

While Hailing the Successful Launch of Chamran 1, a Research Satellite Into Orbit, the Iranian Embassy in London, in a Statement, Called on Adversaries to "Address the Islamic Republic With Respect Not Through the Language of Sanctions"

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Head of the Joint Staff of the Iranian Army, Rear Admiral Habibollah Sayyari and Vice-President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Gilles Carbonnier, in a Meeting in China Conferred on the Iranian Armed Forces' Effective Role in International Aid

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G7 Renews Claims Iran Supplied Russia With Missiles



LONDON (IRNA) - The foreign ministers of the Group of Seven (G7) industrialized economies, in a joint statement have repeated baseless claims first raised by American media about Iran's involvement in the Ukraine conflict by sending ballistic missiles to Russia.

We, the foreign ministers of G7 countries (Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, England and the United States) and the representative on behalf of the European Union, strongly condemn the transfer of Iranian ballistic missiles to Russia, IRNA cited the statement, a copy of which was published on the website of the British Foreign Office on Saturday.

"Iran must immediately cease all support to Russia's illegal and unjustifiable war against Ukraine and halt such transfers of ballistic missiles, UAVs (drones) and related technology, which constitute a direct threat to the Ukrainian people as well as European and international security more broadly," the G7 ministers said in the statement.

The top diplomats of the Group of Seven claimed that regardless of the origin of the conflict in Ukraine, Russia's aggression is a clear violation of international laws, including the UN Charter, and Iran must immediately withdraw all its support for Russia's illegal and unjustified war against Ukraine.

"We remain steadfast in our commitment to hold Iran to account for its unacceptable support for Russia's illegal war in Ukraine that further undermines global security. In line with our previous statements on the matter, we are already responding with new and significant measures," they said.

The US and its western allies keep leveling accusations against Iran without providing any evidence that Tehran had supplied Russia with ballistic missiles.

Iranian and Russian officials have repeatedly rejected the missiles transfer claim as baseless. Recently, Iran's ambassador and Permanent Mission to the UN separately dismissed reports and said "Iran's position vis-à-vis the Ukraine conflict remains unchanged. Iran considers the provision of military assistance to the parties engaged in the conflict—which leads to increased human casualties, destruction of infrastructure, and a distancing from ceasefire negotiations—to be inhumane."

Iran's Warning to Foreign Airlines



TEHRAN - Foreign media recently reported that due to the recent regional tensions, airlines have opted to bypass Iranian airspace and instead use Afghanistan's airspace for transit flights. In recent days, the number of flights passing over Afghanistan has increased.

However, according to official information received by ILNA from an informed source, Afghanistan's air navigation systems are not equipped with the necessary technology to safely manage transit flights through its airspace, posing a global threat.

Statistics show that currently, more than 120 flights pass through Afghanistan's airspace daily. Yet, there is no significant ground supervision to ensure the safe operation of these transit flights. Although the Afghanistan route shortens the distance between Asia and Europe, the lack of necessary navigation equipment and air traffic control services makes the risk too high for the aviation industry to justify using this route.

On the other hand, Iran's airspace, thanks to its well-developed air navigation services, is one of the best transit routes for airlines worldwide. This route is considered one of the most cost-effective options for European flights to Southeast Asia and the Indian subcontinent, due to its shorter distance and reduced fuel consumption.

Due to the lack of ground monitoring in Afghanistan, pilots flying over the country are only able to communicate with nearby flights via radio to prevent collisions in Afghan airspace.

As transit flights over Afghanistan have increased, Imamuddin Ahmadi, the spokesperson for the Taliban's Ministry of Transport and Aviation, has announced that between 100 and 120 airplanes cross Afghanistan's airspace daily, with each plane charged a \$700 transit fee.

BRICS Media on Way to Confront Western Media



TEHRAN - The media summit of the BRICS member and independent and aligned countries titled 'BRICS Plus' began in Moscow to create a single voice to confront the dominance and media monopoly of the US and the West.

In this summit which is being held in Moscow from 13 to 17 September, the directors and senior editors of the BRICS member media and 34 aligned countries, have gathered in Moscow to discuss ways to strengthen media convergence in the international arena, the use of new information and communication technologies, as well as increasing the level of bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

Iran's ambassador to Russia, Kazem Jalali, and senior representatives of some Iranian media including IRNA and Mehr news agencies and Tehran Times were present. The meeting emphasized the need for independent media and BRICS members to be as close as possible to bring the truth to the world and expose American media tricks.

At the beginning of this meeting, the Russian Foreign Minister, Sergei Lavrov, in an online message said that the freedom of speech and the free flow of information and media is a false claim by the Western world, adding: "Westerners stifle any dissenting and independent voice."

Reacting to the action of the US government in prosecuting and sanctioning Russia Today's journalists and manager, Lavrov called this action a clear example of the double standard of the West in the field of freedom of expression in the Western world.

Maria Zakharova, the spokeswoman of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, also listed the US accusations against the Russian media as an attack on freedom of speech and said that the US committed a criminal attack on Russian journalists that endangered their physical security.

Zakharova called the US sanctions against Russian journalists an 'informational terrorist attack'.

TASS Director General Andrey Kondrashov, also said: "If Iran and Russia are directly connected, then our nations will hear the truth."

"We should get closer to each other and use more advanced technologies in the field of information so that we can neutralize the fakes and lies that are being told all over the world about Iran and Russia," he added.

Pointing out that the Westerners are acting in this field, the CEO of TASS said: "It's time for us to converge and coordinate."

Mikhail Gusman, First Deputy Director General of TASS, and executive director of the

BRICS media gathering, also said: "We have long-term cooperation with Iranian media, but it is not enough."

He added: "Today, the Westerners have started a severe media and information war against independent countries, and to be able to convey the truths from the heart of this battle to the world, it is necessary to arm ourselves with the weapon of convergence between independent and aligned countries."

The participants in the BRICS Media Summit in their final declaration stressed the need to respect the rights of journalists while reporting on military conflicts.

Then participants from the BRICS countries emphasized the need to respect the rights of journalists and ensure their safety, including while reporting on military conflicts," the declaration reads.

The Final Declaration of the BRICS Media Summit is as follows:

1. The BRICS Media Summit, organized by Russia's TASS News Agency with the support of Xinhua News Agency, took place in Moscow on September 14-15, 2024.

2. The Media Summit was attended by heads and representatives of more than 45 leading media outlets of the BRICS countries and countries that have applied for membership.

3. The Media Summit included discussions on "The Role of the BRICS Media Community in Strengthening Stability and Cooperation in a Multipolar World" and "BRICS Media: Technological Transformation on the Way to a New World".

4. The participants from the BRICS countries will use their information resources to help establish a fair and equitable multipolar world order based on international law and the principles of equality, respect for sovereignty, non-interference in internal affairs and indivisible security.

5. Participants from the BRICS countries, recognizing the role of the media in maintaining and strengthening international dialogue, will promote comprehensive coverage in their respective media of the interaction within the BRICS and BRICS+ mechanisms, including political, economic and humanitarian areas.

6. The BRICS participants reaffirmed their commitment to the principles of unbiased and fact-based journalism and expressed their readiness to coordinate efforts to fight disinformation.

7. Participants from the BRICS countries emphasized the need to respect the rights of journalists and ensure their safety, including while reporting on military conflicts.

Hezbollah Response to Potential War Will Cause Large Losses on Israeli Side

BEIRUT (Dispatches) - Hezbollah has warned that its response to another potential war by the Israeli regime against Lebanon would cause "large losses" on the Israeli side.

The Lebanese resistance movement's Deputy Secretary General, Sheikh Naim Qassem made the remarks during an address in the country's capital Beirut on Saturday.

"We have no intention of going to war as we consider that this would not be useful," he said.

"However, if Israel does unleash a war, we will face up to it," Qassem added.

Hezbollah's reprisal would also displace "hundreds of thousands" in the occupied Palestinian territories, the resistance official, meanwhile, noted.

The regime has been conducting daily attacks against Lebanon since October 7 after starting to wage a genocidal war on the Gaza Strip.

Hezbollah has been responding with strikes aimed both at retaliating against the regime and supporting the war-hit Gazans.

At least 50 Israeli forces and illegal settlers have died as a result of the retaliation so far.

As many as 22 of the fatalities were caused in late August after the movement fired a barrage of drones and more than 320 Katyusha rockets against the headquarters of Unit 8200, an Israeli Intelligence corps unit, and the Ein Shemer airbase in the occupied territories.



The strike served as the initial phase of Hezbollah's retaliation over the regime's assassination of Fuad Shukur, one of the group's ranking commanders, who was martyred in a targeted killing operation conducted against Beirut in late July.

The regime waged wars against Lebanon in 2000 and 2006 only to be forced into beating humiliating retreats as a result of Hezbollah's decisive defensive operations.

Since October, it has repeatedly been threatening to launch another one against the country.

On September 9, Nassim Vaturi, a member of Knesset (the Israeli parliament), alleged that the regime would launch a full-blown war on

Lebanon "in a matter of days."

"There is no other way," he alleged, adding that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was of the same opinion.

Former Israeli minister for military affairs Benny Gantz also claimed on the same day that the regime had to shift its focus from Gaza to Hezbollah and Lebanon's border with the occupied territories.

Hezbollah, however, has invariably vowed in remarks comparable to those made by Qassem that it would defend the Lebanese soil with all its resources in the event of another wholesale Israeli military onslaught.

West Must Change Its Failed Sanctions Policy



TEHRAN (PressTV) - Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi says the United States and its Western allies would be better off changing their "failed" sanctions policy toward the Islamic Republic.

"It is surprising that Western countries still do not know that sanctions are a failed tool and that they cannot impose their own agenda on Iran through sanctions," Araqchi said on Saturday.

"Sanctions are a tool of pressure and confrontation not a tool of cooperation, and this tool has failed because it could not be effective in practice," he added.

He reiterated Iran's determination to continue its path, emphasizing that Tehran has never abandoned "constructive" negotiations to reach a common understanding on disputed issues.

"However, the negotiations must be based on mutual respect, and not threats and pressure," the top Iranian diplomat pointed out.

Araqchi expressed his surprise that the West is still hopeful about the failed policy of imposing sanctions on others and is acting based on such a defeated experience.

His comments came after the foreign ministers of the United Kingdom, France and Germany - known as the E3 - denounced what they alleged to be "Iran's export and Russia's procurement of Iranian ballistic missiles."

They also moved to "cancel bilateral air services agreements with Iran" and announced that they would work towards imposing sanctions against Iran Air, the country's national airliner, under the pretext of allegedly interfering in the conflict in Ukraine.

On Tuesday, the US Treasury and the State Department imposed sanctions on 10 individuals and nine entities based in Iran and Russia.

Included in the sanctions were ships that regularly bring cargo across the Caspian Sea between Iran and Russia, the Treasury said.

Since the war broke out in Ukraine in February 2022, the Islamic Republic has on numerous occasions brushed off the accusations of interfering in the conflict in the realms of providing military equipment and assistance to Russia.

In a post on his X account on Wednesday, Araqchi said "faulty intelligence and flawed logic" have once again led the United States and the European troika to impose sanctions against the Islamic Republic.

He wrote, "Iran has NOT delivered ballistic missiles to Russia. Period."

Ballistic Missile Lands Deep Inside Occupied Palestine Amid Iron Dome's Failure



BEIRUT (Dispatches) - The Israeli military claims that a ballistic missile launched from Yemen has targeted central areas in the occupied territories after the regime's Iron Dome system failed to repel the attack and intercept the long-range advanced projectile.

The missile landed near Route 1 highway southeast of Tel Aviv and Gezer power plant on Sunday morning, with media reports saying dozens of failed interception attempts led to Iron Dome missiles crashing and starting fires in a number of locations.

Videos and pictures posted online showed smoke rising from scrubland near the Route 1 highway after the Israeli military attempted to shoot down the ballistic missile.

A picture showed damage to an escalator at a train station on the outskirts of Modiin, some 25 kilometers east of Tel Aviv.

Israeli settlers were documented running to cover and at least five were wounded while doing so.

The Israeli military initially said in a statement that a surface-to-surface missile launched from the eastern direction had set off sirens in Tel Aviv and the surrounding areas, and impacted an open area with no injuries.

"A surface-to-surface missile was identified crossing into central Israel from the East and fell in an open area. No injuries were reported," the statement claimed. "The missile was fired from Yemen."

The Israeli regime also said the ballistic missile, which evaded several layers of advanced air defense, was not detected by sirens until it reached central occupied territories as it was expected to be spotted before it penetrated.

Yemeni sources told Lebanon's al-Mayadeen television network that the Israeli narrative regarding any operations by the Yemeni army "cannot be relied upon."

Meanwhile Yemen's defense minister has warned the United States, Britain, and Israel against the repercussions of their strikes against various regions across the Arab country, vowing that the enemies will receive "unexpected surprises" in the coming days.

Major General Mohammad al-Atifi said, in a message on the occasion of the birthday anniversary of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), that what is coming will be "harsher and more severe than anything they have faced in the past."

"Enemies have already suffered defeat at sea. What happened as a result of our maritime operations could be repeated in ground offensives as well."

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Bagheri Kani Appointed as Secretary of Iran's Council on Foreign Relations

TEHRAN (Dispatches) - Former Iranian acting foreign minister Ali Bagheri Kani has been appointed as secretary of Iran's Strategic Council on Foreign Relations. The appointment was made on Saturday upon a decree by Kamal Kharrazi, the head of Iran's Strategic Council on Foreign Relations. Bagheri Kani succeeded Abbas Araqchi, the current Iranian Foreign Minister. During a ceremony, Araqchi for his great efforts during his tenure. In a decree on August 31, Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei appointed Bagheri Kani as a member of the council. Meanwhile, Araqchi also on Monday appointed the former acting foreign minister as his advisor. Bagheri Kani became Iran's interim foreign minister after his predecessor Hossein Amir-Abdollahian died in a tragic helicopter crash along with President Ebrahim Raisi and six others on May 19.

f "Hod-Hod" Project to Explore Linguistic Commonalities Between Iran and Malaysia



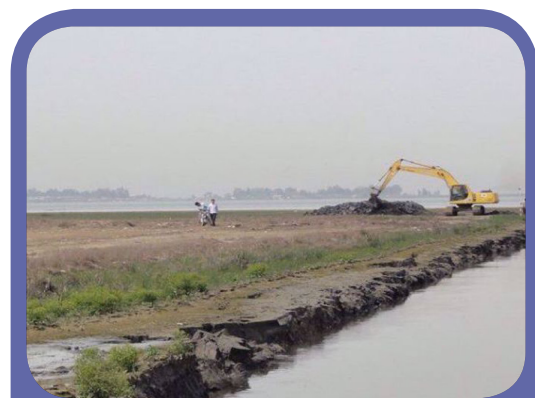
TEHRAN - According to the public relations department of the Cultural Consulate of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Malaysia, Habib Reza Arzani, the Cultural Counselor of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Malaysia, visited the government-academic cultural and arts institution of Malaysia (Aswara) yesterday and met with the institution's president and vice-presidents.

At the beginning of this cordial meeting, Dr. Tan Awang, President of Aswara, welcomed the Cultural Counselor of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Malaysia and his accompanying delegation. He spoke about the primary goal of establishing this academic institution, saying: "The main reason for founding this institution is to train artists in various fields of art to preserve Malaysia's culture, art, and heritage."

He added, "Currently, more than 1,300 students, from associate to doctoral levels, are studying in seven fields of culture and arts." Dr. Tan described Aswara as a public university with a practical-based approach, stating: "This institution offers students an experience equivalent to ten years in other universities in a three-year program."

Following this, Habib Reza Arzani, the Cultural Counselor of the Islamic Republic of Iran, explained that the purpose of the visit was to establish a warm relationship and explore cooperation opportunities with Aswara, including exchange lectures, student programs, and joint events between the two institutions. He said that Aswara has a counterpart institution in Iran named Sooreh and expressed hope to create a communication bridge between the two institutions in the near future, if both parties agree.

He also referred to the "Hod-Hod" project, aimed at exploring the linguistic commonalities between Iranian and Malaysian cultures. He stated that the project highlights shared vocabulary between Bahasa Melayu and Persian, which has been translated into English, and serves as a cultural bridge between the two countries.



Iran Launches Largest Agricultural Drainage Project in West Asia

TEHRAN (PressTV) - Iran has launched a large agricultural drainage project in its northeastern province of Golestan as part of efforts to control floods and to help expand farming activities in the region.

The semi-official ISNA news agency said in a Saturday report that the drainage megaproject in Golestan is the largest of its kind ever carried out in the West Asia region.

It said the construction arm of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) will carry out the project in some 90,000 hectares of agricultural lands in Golestan, a province located along the Caspian Sea coast which is known for its fertile soil and its large-scale agricultural activities.

It said the project will be a major step in efforts to control floods some five years after flash floods inflicted huge losses on agriculture in the province and led to deaths and injuries among the local population.

"This strategic project is carried out to prevent human and financial losses caused by floods and to improve the soil quality in the region," said Mohammad Rostami, the CEO of the IRGC-linked company responsible for the project.

Rostami said drainage had already been carried out on 80,000 hectares of agricultural lands in Golestan in the past five years.

Heavy flooding caused by massive rainfall affected lands in 70 villages in Golestan and more than 200 villages in neighboring Mazandaran province in March 2019.



Suspension of Iran's Trade Center Operations in Qatar

TEHRAN - Khorshid Gazdarazi, Vice President of the Iran-Qatar Joint Chamber of Commerce, explained the trade situation between the two countries this year. He noted that the value of exports from Bushehr Province to Qatar reached approximately \$37 million in the first five months of 1403 (2024), with around \$30 million coming from Bandar Dayyer and about \$7 million from Bandar Bushehr.

While exports from Bandar Bushehr have increased compared to the previous year, the volume of goods shipped from Bandar Dayyer to Qatar has decreased, which could signal challenges for Iranian exporters and a potential decline in trade.

Gazdarazi added that the majority of Iran's exports to Qatar originate from Bushehr Province, particularly from the ports of Bushehr and Dayyer, with a small portion from Hormozgan Province. Overall, 75% of Iran's total exports to Qatar come from Bushehr. He continued, saying that minerals, especially construction materials, and fresh fruits and vegetables remain the primary exports from Iran to Qatar. Additionally, the export of farmed shrimp from Bushehr to Qatar has grown significantly. The volume of summer fruits transported from other provinces to Bushehr and then to Qatar's Al Ruwais Port this year was considerable.

The President of the Bushehr Chamber of Commerce pointed out that rising trade costs in Iran have reduced its competitiveness in the Qatari market, with higher transportation costs being one of the main factors. Shipping costs for both land and sea routes have increased, while the goods exported from Iran to Qatar are not highly valuable in dollar terms. The shipping fee from the ports of Bushehr and Dayyer to Qatar's Al Ruwais Port is calculated at \$7 to \$8 per ton. Additionally, the lack of proper storage facilities in Al Ruwais increases the risk of spoilage for fruits and vegetables if delays occur, sometimes forcing goods to be returned to Iran.

Gazdarazi emphasized that these issues have reduced export profit margins. Comparing the situation to Turkish traders, who sometimes receive government incentives that cover transportation costs, Iranian exporters face a tougher

situation. Iranian exporters must pay all expenses based on the free market exchange rate and then sell their foreign currency earnings at a lower rate on the NIMA exchange, leading to further financial strain. These challenges have driven many exporters to evade taxes and avoid currency obligations.

The Vice President also noted that in addition to these challenges, the longstanding issue of lacking banking exchanges continues, causing significant financial losses for Iranian traders when dealing with Qatar. Furthermore, the shift from export incentives to penalties in Iran has caused many reputable traders, not only in Bushehr but across the country, to face legal issues.

Gazdarazi stated that while the problems related to currency obligations remain unsolved, the government has also increased export duties, a move intended to curb raw material exports. However, this fails to consider that exporting value-added goods requires technology and equipment that Iran cannot easily import due to sanctions.

He also addressed the suspension of Iran's Trade Center operations in Qatar, explaining that although it was inaugurated under the 13th government, it has yet to become operational. The delay is attributed to government interference in the execution of the project, which was initially intended to be a private-sector initiative. Since the government's involvement was poorly managed, the project remains stalled, with the costs falling on the Trade Development Organization.

Gazdarazi also spoke about Qatari investments in Iran, revealing that around three years ago, Qataris invested in light livestock care in Bushehr, intending to market the meat in Iran and export it to other countries through Iran. However, Iran's complex bureaucracy led the Qataris to abandon the project.

Finally, Gazdarazi mentioned ongoing negotiations to designate Bandar Dayyer as a transit hub for goods between Eurasia and Qatar. Plans are in place to build a cold storage facility for perishable goods at the port. The proximity of Bandar Dayyer to Qatar, being only 100 miles away, makes it a strategic location for this initiative. Gazdarazi expressed hope that this project will not face setbacks and will be successfully implemented.

Export Duties to Iraq Via the Kurdistan Region Will Double



TEHRAN - Mohammad Holako discussed the impact of the political and trade disputes between the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) and the central government of Iraq on Iran's trade. He explained that 25% of Iranian goods headed for Iraq are destined for the Kurdistan Region, but political and trade disagreements between the KRG and Baghdad sometimes pose challenges for Iranian traders. For instance, recently, trucks carrying goods from the Kurdistan Region to other parts of Iraq have been required to pay \$1,000 in fees at the exit point of the Kurdistan Region and entry into Iraq, despite having already paid the same amount at the Iranian border.

He added that the KRG and the central Iraqi government sometimes do not recognize each other's regulations, while the Iran-Iraq Joint Chamber of Commerce has mainly focused on trade with the central government, neglecting the challenges faced in trade via the Kurdistan route.

Holako emphasized that establishing a joint chamber or committee with the KRG could significantly help in resolving these trade issues. He also suggested that collaboration with the Federation of Chambers of Commerce in the Kurdistan Region could be beneficial for identifying and solving these problems.

As a member of the board of the Iran-Iraq Joint Chamber of

Commerce, he noted that the Kurdistan Region is of special importance to Iran and serves as a transit route for crude oil and fuel oil to India and the UAE.

He also mentioned another challenge in exporting goods to Iraq: the Iraqi government calculates the value of imported goods from Iran using the official exchange rate of 130,000 Iraqi dinars per dollar, while the market rate in Iraq is 150,000 dinars. This discrepancy, despite the services Iran provides to Iraq, is unfair to Iranian traders.

Holako further pointed out that continuous cargo transport from Iran to Iraq is not possible. Goods must be unloaded at the border and reloaded onto Iraqi trucks, which damages packaging and sometimes the goods themselves, especially perishable items like food. This transfer also causes delays, unlike Turkish traders who can transport their goods to Iraq without interruption at the Ibrahim Khalil border. Establishing international transportation companies between Iran and Iraq could solve this issue.

He concluded by noting that while Iranian goods used to dominate the Iraqi market, today, competition from Turkish, Chinese, and Jordanian products has made things harder for Iranian traders.

Second Part of Iran's Road Show Held in India



TEHRAN - Ali-Asghar Shalbafian, the country's Deputy Minister of Tourism, participated in the second part of Iran's Road Show in Hyderabad, India.

He met with Krishnarao, the Minister of Tourism of Telangana State, and emphasized the cultural similarities between the two countries in areas such as architecture, cuisine, and religion. He suggested that these shared elements could help define tourism products of mutual interest and employ various marketing tools to strengthen collaboration in this sector.

Based on this meeting and the Road Show event in Hyderabad, plans were made to organize familiarization tours for influential figures, such as social media influencers, cultural and sports figures, and media professionals. These tours would provide them with the opportunity to explore different tourism destinations in both countries, fostering a deeper understanding of the various aspects of tourism.

During the event, the significant number of Shia Muslims in Hyderabad and the various cultural similarities, such as the popularity of dishes like Biryani and the affinity for Iranian tea, were highlighted. Shared architectural features, such as the iconic Charminar monument, were also noted. These aspects were identified as key opportunities to enhance tourism, with a focus on the deep historical ties between the two nations.

Mehdi Shahroki, the Consul General of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Hyderabad, Mustafa Shafi'i Shakib, the President of the National Tour Operators Association, and the President of the Hyderabad Tour Operators Association also spoke at the event. They expressed optimism about the future of joint tourism, the economic developments in India, and the increasing interest of Indian citizens in traveling and discovering different regions and cultures.

It is worth noting that the three-part event to introduce the tourism potential of the Islamic Republic of Iran in India started on September 10 and will continue until September 14. The cities of Mumbai, Hyderabad, and New Delhi are among the destinations hosting the event.

Iran Air Says Flights to Europe Unaffected by Recent Sanctions Reports



TEHRAN (Dispatches) - Iran Air says there has been no disruption to its flights to European destinations following reports that Britain, France and Germany may impose sanctions against the national Iranian airline.

"All flights to destinations in European countries have been going on as planned," said Iran Air spokesman Hessam Ghorbanali on Saturday.

It came a day after an Iran Air flight from Tehran's Imam Khomeini Airport (IKA) to Cologne in Germany was mistakenly declared cancelled on IKA's website and on the airport's display boards.

Ghorbanali blamed inconsistencies for the mistake and said measures had been taken to prevent a repetition of such issues.

He said the mistake had prompted some fake news websites to claim that all Iran Air flights to Europe had been cancelled because of sanctions imposed on the company by Britain, France and Germany.

The spokesman denied there have been any sanctions on Iran Air, saying the carrier has received no official correspondences from the aviation authorities of the three countries.

"If there is going to be a special development in this regard, it will happen in future," said Ghorbanali.

Britain, France and Germany issued a statement on September 10 accusing Iran of supplying missiles to Russia for use in the Ukraine war. The three countries said they may cancel bilateral aviation services agreement with Iran and work towards sanctioning Iran Air.

Iran has roundly rejected the accusations.

Experts and political analysts believe that the recent missile transfer accusations against Iran is an attempt to increase pressure on the country amid reports it is planning to revive negotiations to restore a 2015 nuclear agreement with world powers.



Liverpool Stunned by Forest, Haaland Hits Two More in Man City Win

LONDON (Dispatches) - Liverpool's perfect start under Arne Slot came to a stunning end as Nottingham Forest won 1-0 at Anfield on Saturday, while Erling Haaland's double sent Manchester City three points clear at the top of the Premier League in a 2-1 win over Brentford.

Manchester United eased the pressure on Erik ten Hag with a comfortable 3-0 win at Southampton. Forest had not won at Anfield in the top flight for 55 years but the home faithful were stunned when Callum Hudson-Odoi fired in the winner 18 minutes from time.

Liverpool had won all three of their opening games under Slot without conceding, including a 3-0 win away at Manchester United two weeks ago.

But the Reds were sloppy and sluggish after the international break and made to pay. "The result frustrates the most and we cannot be happy about how the game went. It was a stop-start game and we hardly created any chances," said Slot.

Victory lifts Forest into fifth with eight points from their opening four games. "The players did it so well. We were against the ropes but we stayed in the game and found our moment," said Forest boss Nuno Espirito Santo.

City took full advantage of Liverpool's defeat to move clear at the top by stretching their 100 percent record to four games despite a disastrous start.

Yoane Wissa opened the scoring after just 22 seconds for Brentford at the Etihad.

However, Haaland's form at the start of the season remains unstoppable, even if the Norwegian just missed out on a record third consecutive hat-trick in the Premier League.

The 24-year-old's powerful deflected effort brought City level before he showed a combination of strength and skill to shrug off Ethan Pinnock and dink the ball over the onrushing Mark Flekken.

Only the post denied Haaland another hat-trick after half-time but he now has a Premier League record nine goals in the first four games of the season.

"He's just an absolute machine in front of goal and I can't speak highly enough of him," said City's Jack Grealish of Haaland, who had been doubtful due to the death this week of a close family friend. "It does speak volumes about him as a person and his mental strength."

United had been left to fester on their humbling by Liverpool for two weeks over the international break, but bounced back after a slow start at Southampton.

The Red Devils needed a penalty save from Andre Onana to deny Cameron Archer before two goals in five minutes just before half-time swung the game decisively in the visitors' favour.

Matthijs de Ligt nodded in his first United goal before Marcus Rashford ended his six-month drought by finding the bottom corner with a curling effort.

Alejandro Garnacho rounded off the scoring in stoppage time after Southampton captain Jack Stephens had been sent-off.

Kipyegon Wins Again, Tebogo and Crouser Upset



BRUSSELS (Dispatches) - Kenya's 1500m queen Faith Kipyegon sealed victory in the finals of the Diamond League in Brussels on Saturday, but Botswanan sprinter Letsile Tebogo and American shot putter Ryan Crouser both tasted rare defeats.

Kipyegon, the three-time Olympic and world champion, has had another sensational year over 1500m, even setting a new world record at the Paris leg of the elite track and field circuit.

And she made no mistake at the King Baudouin Stadium, sprinting away to win in a meet record of 3min 54.76sec.

"The world record was not on my mind today, my goal was to finish my Diamond League season in a good way and I did," said Kipyegon.

"It was good race, but definitely not an easy one. It was a bit cold to run 61 seconds in the first lap and 62 seconds for the next lap.

"I tried to be myself and focus on the finish line."

Of the 16 finals on Saturday, the first 16 having been held on Friday, there was a strong showing from Kenyan athletes.

Double Olympic 5,000/10,000m champion Beatrice Chebet also set a meet record of 14:09.82 to win the 5,000m in a powerful solo run.

Faith Cherotich outpaced Bahrain's Olympic champion Winfred Yavi to win the 3000m steeplechase in 9:02.36 and Emmanuel Wanyonyi produced a devastating final flourish to win a high-quality men's 800m in 1:42.70.

There was a surprise in the men's shot put as Italy's European champion Leonardo Fabbri claimed the win with a meet and national record of 22.98m, improving his own personal best by 3cm.

Champions Italy, Argentina Qualify for Davis Cup Final Eight

PARIS (Dispatches) - Defending champions Italy qualified for the Davis Cup final eight on Saturday without playing as Argentina advanced with a dominant 3-0 win over Finland.

Italy and Argentina join Spain, Australia, the United States and Germany, who are already through to the eight-team finals in Malaga, Spain from November 19-24.

The last two places are up for grabs with Britain needing to beat Canada 3-0 at home in Manchester to take the Group D berth ahead of the Canadians.

All is to play for in Group A between Brazil, Belgium and the Netherlands, depending on the result of the clash between the Dutch and Italy.

In Bologna, Italy advanced thanks to Brazil's 2-1 victory over Belgium.

Brazil's Thiago Monteiro beat Belgian Zizou Bergs 4-6, 7-6 (7/5), 7-5 after Joao Fonseca defeated Raphael Collignon 6-3, 7-6 (7/3), 6-3.

Belgium kept their slim hopes alive thanks to their doubles victory.

In Group D, Guillermo Coria's Argentina powered back after 2-1 to Canada on Tuesday crushing last year's semi-finalists Finland.

Tomas Martin Etcheverry beat Eero Vasa 7-6 (7/5), 6-3 with Francisco Cerundolo battling past Otto Virtanen 6-7 (4/7), 6-1, 6-0.

Maximo Gonzalez and Andres Molteni survived dropping their opening set to take the doubles. Argentina return to the last eight for the first time since 2019.

"We knew we had to win 3-0," said Gonzalez.

Etcheverry added: "The Davis Cup was a tournament I always dreamed about as a child. It was so important to get the first point."

In China, Reilly Opelka saved two match points, with Brandon



Nakashima also winning as the United States beat Germany 2-1 to take top spot in Group C.

Both 32-times tournament winners USA and Germany were already through to the final eight but were playing for top spot in the group which helps determine seeding.

Bob Bryan's US team made it three wins out of three having also defeated Slovakia and Chile.

Opelka beat Germany's Henri Squire 6-7 (4/7), 7-6 (11/9), 6-3 in Zhuhai with Nakashima easing past Maximilian Marterer 6-4, 6-2.

Germany's Kevin Krawietz and Tim Puetz won the doubles rubber.

In World Group 1, Novak Djokovic eased to a 6-0, 6-1 victory over Ioannis Xilas as Serbia took a 2-0 lead over Greece.

The 37-year-old world number four, who won the Davis Cup with Serbia in 2010, wrapped up the match in just 45 minutes.

Earlier Miomir Kecmanovic gave Serbia a 1-0 lead with a 6-3, 6-3 win over Aristotelis Thanos.

Djokovic is playing his first match since losing in the third round of the US Open.

"It is always a great pleasure to play here," said Djokovic.

"This may be the last time I will play in front of this audience. The format is changing.

"It's been seven years since I last played the Davis Cup here. I don't know if I have seven more years of my career. We'll see, some young tennis players who will defend the colours of the national team need to take over the helm."

Casper Ruud secured a 3-1 win for Norway in their World Group 1 tie against Portugal.

Milan Start Huge Week by Destroying Venezia



MILAN (Dispatches) - AC Milan warmed up for the Champions League and next weekend's Milan derby in the best possible fashion with Saturday's 4-0 hammering of Venezia in Serie A, while Juventus stumbled to a goalless draw at Empoli.

Pressure had been building on Milan over the international break after just two points from their first three matches, and thousands of hardcore fans gathered outside the San Siro to show their support ahead of a big week for the seven-time European champions.

Paulo Fonseca's team responded to that backing by sweeping sorry Venezia aside, racing into a four-goal lead within 29 minutes and cruising through the rest of the match.

Milan are eighth but will face Liverpool on Tuesday night in better spirits following their first win of the season, with a massive clash with champions Inter Milan coming a week on Sunday.

Inter have won the last six derbies, the most recent victory also securing last season's Scudetto.

"It was important to win, and win in this manner, to give the players belief in what we're doing," said Fonseca to Sky.

"This week I've been thinking about Liverpool and Inter. I know how important the derby is... I know that we've not won the last few derbies, we're working to hang that."

Milan were ahead with less than two minutes on the clock when Theo Hernandez forced a low shot through Venezia goalkeeper Jesse Joronen, and the hosts doubled their lead in the 16th minute through Matteo Gabbia, who pushed home Christian Pulisic's corner.

Venezia already had a mountain to climb but their hopes of getting anything from the match were ended by two soft penalties converted by Pulisic and Tammy Abraham on his full Milan debut.

England international Abraham pounced on a spilled Tijjani Reijnders shot and was clipped by Joronen, allowing Pulisic to roll home Milan's third in the 22nd minute.

And Abraham completed the rout from the spot after Rafael Leao, who set up Hernandez's opener, went down when his foot was stood on by Joel Schillingtine.

Francesco Zamparo thought he had netted for Venezia in the 72nd minute, but the consolation goal was ruled out for Hans Nicolussi Caviglia clattering into Ruben Loftus-Cheek's ankle.

Kane Hat-Trick Sends Bayern Munich Top of the Bundesliga

BERLIN (Dispatches) - Bayern Munich maintained their perfect start to the season and jumped to the top of the Bundesliga table after hammering newly-promoted Holstein Kiel 6-1. Jamal Musiala scored the third fastest goal in Bundesliga history, giving Bayern the lead after just 15 seconds.

A mistake by Kiel captain Lewis Holtby opened the door for his former Tottenham Hotspur teammate Harry Kane, who doubled Bayern's lead seven minutes in.

"There was a difference in class today," Holtby told Sky Germany afterwards. "It felt like they had an extra man out there, compliment to Bayern on a great performance."

It went from bad to worse for the hosts, as Musiala took advantage of another defensive error to deliver a cross that was eventually turned into his own net by Nicolai Remberg.

After just 13 minutes Bayern Munich were 3-0 up.

Three years on from their famous victory against Bayern in the second round of the German Cup, Kiel looked starstruck.

Kane scored his second just before the break, before substitute Michael Olise smashed in a rebound shortly after the hour mark.

Armin Gigovic's header gave the home fans something to cheer about, but Bayern had the last word as Kane



dispatched an injury-time penalty to seal his hat-trick and an emphatic Bayern victory.

"There are a lot of positives about our game at the moment," Manuel Neuer said afterwards. "We have that winning mentality back and we've started a run of form now."

Bayern are two points clear at the top of the Bundesliga, but Vincent Kompany's side now turn their attention to their Champions League campaign which starts with a home game against Dinamo Zagreb on Tuesday.

Defending champions Bayer Leverkusen put their first defeat in 35 Bundesliga games behind them on Saturday when they thumped Hoffenheim 4-1 with Victor Boniface bagging a brace.

The win will be a confidence-boost for Xavi Alonso's men Leverkusen, who start their Champions League campaign next Tuesday in Rotterdam against Feyenoord.

Frenchman Martin Terrier scored his first Bundesliga goal to give the visitors a deserved lead, before Boniface danced around defenders to add a second while Mergim Berisha soon pulled one back.

"It comes from a Tiktok trend in Nigeria, who created this dance and he asked me if I could do it after I score," said Boniface, explaining his goal celebration. But eventually, Leverkusen found a way through.

Florian Wirtz converted a penalty before Boniface added a well-taken second. Hoffenheim goalkeeper Oliver Baumann, making his 464th Bundesliga appearance to draw level with German football legend Lothar Matthäus, made a string of saves to keep the home side in the game.