision" made by Hamas to launch Operation Al-Aqsa Storm. "Hamas, Islamic Jihad and [Lebanon's



resistance movement] Hezbollah are groups that act in line with their own countries' interests. They neither take orders from us nor do we give them orders," he said. In response to a question about ways to reduce tensions, the minister advised the US to act fairly. Iran has always played a constructive role in the region and believes that tensions would be reduced through political approaches, he added. Amir-Abdollahian reiterated that Israel's occupation is the root cause of the ongoing crisis in the region and noted that Iran has never supported and will never support the killing of civilians anywhere. The chief Iranian diplomat denied a report by The Wall Street Journal claiming that in the weeks leading up to Operation Al-Aqsa Storm, hundreds of Palestinian resistance fighters received specialized combat training in Iran. "They themselves have forces to train. They produce the weapons and equipment they need. We have strong political bond with Hezbollah and resistance groups," he responded. The minister also rejected reports about the dispatch of new Iranian forces to Syria, Iraq and other countries in the region since the beginning of the ongoing war in Gaza but emphasized that Tehran would not be a bystander with regard to regional developments. Iran will make decisions based on its own interests, national security and the regional situation, he added.

Armenia Labor, Social Affairs Minister in Tehran



TEHRAN - A delegation led by the minister of labor and social affairs of Armenia, Narek Mkrtchyan, is in Iran with the aim of giving new momentum to the cooperation between the two countries in the field of labor and social protection, getting to know the best respective practices and innovative initiatives of Iran, as well as developing a constructive dialogue in this regard. Within the scope of the visit, a memorandum of understanding between the governments of Armenia and Iran on the exchange of medium and highly qualified workforce is planned to be signed, which will be an additional incentive to strengthen bilateral cooperation on institutional bases and expand ties. Also, the signing of this memorandum will facilitate the process of exchange of medium and highly qualified labor force, ensuring employment, and will contribute to the prevention of illegal immigration.

IRAN NEWS



Tehran, Manila Sign Executive Agreement on Cultural Programs

MANILA (Dispatches) - Victorino Mapa Manalo, chairman of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) of the Republic of the Philippines, and Hojatol Islam Mohammad Mahdi Imanipour, chairman of the Islamic Culture and Relations Organization of the Islamic Republic of Iran, signed the executive agreement on holding programs on cultural and artistic collaborations between Iran and the Philippines. Hojat al-Islam Imanipour stated that Iran and the Philippines will soon celebrate their 60th year anniversary of relationship, and they are ready to provide the grounds for cultural events between the two countries. He expressed hope that this cultural memorandum would provide new opportunities for collaboration between the two nations, but noted that there is a lack of sufficient information between the people of the two nations.

Hamas' Al-Aqsa Storm Result of Years of Oppression by Israel



TEHRAN (PressTV) - Iran's highest-ranking military commander says Palestinians decided to stand up against Israel and uphold their rights instead of giving in to their gradual death at the hands of the occupying regime. Speaking on Monday, Chief of Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces Major General Mohammad Baqeri said that Israel's bombing campaign on the blockaded Gaza Strip "has no military value" compared to the October 7 operation conducted by Palestinian resistance fighters against the occupying entity. The Zionists "are the losers of the war even if they continue the bombing for one year. This is because attacks on hospitals and ambulances, as well as the aerial bombardment of homeless people and women and children, is not a sign of victory." Baqeri also said Hamas' Operation Al-Aqsa Storm was the result of "the accumulation of cruelty and oppression" by the Zionists against Palestinians over many years. "Through self-reliance, the Palestinian resistance managed to break the Zionist regime's false images of invincibility by relying on its strength," he added. The top general said the resistance fighters have dug over 400 kilometers of tunnels in Gaza, where they boost their defense industries. Baqeri further reiterated Iran's fair proposal for the Palestine conflict, namely the holding of a referendum among all Palestinian people to decide their own fate.

Iran, Saudi FMs Urge End to Israel's Gaza Bombardment



TEHRAN (PressTV) - The foreign ministers of Iran and Saudi Arabia have called for collective regional and international action to immediately end Israel's attacks on Palestinian civilians. In a phone conversation on Sunday, Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian and his Saudi counterpart Prince Faisal bin Farhan discussed the latest developments in Gaza. Israel has been pounding the besieged territory from the ground, sea and air over the past 23 days. Amir-Abdollahian and bin Farhan said Gaza was in dire need of constant humanitarian aid and that the forced displacement of Palestinians by Israel needs to be countered. Meanwhile, the Saudi Press Agency reported that the two ministers discussed the escalation in the Gaza Strip and its surroundings. It said the top Iranian and Saudi diplomats underscored the international community's role in achieving a ceasefire and protecting civilians in Gaza.

Tehran, Doha Call for Immediate End to Israel's Aggression Against Gaza

TEHRAN (PressTV) - Foreign ministers of Iran and Qatar have called for an immediate end to the Israeli regime's war of aggression against the besieged Gaza Strip. Iran's Hossein Amir-Abdollahian and his Qatari counterpart, Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al Thani, made the remark in a phone conversation on Sunday. The two top diplomats discussed the latest developments related to Palestine and the ongoing Israeli war on the Gaza Strip. The foreign ministers underlined the need for an immediate halt to Israel's indiscriminate strikes against the blockaded Palestinian territory. They also urged uninterrupted supply of humanitarian aid to the people of Gaza.

IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK



Iran-Turkey Trade Exchanges Rise to \$13.4b

TEHRAN - Minister of roads and urban development said that the trade exchanges between Iran and Turkey have increased to over \$13.4 billion. Mehrdad Bazrpash made the comments on Monday in his visit to the Embassy of Turkey to Iran and stated that the two countries enjoy high potentials to further enhance bilateral trade. He seized this opportunity to congratulate the National Day of Turkey to the government and noble nation of the neighboring country. In his meeting with Turkey's Ambassador to Iran Hicabi Kirlangic, Iran's roads minister said that the administration of President Ebrahim Raisi attaches great importance to its relations with neighbors within the framework of neighborhood policy and the Republic of Turkey has a special position and importance here. The cooperation of the two great powers of the region, in addition to safeguarding mutual interests of the two countries, can bring about

peace, stability, security, development and prosperity in the region, Bazrpash stressed. Benefiting from many cultural and religious commonalities and located on the historical Silk Road, the two countries have played a leading and effective role in the regional equations, he emphasized. The head of the Iran-Turkey Joint Economic Cooperation Commission further pointed out that the two countries pursue the development of bilateral relations with strong political determination, adding that the visit of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan to Iran at the head of a high-ranking trade and economic delegation in August 2022 is solid evidence of the determination of the two countries for strengthening bilateral trade. Raisi will visit Turkey in the near future to participate in the 8th Meeting of the Iran-Turkey Supreme Council of Cooperation and explore avenues for enhancing mutual ties, Bazrpash added.

Russian Airlines Turn to Iran for Aircraft Engine Repairs



MOSCOW (Dispatches) - A deputy director of Russia's Azur Air Company, Andrei Mukanin, stated that the company is having some of its planes' engines serviced in Iran. "We carry out all types of aircraft maintenance ourselves ... [ellipses in original]. Iran helps us from the point of view of repairing our engines. They are there," TASS news agency quoted Mukanin saying on October 26. Mukanin declined to specify the number of engines being repaired, emphasizing that this does not impact the planned flight schedule or flight safety. In April 2023, Aeroflot, the Russian flag-carrier airline, sent one of its aircraft to Iran for servicing and a C-check, marking the first such collaboration. On April 5, Aeroflot dispatched one of its Airbus A330-300 aircraft to Tehran for servicing by Mahan Air, with Mahan Air primarily focusing on overhauling the plane's undercarriage. Western sanctions have forced Russian airlines to seek alternative sources for aircraft maintenance and parts due to restrictions imposed after Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022. Russian airlines continue to operate Western aircraft but face challenges in importing replacement parts. Both Iran and Russia, confronting Western sanctions, have significantly strengthened their relations across

various sectors, notably in military and defense cooperation, solidifying their status as close allies. On October 25, Iranian First Vice-President Mohammad Mokhber and Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin, meeting in Kyrgyzstan, discussed their "record" levels of bilateral trade and explored avenues to further enhance economic collaboration on the eve of a prime ministerial meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) held in Kyrgyzstan. Mokhber highlighted the positive trajectory of "strategic ties" between the two countries and stressed the importance of breaking down visa barriers to facilitate future bilateral growth. He emphasized the need to implement agreements in areas such as the aeronautical industry, the development of transit links, the completion of the Rasht-Astara railway link, and the connection of the national power grids of Iran, Russia, and Azerbaijan. Mokhber also urged close monitoring of bilateral cooperation arrangements in the oil and gas sector. The two sides agreed to explore the possibility of transporting gas between Iran and Russia through Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan, as well as prospects for overland cargo transport between Iran, Russia, and Azerbaijan.

Iran to Host Key Meeting of Caspian Sea Littoral States in Mid-November



TEHRAN (IRNA) - The Islamic Republic of Iran will host the third Caspian Economic Forum with the participation of the prime ministers of the Caspian Sea littoral states in mid-November. The 13th session of the Headquarters for the Coordination of Foreign Economic Relations in the current year was held in the Iranian capital city of Tehran to perform the necessary coordination to participate in the key meeting of Caspian Sea littoral states in Iran. Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Economic Diplomacy Mehdi Safari chaired the meeting that was attended by members of the Headquarters for the Coordination of Foreign Economic Relations including directors of relevant bodies. During the meeting, the participants examined economic and trade relations with Tajikistan and strategies for attracting foreign investment, especially from the Persian Gulf countries, and appointed the heads of joint economic commissions with some countries. Referring to the holding of the third Caspian Economic Forum in the fields of transportation, joint ventures, oil and gas, finance, banking, as well as technical cooperation in Iran in mid-November, Iran's deputy foreign minister for the Caspian Sea affairs Alireza Jahangiri called on all active institutions in economic sectors to attend the meetings to achieve the best possible outcome by careful and targeted planning and active attendance.

Russia Interested in Expanding Trade Ties With Iran



TEHRAN (IRNA) - Director of the Federal Customs Service of Russia Ruslan Davydov has expressed Russia's readiness to expand trade relations with Iran. Davydov made the remarks in a meeting with Foroud Asgari, the deputy head of the Iran Customs Administration for customs affairs. Increasing the tariff level for exchange in the form of the Green Corridor between the two countries, following up the final approval of the agreement of authorized economic operators (AEO) and the exchange of knowledge and experience between the experts are among the factors that help facilitate trade between the two countries, Asgari said on Monday. Facilitating trade for the two countries' businesses and creating special facilities for the beneficiaries by the customs will make trade exchanges faster and easier, he added. He also suggested the formation of a joint working group with the presence of Iranian and Russian customs officials to review customs and trade issues.

Axis of Resistance Against Israel Continues



TEHRAN (IranPress) - The speaker of the Syrian Parliament said that the confrontation of the 'axis of resistance' with Israel continues. The parliamentary delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran met with the speaker of the Syrian People's Assembly and presented him with the message of the speaker of the Iranian Parliament. According to Iran Press, Hammouda Sabbagh, Speaker of the Syrian People's Assembly, said in the meeting of the Iranian parliamentary delegation in Damascus on Sunday evening, that the Axis of Resistance continues to confront the occupation of the Israeli regime. 'Hamoudeh Sabbagh' emphasized that the Axis of Resistance continues to support the Palestinian people and resistance and stated that Syria and Iran are united against the Israel-American conspiracies in the region. The Speaker of the Syrian People's Assembly also called Iran-Syria relations historic and said that strengthening the diplomatic and parliamentary relations between the two friendly countries is necessary to defend the Palestinian cause. Ebrahim Azizi, Vice Chairman of the National Security and Foreign Policy Commission of Iran's parliament, also said in a meeting with the Speaker of the Syrian People's Assembly that the Israeli regime failed in the 'Aqsa Flood operation' and cannot compensate for this failure. The Iranian parliamentary delegation headed by 'Ebrahim Azizi' arrived in Damascus on Sunday to consult with the Syrian authorities about bilateral relations, especially parliamentary cooperation, as well as the most important developments in the West Asian region, including the Gaza war.

61 killed, injured as two passenger trains collide in India

TEHRAN, Oct. 30 (MNA) – At least 11 people were killed and 50 others injured in a train accident in the southern Indian state of Andhra Pradesh, officials said on Monday. The accident took place on Sunday evening after a passenger train overshot the signal and hit another from behind on the Howrah-Chennai line in Vizianagaram district, about 68 km north of Vishakhapatnam, the main city of Andhra Pradesh, Xinhua reported. Three coaches were derailed from the track, and disaster response force personnel were rushed to the spot to carry out rescue work that was going on throughout the night.



Ukraine Eyes Global Peace Summit This Year



KYIV (Dispatches) - Ukraine aims to hold a global "peace summit" of world leaders this year, Deputy Minister Mykola Tochytskyi said after international representatives met in Malta over the weekend to discuss Kyiv's peace formula for its war with Russia. "This aim remains necessary and possible ... it has been demonstrated that there is interest in this," Deputy Minister Mykola Tochytskyi told Reuters by phone shortly after concluding his meetings. Heads of state and heads of government would attend the meeting, he said. The Malta meeting on Saturday and Sunday was attended in person or online by representatives from 66 countries, Kyiv said, with over 20 more countries participating than at the last such meeting in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, in August. The talks do not include Russia. Tochytskyi said the Malta meeting discussed five points of the 10-point formula put forward by President Volodymyr Zelenskyy last year: Nuclear safety, food security, energy security, release of prisoners and deported persons, and territorial integrity. The deputy minister said Ukraine's efforts to win over "Global South" countries were not affected by differing positions on the Israel-Hamas conflict, although it could make it more difficult to focus the spotlight on Ukraine. "Do military events in other corners (of the world) make it more difficult? Of course they can, but this is another vindication that President Zelenskyy's formula is important, as it is about peace." Ukraine has sought for months to build ties with African, Asian and Latin American governments, but has found its support for Israel at odds with the positions of some of those countries. Tochytskyi confirmed China did not attend the Malta meeting despite efforts from Ukraine to get Beijing to send a representative. "The reasons are not known to me, as far as I can remember in Jeddah the Chinese representative, Li Hui, said he was planning to attend." He said Ukraine was keeping an open-door policy for China or any other country to attend future summits.

Bangladesh Police Arrest a Key Opposition Leader



DHAKA (Dispatches) - Authorities in Bangladesh arrested a key opposition figure from the Bangladesh Nationalist Party on Sunday and sent him to prison after hours of detention. The party had called for a nationwide strike after violent clashes with security forces a day earlier. Media reports said at least three civilians died in the violence, which included an arson attack in the nation's capital, Dhaka, on Sunday. Dozens of others were injured during the strike. At least one police officer was killed and scores were injured Saturday when a massive rally by tens of thousands of opposition activists turned violent, police said. The opposition is demanding the resignation of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and the transfer of power to a non-partisan caretaker government to oversee general elections next year. Almost nine hours after detention, police late Sunday arrested Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, the secretary general of the Nationalist Party led by former Prime Minister Khaleda Zia, Hasina's main rival, said Faruk Hossain, deputy commissioner of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police in charge of media. Detectives produced Alamgir before a magistrate court late Sunday when his bail request was rejected and he was ordered to be sent to prison, pending further legal procedures involving charges of vandalism during Saturday's violence. Police said a group of opposition supporters attacked the official residence of the country's chief justice during Saturday's protest. Alamgir has been implicated in the case. The party denounced his detention and announced a three-day blockade of mainly roads and public transportation across the country starting on Tuesday. Dhaka Metropolitan Police Commissioner Habibur Rahman said that Alamgir was detained for questioning. Under the law, he must appear in court within 24 hours. Hossain also said that 1,300 people were being investigated for Saturday's violence. Local reports said police had raided the homes of several opposition leaders overnight in Dhaka. Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan told reporters that leaders of Zia's party have to bear responsibility for their role in the violence, the United News of Bangladesh agency reported. Amid growing tension in a country dominated by the two major dynastic political parties of Hasina and Zia, the ruling party's General Secretary Obaidul Quader said Sunday that there would be no dialogue with the opposition before the election unless it agrees with four issues, including the ruling out of a caretaker government. The party is also demanding that Hasina remain the head of government until the election, and it rejects any changes to the Election Commission. The ruling party and its 13 allies will rally in Dhaka on Monday to denounce the violence by the opposition. On Sunday, at least three vehicles were set on fire in the capital as police increased security.



MOSCOW (Dispatches) – A mob looking for Israelis and Jews overran an airport in Russia's Caucasus republic of Dagestan on Sunday, after rumours spread that a flight was arriving from Israel. The violence in the mostly Muslim region, which comes as war rages between Israel and Hamas in Gaza, prompted Israel to call on Russia to protect its citizens, while the United States condemned the "anti-Semitic protests". The governor of Dagestan promised that those responsible for the incident would be punished. Dozens of protesters, many of them chanting "Allahu Akbar" (God is greatest), broke through doors and barriers at Makhachkala airport, with some charging onto the runway, according to videos posted on social media and Russia's RT and Izvestia media. Russia's aviation agency Rosaviatsiya announced shortly afterwards that it had closed the airport to incoming and outgoing flights and that security forces had arrived. "The situation is under control," local authorities said on Telegram. A statement from the republic's health ministry said there had been injuries, but did not elaborate on how many or who had been hurt. Late on Sunday, Rosaviatsiya announced that the airport had been "freed" from the mob and would remain closed until November 6. Several local Telegram channels showed photos and videos of dozens of men waiting outside the airport to stop cars. One protester appeared in the videos holding a sign that read "Child killers have no place in Dagestan". Other videos showed a crowd inside an airport terminal trying to break down doors as staff members tried to deter them. The website FlightRadar indicated that a Red Wings flight out of Tel Aviv had landed at Makhachkala at 7:00 pm (1600 GMT). The independent Russian media outlet Sota said it was a transiting flight that had been due to take off again for Moscow two hours later. A statement from

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office on Sunday evening said: "Israel expects the Russian authorities to protect all Israeli citizens and all Jews, and to act decisively against the rioters and against incitement to violence against Jews and Israelis." White House National Security Council spokeswoman Adrienne Watson said on X, formerly Twitter: "The United States vigorously condemns the anti-Semitic protests in Dagestan, Russia." "The U.S. unequivocally stands with the entire Jewish community as we witness a worldwide surge in anti-Semitism." Earlier Sunday, Akhmed Dudayev, the minister of information in Dagestan's neighbour Chechnya, warned on Telegram against "provocations" and called for calm in the face of rising tensions in the Caucasus. The Dagestan government posted on Telegram appealing to those involved to stop their "illegal acts" despite their anger over the "inhumane massacre of a civilian population – the Palestinian people." "At the same time, we urge residents of the republic not to succumb to provocations of destructive groups and not to create panic in society." Sergei Melikov, the republic's governor, posted on Telegram later Sunday saying: "All Dagestanis empathise with the suffering of victims by the actions of unrighteous people and politicians and pray for peace in Palestine." "But what happened at our airport is outrageous and should receive the appropriate assessment from law enforcement. This will be done." Dagestan and Chechnya are mainly Muslim areas – known in Russia as "republics" – in a region that has witnessed years of violent tension with the central Russian authorities. The RIA Novosti news agency reported on Sunday that a Jewish centre in another North Caucasus republic – Kabardino-Balkaria – had been set on fire in the city of Nalchik.



BEIJING (Dispatches) - Top Chinese and Russian officials warned Monday that foreign forces were seeking to sow turmoil in Asia and beyond as they opened an international defence conference in Beijing. Beijing has billed this week's Xiangshan Forum as its answer to Singapore's Shangri-La Dialogue and says that representatives of 90 countries are taking part, including Russian Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu. China is holding the forum without a sitting defence chief, having abruptly announced the sacking of minister Li Shangfu last week without explanation. Speaking at the conference's opening ceremony, Zhang Youxia, one of China's most senior military officials, painted a grim picture of the international outlook, blaming countries he did not name for the turmoil. "As we look across the world today, hotspot issues are arising one after another. The pain of war, chaos and turmoil, and loss of life are constantly playing out," Zhang said. "Some countries, for fear that the world may stabilize, deliberately create turmoil, interfere in regional issues, interfere in other countries' internal affairs, and instigate color revolutions," he said. "Behind the scenes, they hand out knives and think nothing of provoking people into wars, ensuring that they're the ones who benefit from the chaos," he added. But Zhang also said China was seeking to improve military-to-military ties with the United States, with whom tensions have soared over the disputed South China Sea and Beijing's drills around the self-ruled island of Taiwan. "We are also willing to develop China-US military relations in accordance with the principles of mutual respect, peaceful coexistence and win-win cooperation," he told delegates. Speaking after Zhang, Russia's Shoigu also warned that Washington was seeking to provoke instability in Asia. "Having provoked an acute crisis in Europe, the West is trying to expand the crisis potential in the Asia Pacific," he told delegates. "Direct involvement of countries with nuclear arsenals multiplies the strategic risks," he said. "The West's line towards escalation with Russia poses a risk of direct conflict between nuclear powers, which will result in catastrophic consequences," Shoigu added. China has refused to condemn Russia's invasion of Ukraine and has deepened economic, diplomatic and military cooperation with Moscow since the start of the war. Russian President Vladimir Putin this month paid a two-day visit to China, his first outside the former Soviet Union this year and part of the Kremlin's drive to strengthen its economic partnerships across Asia. And Zhang – who embraced Shoigu on the sidelines of the forum – pledged Monday that Beijing would seek to "deepen strategic cooperation and coordination between the Chinese and Russian militaries".

G7 Calls for Immediate Repeal of Bans on Japanese Food

TOKYO (Dispatches) - The Group of Seven (G7) industrial powers called on Sunday for the "immediate repeal" of import curbs on Japanese food products, a reference to China's restrictions after Japan began releasing wastewater from the Fukushima nuclear power plant. The G7 trade ministers, in a statement after a weekend meeting on Osaka, did not mention China but they also denounced what they consider its rising economic coercion through trade. "We deplore actions to weaponize economic dependencies and commit to build on free, fair, and mutually beneficial economic and trade relationships," said the 10-page statement. China slapped a blanket suspension of Japanese fish imports two months ago when Japan started the release of treated radioactive water from the wrecked Fukushima plant into the Pacific. While Japan and the U.S. have called the curbs unfair, Russia announced a similar restriction earlier this month. In response, China described G7's move as "economic coercion" and urged the G7 not to "stubbornly adhere to double standards" but take practical action to maintain the normal international trade and investment order. "The G7 members undermine the level playing field and disrupt the security and stability of global production and supply chains," China's embassy in Japan said in a statement late on Sunday. The G7 - the United States, Japan,

Germany, Britain, France, Italy and Canada - expressed "concern" over recent control measures on the export of critical minerals. China, the world's top graphite producer, this month announced export curbs on the key material, used in electric vehicle batteries, in another bid to control critical mineral supply in response to challenges over its global manufacturing dominance. The G7 ministers "shared the need, a genuinely strong one, to reduce dependence on a particular country" for the supply of critical resources, said Yasutoshi Nishimura, trade minister of the host Japan. "We completely agreed to build resilient and reliable supply chains" for critical minerals, semiconductors and batteries, he told a press conference. The ministers reaffirmed their concerns on "a wide and evolving range of non-market policies" that include "pervasive, opaque and trade-distortive industrial subsidies" and forced technology transfer, the statement said. On Russia, the G7 officials condemned its destruction of Ukrainian grain export infrastructure in its invasion of the country, and Moscow's decision to "unilaterally" leave talks on an agreement that had allowed grain giant Ukraine to export wheat and other products through the Black Sea. Unlike the G7 finance ministers' meeting two weeks ago, which condemned "terror attacks" on Israel by Hamas, the trade ministers

did not mention the Middle East crisis, saying only that they "seek to raise awareness about the challenges of moving humanitarian goods across international borders during natural disasters and other emergencies". Western countries have generally backed what they say is Israel's right to self-defence, but there has been mounting international concern over the toll from Israel's bombing and growing calls for a pause to allow aid to reach Palestinian civilians in Gaza.



Deadly Strike on Journalists in Lebanon Was Targeted

PARIS (Dispatches) - A Reuters journalist killed in southern Lebanon two weeks ago and others wounded in the same incident were deliberately targeted, a Reuters Without Borders investigation released on Sunday said. Video journalist Issam Abdallah died and six other journalists were wounded – including two from AFP, one of them seriously – in strikes the village of Alma al-Shaab in southern Lebanon on October 13. "The initial findings of the investigation show that the reporters were not collateral victims of the shooting," the media watchdog Reuters Without Borders (RSF) said. "One of their vehicles, marked 'press', was targeted, and it was also clear that the group stationed next to it was journalists." The journalists believe they were hit by fire coming from the Israeli side of the border. The RSF initial findings did not explicitly blame Israeli forces, but said that according to ballistic analysis, the shots came from the east, the direction of the Israeli border. The RSF probe established that two strikes 37 to 38 seconds apart hit a spot where a group of seven journalists had been for more than an hour. The first strike killed Abdallah, the second, more powerful, ignited the vehicle used by Al-Jazeera, and injured several journalists. "Two strikes in the same place in such a short space of time (just over 30 seconds), from the same direction, clearly indicate precise targeting," the report said. "It is unlikely that the journalists were mistaken for combatants, especially as they were not hiding; in order to have a clear field of vision, they had been in the open for more than an hour, on the top of a hill." The journalists' bullet-proof vests and the nearby vehicle were marked 'press'. According to two journalists interviewed by the watchdog, an Israeli helicopter had flown over the scene a few seconds before the strikes. RSF said it was continuing its investigation. Lebanese authorities have accused Israel of being behind the strikes. The Israeli army said it was looking into the circumstance of the fatal strike. AFP is conducting its own investigation into the strike and has demanded that Israel and Lebanon conduct an in-depth probe. Reuters has also called on Israel to conduct a quick and comprehensive investigation. The Israeli-Lebanese border has been rocked by violence since Palestinian Islamist group Hamas killed over 1,400 people, mostly civilians, in its October 7 attack on Israel, sparking retaliatory bombing of Gaza that has killed more than 8,000 people, mostly civilians, according to the Hamas-run health ministry in Gaza.

Verstappen Claims Record Victory to Draw Level With Prost



MEXICO CITY (Dispatches) - World champion Max Verstappen drew level with Alain Prost on 51 Formula One victories when he claimed his record 16th triumph of the season at the Mexican Grand Prix. Starting from third on the grid, the Red Bull driver stole the lead at the start and then dominated the race, which was punctuated by a lengthy red flag stoppage when Kevin Magnussen crashed heavily in his Haas. The 26-year-old Dutchman came home 13.875 seconds ahead of a revitalized Lewis Hamilton, who started sixth, with pole-sitter Charles Leclerc taking third place ahead of his Ferrari team-mate Carlos Sainz. Lando Norris finished a glorious fifth for McLaren after an enthralling drive through the field from 17th on the grid, ahead of George Russell in the second Mercedes. It was Verstappen's fifth win in Mexico and his record-equalling 18th podium finish this year while the luckless Leclerc, who collided with Sergio Perez's Red Bull at the first corner, endured his 11th successive failure to convert pole into a victory. Perez spun off, recovered and retired, much to the disappointment of his home Mexican fans in a big crowd at the high-altitude Autodromo Hermanos Rodriguez. "It is just incredible," said Verstappen. "To win from P3, is just amazing. I started P3 and the car was really great. It was a very strong race and now I don't know — more wins, maybe 17 or 18!" Hamilton, who was disqualified after finishing second in the United States a week earlier, said: "I feel fresh. I was pushing, but not crazy hard. It is a great result, considering we started sixth. This is a great result for us in a difficult few weeks." Leclerc noticed "a lot of booing" from the crowd and explained his part in Perez's exit: "I had nowhere to go. I was between the two Red Bulls. Checo damaged my car and it ended his race. It was

not on purpose." Daniel Ricciardo finished a creditable seventh for Alpha Tauri ahead of Oscar Piastri in the second McLaren, Williams' Alex Albon and Esteban Ocon of Alpine. Verstappen made a sensational start, powering between the Ferraris to take the inside line after the 800-metre rush from Turn One. Sensing a chance, Perez went three abreast with Verstappen and Leclerc, but clipped the Ferrari's front wing and bounced off. To loud groans, he rejoined, limped to the pits and retired, beating his steering wheel in frustration while Leclerc continued with a flapping front wing which soon fell off. The stewards noted he was driving in an "unsafe condition" and decided to investigate after the race. "I went for it," said Perez, accepting the blame. "There wasn't room for three cars. In hindsight, I should have backed off, but it's my home race." By lap 20, Verstappen led by 4.6 seconds before pitting for hards, handing the lead to Leclerc. He rejoined seventh behind Russell and swiftly rose to fifth as his rivals pitted before Kevin Magnussen crashed heavily at Turn Nine to prompt a safety car. The Dane escaped, apparently unhurt, but his blazing Haas was wrecked, as Verstappen led a charge for cheap pit-stops and retained his lead before the race was red-flagged. After a 20-minute interlude to clear the debris, the race resumed with a standing start, which Verstappen, on hards, nailed ahead of Leclerc as Hamilton on mediums looked for a gap. It appeared on lap 40, when he dived inside the Monegasque at Turn One in vintage style to take second. "It's going to be a tough stint," said Hamilton, assessing his chances as Verstappen pulled four seconds clear and built a luxurious cushion. Behind them, several entertaining scraps and a dazzling drive by Norris thrilled the crowd, the McLaren driver charging through the field.

Sinner Edges out Medvedev for Vienna Title



VIENNA (Dispatches) - Italy's Jannik Sinner won his fourth ATP title of the season on Sunday after beating Daniil Medvedev 7-6 (9/7), 4-6, 6-3 in the final in Vienna. Sinner defeated Medvedev for the second time in three weeks, having also overcome the Russian in the Beijing final at the start of October. Medvedev was attempting to retain the title he won last year in Austria but Sinner nudged ahead in the final set, taking his ninth break point of an 18-minute game for a 3-1 lead. Former world number one Medvedev broke back the following game only to immediately again drop serve, allowing Sinner to close out victory in just over three hours. "It took a lot of mental and physical stuff," said Sinner, who retrieved a break in the opening set and saved two set points before snatching the tie-break. "I think we both served very well the first set. I managed somehow to get back on serve when he was a break up, because I felt like he was serving really good. I found a way in the first set." Medvedev, who beat Sinner in the finals in Miami and Rotterdam earlier this year, hit back with a couple of breaks in the second set to force a decider. "Second set, I felt like he was trying to get into the rally a little bit more and I was hustling a little bit," said Sinner. The fourth-ranked Sinner raised his level in the final set, finally putting away Medvedev to capture his 10th career title. "In the third set I tried to step up a little bit. I had a lot of break points, I couldn't use them and then at the end I used them so I'm very happy," said Sinner. "Obviously to finish the match, it was really a mental thing, but I'm very happy about how I managed today and very happy for another title." Both players are in the draw for next week's Paris Masters. Sinner and Medvedev have already qualified for the ATP Finals in Turin.

Unbeaten India Heap More Misery on Holders England

LUCKNOW (Dispatches) - India maintained their unbeaten streak at the 2023 World Cup with a 100-run victory in a low-scoring contest against holders England, who are facing a premature exit following their fifth defeat in six group matches on Sunday. Rohit Sharma saved India's blushes with a captain's knock of 87 in what initially appeared a below-par total of 229-9 on a tricky surface at the Ekana Stadium in Lucknow. Put into bat, the hosts slumped to 40-3 in the 12th over before Rohit forged a 91-run partnership with KL Rahul (39) to arrest their slide. Suryakumar Yadav contributed a breezy 49 down the order and India's tailenders scored some useful runs towards the end to take them past the 225-mark. England were reduced to 52-5 inside 16 overs in a remarkable batting capitulation and were eventually bundled out for 129 in inside 35 overs with Mohammed Shami claiming 4-22 for India. Liam Livingstone's 27 was the top score in England's sorry-looking scorecard. "I think this was a game where we showed a lot of character," Rohit said after India's sixth successive win in the tournament. "All the experienced players stood up at the right time and won us the game." Holders England went into the match as the bottom-placed team with only mathematical chances of making the semi-finals after just one win in their previous five group matches. In India, they faced the tournament's only unbeaten side looking unstoppable in their home conditions. Jos Buttler elected to field after winning the toss and had reasons to feel vindicated as India slumped to 40-3 in the 12th over. David Willey (3-45) began with a maiden and sent groans across the stadium in the seventh over when he dismissed Virat Kohli for a nine-ball duck. The early setbacks forced Rohit to shelve his natural strokeplay and he combined with Rahul to arrest their slide.



Man City Cruise Against Man Utd Exposes Gulf in Class



MANCHESTER (Dispatches) - Manchester City once feared a trip to Old Trafford but painted the town blue once more with a 3-0 victory over a demoralized United to reassert their dominance. A double from Erling Haaland before Phil Foden tapped home a third took Pep Guardiola's men nine points clear of United just 10 games into the Premier League season. Not since United last won the league in Alex Ferguson's final season in charge, in 2012/13, have the Red Devils finished above their local rivals. That run looks destined to go on for another season, with the clubs worlds apart on and off the pitch. The travelling City support taunted the home fans with chants expressing the hope that United's unpopular owners, the Glazer family, would remain for "10 more years". Initial optimism among the United fanbase that the Americans would sell the club they have controlled since 2005 looks likely to have been misplaced, with British billionaire Jim Ratcliffe set to settle for a minority stake after a year of negotiations. United's demise under the Glazers has coincided with the rise of City as the dominant force in English football, thanks to backing from Abu Dhabi's Sheikh Mansour. But money is not the only reason for the disparity in the performances of both clubs. United have outspent City in the transfer market in recent years but have wasted millions in the process. Despite his side's struggles to score goals this season, United boss Erik ten Hag left expensive attacking talent in Antony and Mason Mount on the bench on Sunday. By contrast, City have a slick operation behind the scenes to match their football. Guardiola cut short his successful managerial spells at Barcelona and Bayern Munich but is now into his eighth season at the Etihad. "I know what we have done. I didn't expect it," he said when asked if he had envisaged the change in fortunes for the clubs after his seventh win at Old Trafford as City boss.

Colombian Army Searches for Liverpool Winger Diaz's Kidnapped Father



BARRANCAS (Dispatches) - More than 120 Colombian soldiers backed by police searched Sunday for the father of Liverpool winger Luis Diaz, kidnapped with his wife, who has since been rescued. The army said in a statement it had set up roadblocks and deployed two motorized platoons, unmanned aircraft, helicopters and a plane with radar in the search for Luis Manuel Diaz. Colombian authorities did not provide details about the kidnapping, but media reported the footballer's father and mother Celenis Marulanda were taken Saturday by armed men on motorcycles at a gas station in their home town of Barrancas in the northern La Guajira department. President Gustavo Petro said Marulanda was rescued in Barrancas hours after the couple was taken. Attorney General Francisco Barbosa told a press conference Sunday that Diaz "could be" in Venezuela, without elaborating. The motive for the kidnapping has not been divulged. "We are desperate, we are distressed, we know nothing about him," Olmer Diaz, the kidnapped man's brother, told AFP in Barrancas, urging his "prompt release." Colombia is a country just emerging from decades of civil conflict between rival armed groups that has seen more than 38,000 people kidnapped over the years, mostly for ransom. Petro, at an event to mark the start of local elections in Bogota, said "all the public forces have been deployed" to find Diaz's father. Luis Manuel Diaz was an amateur coach at the only football school in Barrancas, a town of about 38,000 inhabitants near the Venezuelan border, where his son showed promise from a very young age. His father is credited with aiding the meteoric rise of the Liverpool and Colombia striker known as "Lucho." Diaz, a 26-year-old Wayuu Indigenous man, has not spoken out about the events.

Embiid Scores 35 in Dominant Effort as 76ers Beat Portland

LOS ANGELES (Dispatches) - Joel Embiid unleashed a dominant performance with 35 points, 15 rebounds, seven assists, six blocked shots and two steals on Sunday in Philadelphia's 126-98 NBA rout of Portland. The reigning NBA Most Valuable Player delivered what 76ers coach Nick Nurse called a "super dominant" showing, lifting the Sixers to victory in their season home opener. "He's always exceptional," 76ers guard De'Anthony Melton said. "He's always amazing for us. When he's playing like that, he's the best player in the league every night." The 29-year-old Cameroonian big man made 12-of-22 shots from the floor, including 2-of-4 from 3-point range, and sank 9-of-11 from the free throw line in 29 minutes. "That's my job, try to get better every single day," Embiid said. "It starts on defense, having that mentality to play it, lock down everything and block everything and offensively just trying to make the right plays." It's all about taking care of business. We got the win. I'm excited about that. We've still got a long way to go." The haunting thing for 76ers' rivals is Embiid insists he must improve. "I've still got to get better," he said. "I had a bad turnover toward the end. I had three of them. That I can correct. I missed some passes and defensively I could have done a better job. But I'm happy." Tyrese Maxey added 26 points and 10 rebounds while Tobias Harris scored 24 to spark the Sixers, who expect to have unhappy guard James Harden back at practice on Tuesday. Harden, a former MVP and three-time scoring champion who led the NBA in assists last season, hasn't played this season. The 34-year-old guard has tried to get into shape and took part in a pre-game walkthrough on Sunday, with Nurse saying Harden has done well in conditioning. Harden sought a trade in vain in the off-season and said his relationship with club officials can't be repaired. Defending champion Denver improved to 3-0 as two-time NBA MVP Nikola Jokic had game highs of 28 points and 14 rebounds to lead a 128-95 blowout at Oklahoma City. Michael Porter Jr. added 20 points and Jamal Murray had 19 for the Nuggets. Stephen Curry scored 24 points, going 6-of-14 from 3-point range,



and Klay Thompson added 19 points, going 5-of-10 from beyond the arc, in Golden State's 106-95 triumph at Houston. Golden State guard Chris Paul came off the bench for the first time in his 19-year career after 1,365 consecutive starts. Damian Lillard struggled in his second game with Milwaukee, scoring only six points in a 127-110 home loss to Atlanta. Trae Young scored 20 points and added 11 assists to spark eight Hawks scorers in double figures, including Clint Capela, who scored 12 points and grabbed 12 rebounds. Giannis Antetokounmpo had 26 points and 11 rebounds for the Bucks, but All-Star teammate Lillard, obtained in a trade from Portland last month, went 2-of-12 from the floor, 2-of-8 from 3-point range, and had six turnovers. Sacramento's De'Aaron Fox scored 37 points and the host Kings beat the Los Angeles Lakers 132-127 in overtime, with reserve Malik Monk scoring half his 22 points in overtime. Anthony Davis led the Lakers with 30 points and 16 rebounds while LeBron James contributed 27 points, 15 rebounds and eight assists. Kawhi Leonard scored 21 points while Russell Westbrook and Paul George each contributed 19 to spark the Los Angeles Clippers over San Antonio 123-83. Top NBA Draft pick Victor Wembanyama lost in his first NBA road game.