

Supreme Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei Has Said That the Zionist Regime Is the Most Malicious Enemy of Islam

IRAN NEWS

Iranian Army's Air Force Commander Warned the Israeli Regime That Any Act of Aggression Against the Islamic Republic Will Be Met With a Response That Will Make the Zionists Regret Their Mistake

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2 DOMESTIC

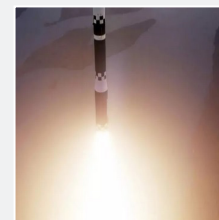


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NAM Condemns Israeli Violation of Iran's Sovereignty, Territorial Integrity



TEHRAN - The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) has strongly condemned Israel's recent act of aggression against Iran that killed five people as a serious violation of the Islamic Republic's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

In a statement released on Monday, the 121-member bloc of countries denounced the Israeli regime's terrorist attack and expressed deep solidarity with the Iranian people and government, while condoling with the bereaved families of the martyrs.

By waging the attack against Iran, Israel violated the fundamental principles of the international law, the United Nations Charter, especially Article 2 (4), which explicitly prohibits the use of force against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of any country, it added.

NAM further held Israel accountable for the consequences of its deadly aggression.

In the early hours of October 26, Israeli warplanes used the space available to the US military in Iraq to fire long-range air-to-air missiles at military installations in Iran's Tehran, Khuzestan, and Ilam provinces. The assault killed four Iranian Army officers and a civilian.

NAM, the largest grouping of states worldwide after the UN, also condemned Israel's violation of Iraq's sovereignty during the attack.

It further reiterated the inherent right of Iran and other affected countries to protect their sovereignty, territorial integrity, security, and people based on the international law and the UN Charter.

Meanwhile, the bloc urged the UN Security Council to fulfill its responsibility by openly condemning the Israeli act of aggression and taking necessary measures to prevent its repetition.

It also expressed concerns over Israel's refusal to assume accountability for violations against the Palestinian, Lebanese, and other regional nations, emphasizing that the regime should be held accountable for its disregard of international legal obligations, UN Security Council resolutions, and the International Court of Justice rulings.

Minister Urges Enhanced Border, Anti-Smuggling Cooperation With Iraq



TEHRAN (PressTV) - Interior Minister Eskandar Momeni urges enhanced border and anti-smuggling cooperation between the Islamic Republic and Iraq given deep commonalities between the two nations.

In a meeting with Iraqi Interior Minister Abdul Amir al-Shammari in Tehran on Monday, Momeni said there are important common grounds between Iran and Iraq for border cooperation and the fight against drug trafficking.

"We believe that a part of security is related to internal borders and a part is related to common diplomacy with neighbors."

He emphasized that long shared borders and the historical bonds between Iran and Iraq have prepared appropriate grounds for promoting security cooperation.

The Iranian minister also stressed the significance of developing relations in various political, economic and trade fields.

He urged working groups of the two countries to pursue the implementation of security agreements.

Momeni also hailed Iraq's stance on condemnation of the Israeli regime's crimes against the Palestinian and Lebanese people.

The Iraqi minister, for his part, said his visit to Tehran is aimed at improving relations.

He also called for the implementation of a memorandum of understanding signed by the two countries last year and the exchange of students in the field of police activities.

Shammari invited his Iranian counterpart to travel to Iraq.

In a statement, the Iraqi Interior Ministry said, "Both sides explored a range of areas, including training, knowledge exchange, and programs for Iraqi students pursuing security studies in Iran. Additional topics involved coordination on traffic management and passport services."



IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK

"Kowsar" and "Hodhod" Satellites Successfully Launched

TEHRAN - Early Tuesday, the Iranian satellites "Kowsar" and "Hodhod" were successfully launched into space from Russia's Vostochny Cosmodrome aboard a Soyuz rocket, marking the first private-sector satellite launch for Iran.

The Earth observation satellite "Kowsar" and the IoT-focused satellite "Hodhod" were launched in the early hours of Tuesday, November 5, and reached their designated orbits.

Officials, including the head of the Iranian Space Agency, members of the satellite design team, and reporters, gathered at the Iran Space Research Center to witness the live broadcast of the launch, which proceeded successfully.

"Kowsar," the first product from Iran's private space company OmidFaza, began development in summer 2019. Built according to CubeSat standards, this satellite design reduces production time and costs.

Weighing 30 kilograms, "Kowsar" has an estimated orbital life of over three years and is equipped with NIR (Near-Infrared) and RGB imaging cameras. It is the first Iranian satellite to offer a medium resolution of 3.45 meters GSD (Ground Sample Distance), making it the most advanced satellite in Iran as of 2021.

"Kowsar" is suited for agricultural, mapping, and surveying applications, providing color images with a 15-kilometer range and a six-frame-per-second capture rate. The satellite's development team had an average age of 26.

"Hodhod," also built to CubeSat standards, is designed to establish a dedicated platform for narrowband IoT (Internet of Things) services internationally. Its primary applications are in agriculture, transportation, logistics, and environmental monitoring.

Weighing four kilograms and with an orbital altitude of 500 kilometers, "Hodhod" has an expected lifespan of four years and will support agricultural and mapping initiatives.

This launch represents a significant milestone in the development of Iran's private space sector,

demonstrating technical advancements and future applications across various industries.

Meanwhile, the head of Iran's Space Organization, Hassan Salarieh, emphasized an economy-driven approach in the country's space industry, announcing plans for the launch of five to seven satellites this year. So far, two launches have been completed.

In a statement, following the successful launch of the "Hodhod" and "Kowsar" satellites, Salarieh explained the organization's commitment to transferring space operations to the private sector. He highlighted the benefits of allowing private companies to engage in a competitive environment that considers market standards and brings a commercial outlook to the space industry.

Salarieh, also the Deputy Minister of Communications, noted that many individuals in private companies come from government backgrounds, where risk tolerance is limited. In contrast, private companies are more inclined to take on risks, which can lead to significant achievements. He explained that each private company must endure a challenging journey to establish itself in economic activities, requiring patience and resilience.

"If the space industry lacks an economy-centered approach and relies solely on government funding, it will struggle to succeed like many other industries," Salarieh said. "The government's role should be supportive and facilitative. By entering the space industry, the private sector can position itself in global markets." The launch of "Hodhod" and "Kowsar" was a significant step toward this goal, he added, noting that the government aims to ultimately have private-sector entities as providers and buyers in the space services market.

Salarieh stated that the transition of space projects to the private sector will proceed rapidly. He also announced that additional launches, both domestic and international, are planned before the year's end, utilizing Simorgh and Qaem launch vehicles for domestic launches.

Iran, Pakistan Emphasize Diplomacy, Affirm Right to Self-Defense Amid Israeli Aggression

TEHRAN - In a high-stakes diplomatic engagement in Islamabad, Iranian Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araqchi and his Pakistani counterpart conveyed a strong commitment to regional peace and stability while underscoring the right to self-defense against Israeli actions.

Araqchi emphasized that Iran seeks no conflict, particularly when compared to Israel's approach, but reaffirmed that Iran retains its right to defend itself if necessary under Article 51 of the United Nations Charter.

This message came during a joint press conference with Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar. Iran's top diplomat commended Pakistan for its clear and vocal opposition to Israel's recent escalations, which Tehran views as breaches of international law. Araqchi further highlighted the significance of cooperation with Pakistan, especially given rising tensions in Gaza and other occupied territories due to ongoing Israeli military operations.

Araqchi outlined Iran's commitment to regional peace and contrasted it with Israel's recent aggressive tactics. He made it clear that Iran does not seek to inflame regional tensions, but it remains ready to defend its sovereignty and interests. He pointed to recent Israeli actions in Gaza and Lebanon as evidence of what he termed Israel's "reckless" approach, which he believes has worsened instability and suffering throughout the Middle East.

He expressed appreciation for Pakistan's stance on the issue and specifically acknowledged the Pakistani Prime Minister's opposition to Israel's recent escalations. This alignment, Araqchi



said, strengthens the bond between Iran and Pakistan in condemning what they view as unlawful Israeli aggression in the region.

Senator Ishaq Dar used the platform to restate Pakistan's condemnation of Israel's recent operations and its support for Iran. Dar emphasized that both Islamabad and Tehran share strong views on Israeli policies in occupied territories and expressed gratitude for Iran's support in Pakistan's recent entry into the BRICS group, an influential economic alliance consisting of Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa.

Following their formal discussions, Dar highlighted the importance of reinforcing ties between Pakistan and Iran, especially within regional and international forums. He also condemned Israel's actions in Gaza, noting their devastating impact on regional stability and security. From Pakistan's perspective, Israel's latest attacks on Iran are a serious violation of international law, the UN Charter, and Iran's sovereignty.

Dar addressed the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza, where conditions continue to deteriorate due to the prolonged Israeli blockade and military campaigns. He stated that the root cause of the suffering lies in Israel's denial of Palestinians' legitimate rights to self-determination and independence. Pakistan stands firmly on the position that a just resolution of the Palestinian issue, aligned with UN Security Council resolutions, is crucial for lasting peace.

EU Urged to End Targeting Ordinary Iranians



TEHRAN - Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi has called on the European Union to immediately end its flight ban on the country's airlines, stressing that even Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky has denied the European bloc's claims about Iran supplying missiles to Russia for use in Ukraine.

Araqchi said the flight ban only affects ordinary Iranians and other travelers. In a post on X on Tuesday, Araqchi condemned the EU's ban as being based on a "false and unfounded claim," just a day after the Ukrainian president confirmed that there is no evidence yet that Russia has used Iranian ballistic missiles against his country.

"The EU recently targeted ordinary Iranians and other travelers by banning our airlines from Europe. It did so, on the basis of the false and unfounded claim that Iran has delivered ballistic missiles to Russia for use in Ukraine," Araqchi said.

"Now, even President Zelensky himself has explicitly stated that no Iranian missiles have been delivered to Russia. High time for the EU to end this farce. The targeting of ordinary Iranians based on thin air is immoral and plain wrong. It must be immediately reversed," he stressed.

The EU recently targeted ordinary Iranians and other travelers by banning our airlines from Europe. It did so on the basis of the false and unfounded claim that Iran has delivered ballistic missiles to Russia for use in Ukraine.

Back in mid-October, the EU imposed sanctions against flagship carrier Iran Air, Saha Airlines and Mahan Air over the alleged transfer of ballistic missiles and drones to Russia for use in the Ukraine war.

The ban caused major hardship to passengers, particularly the elderly and those with disabilities, as they now have to use connection flights rather than direct flights.

This is while Iran has vehemently dismissed the arms transfer claim, reiterating on numerous occasions that drones supplied to Russia were delivered to Moscow long before the Ukraine war started in February 2022.

The Wall Street Journal previously reported that American officials had told their European counterparts that Tehran supplied short-range ballistic missiles to Moscow. Reuters also made a similar claim. Both provided no evidence for their claims.

Tehran Calls for More Efforts to Establish Peace in Gaza, Lebanon



TEHRAN (pressTV) - Iran's foreign minister has called for the expansion of diplomatic efforts to establish peace in Gaza and Lebanon.

Abbas Araqchi had a phone conversation with his Egyptian counterpart Badr Abdelatty on Monday.

Araqchi also emphasized the urgency for a ceasefire in the occupied lands.

He called for an immediate dispatch of humanitarian aid to the refugees in Gaza and Lebanon.

Araqchi said the Israeli leaders aim to expand the war throughout West Asia.

The Zionists, he said, want to disrupt peace and stability in the region.

Iran is after a ceasefire but it reserves its legitimate right to defend itself against any Israeli aggression, he said.

The Iranian minister underlined the need for effective action on a global scale, particularly by the Muslim world, to stop Israel's genocide machine.

Abdelatty, for his part, placed a premium on the need for de-escalation efforts in the region.

The Iranian minister has recently shuttled between countries in West Asia, including Syria, Lebanon, Qatar and Jordan.

In Amman, Araqchi held talks with Jordan's King Abdullah II in October with respect to the existing circumstances.

The Israeli regime unleashed its campaign of genocide in Gaza in October 2023. The regime later expanded its offensive into Lebanon.

The Palestinian death toll since then has topped 43,370 while the Lebanese death toll is estimated to be around 2,000.

IRAN NEWS



Over 20m Passengers Served at Iranian Airports in H1

TEHRAN (Dispatches) - Iran Airports and Air Navigation Company reported that over 20 million passengers were processed at the country's airports during the first half of the year. The total number reached 20,744,613 passengers, including both domestic and international travelers.

From March 21 to September 22, the report detailed that 18,507,623 passengers traveled on domestic routes, while 2,236,990 passengers flew internationally. This represents an 8% increase in domestic traffic and a remarkable 31% surge in international travel compared to the same period last year.

Iran's Competitors Seeking Investment in Iraqi Kurdistan



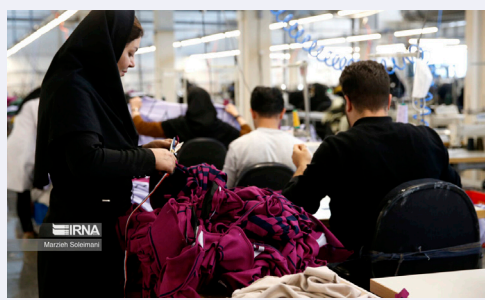
TEHRAN - Abdolmir Rabihi, Director General of the West Asia Office at Iran's Trade Promotion Organization, discussed with ILNA the activities of Iran's competitors in the Iraqi Kurdistan market. He stated that the Kurdistan market is open and that countries besides Iran are actively working to strengthen their presence there. Turkey, the UAE, Jordan, China, and Egypt are among Iran's competitors, challenging Iranian businesses in terms of goods production, investment, and the provision of technical and engineering services.

Rabihi highlighted that Iranian presence is stronger in Sulaymaniyah Province, where Iranian products dominate grocery store shelves compared to those from other countries. Conversely, Turkey has a stronger foothold in Erbil Province.

When asked about the double customs duties imposed on Iranian exports traveling to central Iraq via Iraqi Kurdistan, Rabihi explained that Iran's exports to Iraq through Kurdistan pass through two customs offices, each operating under the laws of its respective government. This dual approach has mixed outcomes for Iranian traders: on the positive side, Iraqi Kurdistan offers greater tariff concessions and is generally less strict on imports compared to the central Iraqi government, which imposes higher tariffs and stricter standards. Consequently, many Iranian traders prefer the Kurdistan route for their exports to Iraq.

Rabihi also noted the downside: trucks carrying Iranian goods to central Iraq through Kurdistan are subject to additional customs fees. However, traders still favor this route as it proves more profitable. Alternatively, goods could be transported directly to central Iraq via the Mehran border crossing. Additionally, some Iranian goods, like detergent powder, are re-packaged in Kurdistan and sold as Iraqi products, thereby bypassing customs duties when entering central Iraq.

Smuggling and Uncontrolled Import of Clothing Threaten National Textile Industry



TEHRAN - The president of the Iranian Textile Association has warned that smuggling and the uncontrolled import of clothing are endangering the domestic textile industry and the capacity of local producers.

In an interview during the first national event on polymers, textiles, and clothing in Zanjan, Mojtaba Dastmalchian emphasized that the current energy crisis in the country has led to increased production costs for clothing, making it difficult for domestic products to compete with foreign goods.

Dastmalchian highlighted that another significant challenge facing the textile industry is the allocation of the Nima exchange rate for importing textile products, which diminishes local producers' competitiveness against foreign imports.

He stated that, like other industries, the textile sector in the country requires support to thrive.

Referring to his visits to several textile production units in Zanjan province, he noted that Zanjan has strong and medium-sized units in the textile industry and has experienced substantial growth and development in this area.

Dastmalchian remarked that Zanjan is one of the provinces that has a particular focus on the textile industry, which has facilitated the growth and development of this sector in the region.

He added that Zanjan is home to successful and reputable textile production units, with a complete supply chain that includes spinning, weaving, dyeing, and apparel manufacturing.

The first national event on textiles and clothing, titled COPOTEX, is currently being held at the Ghadir International Conference Center at Zanjan University, featuring members of the national textile and clothing association along with numerous managers and economic activists.

A board member of the Union of Textile and Clothing Production and Export of Iran had recently stated that our clothing industry has become a colony of Bangladesh and Turkey, noting that the volume of smuggled clothing in the market is estimated to exceed three billion dollars, equivalent to over 30% of the total clothing market in the country.

IRANNEWS/ECONOMIC/DESK



Japan Shows Renewed Interest in Iran's Energy Sector Amid Trade Decline

TEHRAN - Japanese Ambassador to Tehran Tamaki Tsukada stated that the volume of trade between Iran and Japan amounts to over \$100 million. This figure is just one two-hundredth of the peak trade volume between the two countries in the year 2000. He noted that this current level of trade does not align with the potential that exists between Japan and Iran.

Japan has expressed a revived interest in exploring investment opportunities in Iran's energy sector despite recent challenges in the countries' economic relationship, according to remarks from Japan's ambassador to Iran. Trade between the two nations, historically strong due to Iran's role as a key oil supplier to Japan, now hovers around \$100 million, a stark decline from its peak in the early 2000s. The ambassador highlighted that current trade is only a fraction of what it once was, underscoring unrealized potential between the two nations.

In past decades, Japan was involved in various infrastructure projects in Iran, from oil fields to water management. However, geopolitical tensions, particularly around Iran's nuclear program and related sanctions, have constrained Japanese investments. A key example is the Japanese energy company Inpex, which once held significant investments in Iran's South Azadegan oil field. Under pressure from U.S. sanctions in 2010, Inpex gradually reduced and eventually ended its involvement in 2023, citing ongoing uncertainties around the nuclear agreement.

Amid trade challenges, cultural and diplomatic exchanges continue to flourish. The ambassador confirmed that Iran will participate in the Expo 2025 in Japan, resolving previous concerns over its attendance. Iran plans to construct a pavilion at the event, with work scheduled to begin this month, a move seen as strengthening mutual cultural ties.

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), which has partnered with Iran in key sectors like water and wastewater management, recently faced setbacks in development collaborations. The ambassador expressed

disappointment over Iran's planning organization rejecting JICA's latest proposals. Still, he expressed hope for renewed cooperation if the Iranian government reconsiders JICA's offerings.

As Japan transitions toward a decarbonized energy model by 2050, the ambassador noted that Japanese companies are eyeing alternative energy investments in Iran, such as hydrogen and ammonia production. Japan's shift away from fossil fuels aligns with its environmental commitments, and Iran's natural gas resources could support clean hydrogen production with advanced technology.

Tsukada emphasized opportunities for expanding trade beyond oil, with a focus on knowledge exchange and technology cooperation. Areas like healthcare, infrastructure, and environmental technology align well with Iran's needs. Japan's expertise in managing aging population issues could also provide a valuable model for Iran as it prepares for its own demographic shift.

Japan's experience in nuclear safety, including lessons from the Fukushima disaster, positions it as a potential partner for Iran in nuclear energy development and disaster preparedness. The ambassador highlighted Japan's earthquake resilience strategies as a model for Iran, offering potential collaboration in areas like healthcare infrastructure and safety protocols.

The ambassador reaffirmed Japan's neutral stance in Middle Eastern affairs and its commitment to humanitarian causes. He noted Japan's continued support for civilians affected by the ongoing Gaza conflict and its involvement in reconstruction efforts, signaling Japan's dedication to peace and humanitarian aid.

He suggested that Japan and Iran could benefit from formal "sister city" arrangements, an approach that could deepen cultural connections at the grassroots level. Such partnerships could strengthen people-to-people ties and foster mutual understanding.

Opportunities for Expanding Trade Between Iran and Bangladesh

IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK



TEHRAN - The President of the Arak Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines, and Agriculture, Nasser Beiki, stated that despite its small size—approximately one-twelfth of Iran's—Bangladesh has a significant population and is rapidly developing. Speaking at a meeting between Central Province economic activists and the Bangladeshi ambassador in Tehran, Beiki highlighted that Bangladesh's impressive economic growth rate of 7.1% in 2022 indicates its aspiration to become a developed country by 2026.

Beiki noted that Bangladesh has a GDP of \$460 billion, an impressive figure, and pointed out several cultural and linguistic connections that strengthen ties between Iran and Bangladesh. With a predominantly Muslim population and a shared vocabulary of 8,000 Persian and Bengali words, the two countries have a close bond.

Beiki also remarked on Bangladesh's high rainfall levels, with an annual average of 2,200 millimeters, making it one of the rainiest countries. In the northeast, rainfall can even reach up to five meters per year.

Despite geographical distance, Beiki expressed a keen interest in expanding economic relations with Bangladesh, noting that financial and economic exchanges have not progressed as expected. He reported that while Iran exported \$753 million worth of goods to Bangladesh in 2023, this figure had fallen to only \$50 million in the first six months of the current year. Imports from Bangladesh were \$30 million last year, with \$14 million recorded in the first half of this year.

Highlighting the production capacities of Iran's Central Province,

Beiki suggested that exports to Bangladesh could increase significantly. He identified Bangladesh as a promising market for Iranian mineral products and noted that Central Province, with its rich mineral resources, could meet this demand effectively.

Beiki hoped that this visit would lay the groundwork for increased commercial and economic interactions between the two countries.

Bangladesh's Ambassador to Tehran, Manjurul Karim Khan Chowdhury, acknowledged Bangladesh's high import volume, presenting favorable conditions for foreign traders. He estimated that Iran could supply around 70% of Bangladesh's needs, offering a valuable opportunity for Iranian producers. Bangladesh has also prepared a range of investment opportunities for foreign investors, which Iranian traders could take advantage of.

Chowdhury also praised Iran's natural and economic resources and saw Central Province as particularly rich in industrial and productive capabilities. He noted that Bangladesh could serve as a strong base for Iranian traders. The ambassador highlighted the shared Islamic heritage and emphasized the historical influence of Persian, which served as Bangladesh's official court language for 400 years. However, he acknowledged that Bangladesh is not as well-known in Iran as it could be.

Chowdhury addressed challenges posed by international sanctions against Iran, which complicate trade relations and financial transactions. However, he indicated that discussions are underway to find solutions to these issues, with hopes that these efforts will ultimately strengthen bilateral relations.

Iran as a Model for Religious Coexistence



TEHRAN - Ms. Obuljen Koržinek, the Croatian Minister of Culture and Media, highlighted Iran as a model for religious coexistence during the third religious dialogue conference between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Croatia. She noted the challenges religious issues face in various societies, saying, "Sometimes religious issues encounter daily controversies, which put them at risk. Additionally, certain forms of extremism spread hatred and opposition to religious activities, increasing dangers in this sphere."

Ms. Koržinek emphasized the global impact of regional issues, noting, "It is challenging to turn regional matters into global issues. It's also not easy to deliver accurate news from these regions to the world, as some influential figures exploit these situations to create division and conflict for personal gain."

Stressing the significance of interfaith dialogue, she remarked, "In such conditions, interfaith dialogue is crucial as it can resolve misunderstandings. That's why we advocate for a multicultural and multi-religious world. We hope that dialogue, especially interfaith dialogue, can help solve many of our challenges."

She pointed to Croatia's openness to religious dialogue, stating, "These discussions are very valuable to us. Croatia has fostered strong relations with religious communities, particularly with Muslim communities, which has drawn both national and international attention."

Ms. Koržinek also mentioned that over a century ago, Islam was officially recognized in Croatia. "Muslims in our country have continued to live in their communities and have become a model that attracts attention both domestically and internationally," she added.

The Croatian government, she continued, has played a constructive and positive role in relations with Muslims, as well as with followers of other faiths in Croatia. She expressed interest in learning from the peaceful coexistence and contributions of Iran's diverse religious communities toward promoting peace.

The third round of interfaith dialogue between the Islamic Culture and Communication Organization and Croatian religious scholars, led by Hojatoleslam Mohammad Mehdi Imanipour, Chairman of the Council for Interfaith Dialogue and President of the Islamic Culture and Communication Organization, will take place in Zagreb, Croatia, on November 4-5. This round, hosted by the Croatian Council of Religions with a focus on the Islamic Community of Croatia, will discuss "Experiences in Interfaith Dialogue."

Iran's Egg Exports Surpass 90,000 Tons



TEHRAN - The chairman of the National Union of Laying Hen Farmers, Hamidreza Kashani, announced that since the beginning of this year, Iran has exported 90,000 tons of eggs, worth \$90 million, to various target countries while ensuring domestic supply.

Kashani explained in an interview with IRNA that these exports have reached countries including Iraq, Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, nations along the Persian Gulf, and three African countries.

With demand for eggs rising in the fall and winter, Kashani noted that domestic production has also increased. According to recent plans, production reached 113,000 tons in October and is projected to reach 116,000 tons in November and 118,000 tons in December.

The chairman emphasized the importance of maintaining export momentum, stating that losing export markets would be a blow to Iran's egg industry. He added that if production continues to increase through the second half of the year, egg exports could reach 135,000 tons by year's end.

Kashani mentioned that in the first half of the year, egg producers faced losses, selling at 30,000 toman per kilogram. To support domestic production, the union purchased 22,000 tons of eggs at prices between 48,000 and 58,500 toman per kilogram, aiming to prevent a shortage in the latter half of the year.

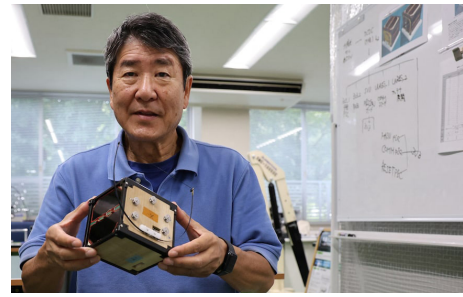
World's First Wooden Satellite Heads to Space

KYOTO (Dispatches) - The world's first wooden satellite, built by Japanese researchers, was launched into space on Tuesday, in an early test of using timber in lunar and Mars exploration.

LignoSat, developed by Kyoto University and homebuilder Sumitomo Forestry, will be flown to the International Space Station on a SpaceX mission, and later released into orbit about 400 km (250 miles) above the Earth.

Named after the Latin word for "wood", the palm-sized LignoSat is tasked to demonstrate the cosmic potential of the renewable material as humans explore living in space.

"With timber, a material we can produce by ourselves, we will be able to build houses, live and work in space forever," said Takao Doi, an astronaut who has flown on the Space Shuttle and studies human space activities at Kyoto University.



Sandu Promises to Bring Change After Narrow Runoff Win



CHISINAU (Dispatches) - Moldovan President Maia Sandu promised to ring the changes after narrowly winning a runoff presidential vote, an acknowledgement of the fragile foothold her pro-Western forces have ahead of a parliamentary election next summer.

Sandu, who has pressed the ex-Soviet state's bid to join the European Union, defeated a former prosecutor general backed by a traditionally pro-Russian party in a vote marred by allegations of election meddling by Moscow, which it denies.

The election also exposed underlying public grievances, and Sandu, who ended up with 55.33% of the overall vote, only won because of strong backing from Moldovans voting from overseas. Within the country's borders, she lost by a narrow margin.

"I fully understand that this vote was also driven by the need for change - changes that society has been awaiting. I want you to know - I have heard all voices, including the critical ones," Sandu said in a victory speech.

She pledged to be a "president for all of you", asking citizens to look past their grudges and dissatisfaction and unite to protect the country, which she said had been targeted by mass interference at the election.

U.S. President Joe Biden congratulated Sandu on her victory, saying Russia had failed to "undermine Moldova's democratic institutions and election processes."

The Moldovan people, he said, had "chosen to pursue a path aligned with Europe and democracies everywhere."

Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova denounced the election as the "most undemocratic" in the country's post-Soviet history, citing "unprecedented repression of the opposition and independent media."

She said the outcome exposed a "deep split" in Moldovan society but made no comment on allegations of Russian meddling.

The Socialist Party that backed her rival in the contest, Alexandr Stoianoglo, said it did not view her presidency as legitimate, calling her the "president of the diaspora" and itself alleging widespread falsification.

North Korea Launches Multiple Short Range Ballistic Missiles Towards the Sea

SEOUL (Dispatches) - North Korea on Tuesday fired multiple short-range ballistic missiles toward its eastern sea, the South Korean military said, as the country continued its weapons demonstrations hours before the U.S. presidential election.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said the missiles flew about 400 kilometers (250 miles) but didn't specify how many were fired. Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba said they landed in waters outside of Japan's exclusive economic zone and there were no immediate reports of damage.

The launches came days after North Korean leader Kim Jong Un supervised a flight test of the country's newest intercontinental ballistic missile designed to reach the US mainland. In response to that launch, the United States flew a long-range B-1B bomber in a trilateral drill with South Korea and Japan on Sunday in a show of force. That drew condemnation from Kim's powerful sister, who on Tuesday accused North Korea's rivals of raising tensions with "aggressive and adventurist military threats."

South Korean officials have said that North Korea was likely to dial up its military displays around the US presidential election to command the attention of Washington. South Korea's military intelligence agency said last week that North Korea has also likely completed preparations for its seventh nuclear test.

Outside officials and analysts say North Korea eventually hopes to use an expanded nuclear arsenal as leverage to win concessions such as sanctions relief after a new US president is elected.

There are widespread views that Kim Jong Un would prefer a win by Republican candidate Donald Trump, with whom he engaged in high-stakes nuclear diplomacy in 2018-19, seeing him as a more likely counterpart to give him what he wants than Democratic candidate Kamala Harris. During campaigning, Harris said she won't "cozy up to tyrants and dictators like Kim Jong Un who are rooting for Trump."

North Korea claimed last week that the Hwasong-19 it tested on Oct. 31 was "the world's strongest" ICBM, but experts say the solid-fuel missile was too big to be useful in war. Experts say North Korea has yet to acquire some critical technologies to build a functioning ICBM, such as ensuring that the warhead survives the harsh conditions of atmospheric re-entry.

Tensions between the Koreas are at their highest point in years as Kim has repeatedly flaunted his expanding nuclear weapon

and missile programs, while reportedly providing Russia with munitions and troops to support President Vladimir Putin's war in Ukraine.

On Monday, US State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller told reporters that as many as 10,000 North Korean soldiers were in Russia's Kursk region near Ukraine's border and were preparing to join Moscow's fight against Ukraine in the coming days. If they engage in combat, it would be North Korea's first participation in a large-scale conflict since the end of the 1950-53 Korean War.

After a meeting in Seoul on Monday, senior South Korean and European Union officials expressed concerns about Russia's possible transfer of technology to North Korea to enhance its nuclear program in exchange for its troops. Such transfers would "jeopardise the international non-proliferation efforts and threaten peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula and across the globe," they said.

In response to North Korea's growing nuclear threat, South Korea, the United States and Japan have been expanding their combined military exercises and updating their nuclear deterrence plans built around U.S. strategic assets.

North Korea has portrayed the joint military drills by its rivals as rehearsals for an invasion and used them to justify its relentless pursuit of nuclear weapons and missiles.

At a UN Security Council meeting Monday, North Korea's ambassador, Kim Song, defended the North's nuclear and ICBM programs as essential for the country's self-defense and a necessary response to what it perceives as nuclear threats from the United States. He stressed that North Korea would accelerate the build-up of "our nuclear force that can counter any threat presented by hostile nuclear weapon states."

US Deputy Ambassador Robert Wood warned that the US cannot stand back from North Korea's expanding nuclear program and the growing threat to US security "without a response."

Wood also repeated last week's call for Russia to say whether there are North Korean troops on the ground in Russia. "We're not in a court here," Russian Deputy Ambassador Anna Evstigneeva replied, "and the questions of the United States, in the spirit of an interrogation, is not something I intend to answer."

Modi, Trudeau Denounce Attacks on Hindu Temple in Toronto



NEW DELHI (Dispatches) - The prime ministers of India and Canada condemned violence that broke out on Sunday at a Hindu temple near Toronto at a time of escalating diplomatic tensions between the countries.

Videos posted on social media appeared to show people hitting each other with flagpoles and throwing punches in the Toronto suburb of Brampton. It was unclear who instigated the violence and Reuters could not independently verify what happened. The incident happened weeks after Ottawa expelled six Indian diplomats, linking them to the killing of a Sikh separatist leader in 2023 in Canada. Canada has accused the Indian government of conducting a broad campaign against South Asian dissidents in Canada, which New Delhi denies.

Police said there were demonstrations at multiple locations in the region. Sikh activists said one demonstration was at a Hindu temple where pro-Khalistan activists protested the presence of Indian diplomats and another was at a Sikh temple.

Khalistan refers to a Sikh homeland activists want carved out of India's Punjab state.

The local Peel Police said three men faced criminal charges over Sunday's protest. A 43-year-old man is charged with causing a disturbance and assaulting a peace officer, a 23-year-old man is charged with assault with a weapon and a 31-year-old man is charged with mischief.

CAIRO (Dispatches) - Israeli airstrikes killed at least 16 Palestinians in Gaza on Monday and residents feared new air and ground attacks were aimed at emptying areas of civilians in the enclave's north.

The U.N. Palestinian refugee agency UNRWA said Israel was scaling back the number of aid trucks allowed into Gaza, compounding shortages of food, medicine and other essential supplies, though Israel denied this.

In the latest bloodshed, several people were killed or wounded in a strike on northern Gaza's Beit Lahiyah late on Monday, medics said, the same town where seven people were killed in an attack on two houses earlier in the day.

Another strike killed four people in Zawayda in the central Gaza Strip while five more were killed in separate strikes in central and southern parts of the enclave, medics told Reuters.

Several people were wounded in the attacks, they said, adding that Israeli forces had sent tanks into the northeast of Nuseirat camp earlier on Monday.

Israel deployed tanks into Jabalia, Beit Hanoun, and Beit Lahiyah on Oct. 5, saying it intended to prevent Hamas fighters from regrouping.

The Palestinian Health Ministry said Israeli forces were continuing to bomb the Kamal



Adwan Hospital and had injured many staff and patients.

"The medical staff cannot move between the hospital departments and cannot rescue their injured colleagues. It seems that a decision has been made to execute all the staff who refused to evacuate the hospital," it said.

Israel's military says it makes efforts to minimize harm to Gaza's civilians as its troops battle Palestinian militants who use shelters and hospitals to stage attacks against its forces. Hamas denies this.

More than 70 patients and their guardians were safely evacuated from Kamal Adwan and Al-Awda hospitals to other medical facilities in Gaza, Israel said on Monday, while fuel, water and medical supplies were delivered to the hospitals.

Palestinians said the new offensives and orders for people to leave were aimed at emptying two northern Gaza towns and a refugee camp to create buffer zones. Israel says it is trying to keep civilians out of harm's way as it fights Hamas there.

The Hamas-run Gaza government media office put the number of Palestinians killed since Oct. 5 at 1,800. It said 4,000 others were wounded.

There was no confirmation on the figure from the territory's health ministry and Israel has repeatedly accused the Hamas media office of exaggerating death tolls.

EU, S.Korea Urge Withdrawal of N. Korean Troops From Russia's War With Ukraine

SEOUL (Dispatches) - South Korea and the European Union jointly condemned North Korea's supply of weaponry to Moscow and demanded that it withdraw troops it has sent as Russia wages war against Ukraine.

The EU and South Korea were holding their first "Strategic Dialogue" meeting in Seoul, shortly after Washington and Seoul sounded the alarm about North Korea sending soldiers to help Russia.

In a joint statement, EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell and South Korean Foreign Minister Cho Tae-yul condemned the North's "unlawful arms transfers to the Russian Federation for its use in attacking Ukraine".

They demanded an end to the "unlawful military cooperation" and a withdrawal of the North Korean forces.

Borrell also met South Korean Defence Minister Kim Yong-hyun.

"Russia's aggression against Ukraine is an existential threat," Borrell said in a post on X that included a photo of him shaking hands with Kim. "The Republic of Korea is best positioned to understand it. We are united in our support to Ukraine. I encouraged them to step it up."

The two countries also signed a security and defence partnership covering 15 areas including cyber security and disarmament.



Cho said last week, when asked whether Seoul could send weapons to Ukraine in response to North Korea aiding Russia, that all possible scenarios, were under consideration.

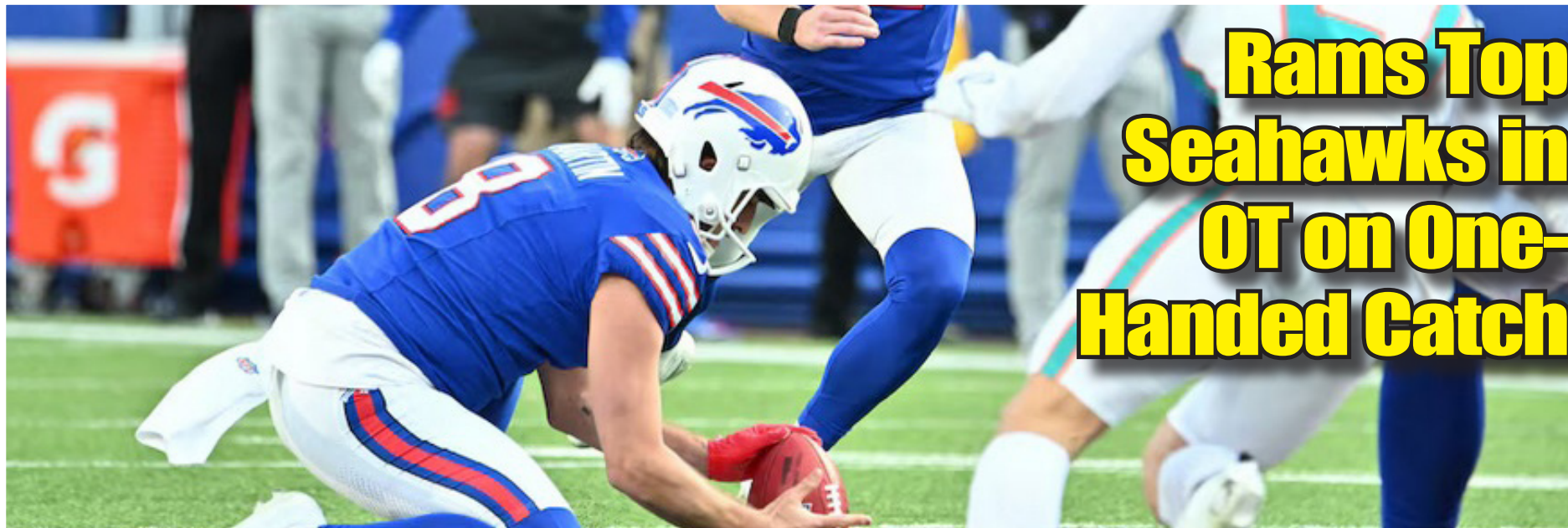
South Korea has provided non-lethal aid to Ukraine, including mine clearance equipment, but rebuffed requests for weapons.

Seoul expects the North to be compensated by Moscow with military and civilian technology, as it races to launch a spy satellite and upgrade its missile capabilities.

North Korea last week flexed its military muscle with the test of a huge new solid-fuel intercontinental ballistic missile dubbed Hwasong-19.

Washington expects the North Korean troops in Russia's Kursk region, part of which has been seized by neighbouring Ukraine, to enter the fight against Ukrainian forces soon, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said last week.

At talks in Moscow on Friday, North Korean Foreign Minister Choe Son Hui said her country would back Russia until it achieved victory in Ukraine.



Rams Top Seahawks in OT on One-Handed Catch

NEW YORK (Dispatches) - Demarcus Robinson made a one-handed 39-yard touchdown catch with 4:57 left in overtime to give the Los Angeles Rams a 26-20 victory against the host Seattle Seahawks.

The Seahawks (4-5) got the ball first in the extra session, but Kenneth Walker III, who rushed for a game-high 83 yards, was stopped on fourth-and-1 from the Los Angeles 16-yard line. The Rams then needed only four plays to score the game-winning touchdown.

Rookie safety Kamren Kinchens intercepted two passes in the fourth quarter -- returning one of them 103 yards for a touchdown to break a 13-13 tie -- for the Rams (4-4), who won their third consecutive game.

Seattle quarterback Geno Smith hit Jaxon Smith-Njigba for a 14-yard scoring strike with 51 seconds remaining in regulation to tie the score once again, this time at 20-all. Smith-Njigba finished with seven catches for a career-high 180 yards and two scores.

Los Angeles quarterback Matthew Stafford completed 25 of 44 passes for 298 yards with two touchdowns and an interception. Cooper Kupp had 11 receptions for 104 yards. Smith was 21-of-34 passing for 363 yards, three touchdowns and three interceptions. He was sacked seven times.

Tyler Bass put a 61-yard field goal right down the middle with five seconds remaining to lift Buffalo Bills to a 30-27 win over Miami in Orchard Park, N.Y.

Buffalo (7-2) led by seven after Josh Allen connected with Quintin Morris for a 2-yard touchdown and a 27-20 lead with 6:18 left in the fourth quarter. However, Miami (2-6) proceeded to zip down the field, knotting things at 27 on Tua Tagovailoa's 7-yard scoring strike to Jaylen Waddle.

But Bass came to the Bills' rescue, and following his kick, a lateral play by the Dolphins went nowhere. Allen finished with 235 yards, three touchdowns and an interception on 25-of-39 passing. Tagovailoa completed 25 of 28 passes for 231 yards and two TDs.

Joe Burrow completed his first 15 throws and tied a career high with five passing touchdowns to lead Cincinnati Bengals past visiting Las Vegas Raiders 41-24.

Burrow finished 27-of-39 passing for 251 yards and threw a pick-6 to Jack Jones that pulled the Raiders within 31-17 in the fourth quarter. Running back Chase Brown recorded his first career 100-yard game, rushing 27 times for 120 yards while catching a touchdown pass for the Bengals (4-5).

Gardner Minshew II was 10-of-17 passing for 124 yards for Las Vegas (2-7), which has lost five straight games. Former Cincinnati Bearcats star quarterback Desmond Ridder replaced Minshew with five minutes left in the third quarter and threw a late touchdown pass to rookie tight end Brock Bowers.

Sam Darnold threw three touchdown passes in the second half and Minnesota Vikings held on to beat Indianapolis Colts 21-13 in Minneapolis.

Jordan Addison, Jalen Nailor and Josh Oliver had one touchdown reception apiece for the Vikings (6-2), who bounced back from a two-game skid. Darnold completed 28 of 34 passes for 290 yards with three touchdowns and two interceptions, and Justin Jefferson finished with seven catches for a game-high 137 receiving yards.

Wilson's Late Brace Gives Fulham 2-1 Comeback Win Over Brentford



LONDON (Dispatches) - Fulham substitute Harry Wilson netted a late double to snatch a 2-1 win over Brentford at Craven Cottage in the West London derby, with his second coming in the seventh minute of stoppage time in their Premier League clash.

Wilson came on in the 82nd minute and turned the game on its head with an acrobatic flick into the far top corner to bring the scores level two minutes into added time and then found the winner with a stooping effort that flew in off his shoulder.

The victory took Fulham up to ninth on 15 points, with Brentford 12th on 13, and was well deserved after they dominated against opponents who seemed content to defend in numbers.

After being pushed back from the kick-off, Brentford took the lead with their first shot on target as Vitaly Janelt picked up the ball well outside the box and flashed a shot across goalkeeper Bernd Leno and into the net in the 24th minute.

That goal came against the run of play and the Bees immediately returned to their defensive shape while Fulham's onslaught continued as they peppered the box with crosses but continued to struggle in terms of getting efforts on target.

Fulham's Kenny Tete, Alex Iwobi and Calvin Bassey all tried their luck from distance midway through the second half but their efforts were straight at Mark Flekken, resulting in easy saves for the Brentford keeper.

With the home fans' frustration rising, the introduction of Wilson for Reiss Nelson in the 82nd minute by coach Marco Silva did not appear to bear any of the hallmarks of a tactical master-stroke but it quickly proved to be an inspired decision.

Gasquet Saves Match Point, Wins in Metz

PARIS (Dispatches) - Frenchman Richard Gasquet saved a match point and rallied past Brazil's Thiago Monteiro 4-6, 6-4, 7-6 (6) to kick off his final appearance at the Moselle Open in Metz, France.

Gasquet, 38, announced he will retire after the French Open next summer, and back in 2004 Metz was the site of his first of 33 ATP Tour finals appearances. The former World No. 7 had 14 aces and won 49 of 55 first-serve points (89.1 percent) against Monteiro; he saved match point to tie the third-set tiebreaker 6-6 and won the next two points to finish the job.

French lucky loser Pierre-Hugues Herbert upset No. 6 seed Pedro Martinez of Spain 6-3, 3-6, 7-6 (4) in two hours and 32 minutes. Herbert finished with a 12-4 edge in aces.

No. 7 seed Jan-Lennard Struff of Germany charged past Kazakhstan's Alexander Shevchenko 3-6, 6-4, 6-4. Great Britain's Cameron Norrie, French qualifier Quentin Halys and Italian Lorenzo Sonego also advanced out of the first round.

Meanwhile no. 7 seed Tomas Martin Etcheverry of Argentina saved all four break points he faced and defeated Russia's Pavel Kotov 6-3, 6-4 in first-round action in the Serbian capital.

Etcheverry's next opponent will be Slovakian qualifier Lukas Klein, a 6-4, 6-2 winner over Australia's James Duckworth.

German Daniel Altmaier upset Italian eighth seed Luciano Darderi 7-6 (1), 6-3, and Dusan Lajovic pleased the home crowd by knocking out ninth seed



Mariano Navone of Argentina 6-0, 7-6 (3).

Other winners were Canadian qualifier Denis Shapovalov, Croatia's Marin Cilic, Australian Christopher O'Connell and American Aleksandar Kovacevic.

Meanwhile world number one Aryna Sabalenka secured a semi-final berth at the WTA Finals by beating Italian fourth seed Jasmine Paolini 6-3 7-5 to stay unbeaten in the purple round-robin group.

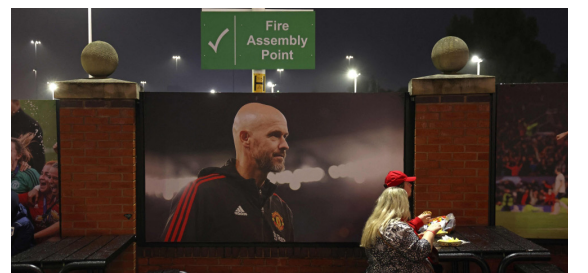
The 26-year-old is on the brink of clinching the year-end number one ranking. A win over Elena Rybakina in the final group match on Wednesday or a loss from her rival, Poland's Iga Swiatek, would seal the year-end top spot for the Belarusian.

Sabalenka's win combined with Chinese Zheng Qinwen's earlier 7-6(4) 3-6 6-1 victory over Rybakina ensured the top seed will finish first in her group regardless of her final result on Wednesday, making her the first player to reach the final four.

Australian Open and U.S. Open champion Sabalenka also won her opening match in Riyadh against seventh seed Zheng. The Chinese player and Paolini, with 1-1 records, both remain in contention for the semis and meet on Wednesday.

Swiatek is the only player who can overtake Sabalenka. The 23-year-old, who plays Coco Gauff on Tuesday, needs to retain her title undefeated and hope Sabalenka loses her remaining matches in order to claim the year-end number one spot.

Fernandes Apologizes to Ten Hag Following Shocking Sacking



MANCHESTER (Dispatches) - Manchester United captain Bruno Fernandes said he called Erik ten Hag to apologise on behalf of the players after the Dutchman was sacked as manager this week.

Ten Hag won two trophies in his two full seasons in charge, but departed with United 14th in the Premier League and without a win in their opening three Europa League games of the campaign.

Fernandes was handed the armband by the former Ajax boss and said the players had to take responsibility for his dismissal.

"Whenever you see a manager go you have to take some of the blame on yourself. It is because the team is not doing so well," Fernandes told Sky Sports, after scoring in the 1-1 draw against Chelsea.

"It is easier to get rid of a manager than 15 players. I spoke to the manager and apologised to him, I was disappointed he has gone and I tried to help him.

"I wasn't scoring goals, we are not scoring goals and I feel responsible.

"I normally score a lot of goals but I always gave 100 per cent. He is aware of that."

Fernandes also scored twice in a 5-2 thrashing of Leicester to reach the League Cup quarter-finals in midweek, little over 48 hours after Ten Hag was replaced by interim boss Ruud van Nistelrooy.

"In midweek the goals went in. I said to some friends everything will come to us and people will say we wanted the manager to be sacked," added Fernandes.

"We need to be disappointed because we are far back in the league."

However, Fernandes is excited to link up with new permanent boss Ruben Amorim after seeing the impact he made at his former club Sporting Lisbon.

Amorim, who was named as Ten Hag's successor on Friday, will formally take charge on November 11.

The 39-year-old has led Sporting to two Portuguese league titles in the past four seasons, ending the Lisbon giants' 19-year wait to win the league.

Fernandes left Sporting to join United shortly before Amorim took over in 2020.

"I am a big fan of Sporting and watch a lot of their games. Ruben Amorim brought the excitement back to the club," said Fernandes.

"He transformed everything and brought everyone together."

Fernandes put United in front from the penalty spot against Chelsea at Old Trafford, but the Blues quickly hit back to level through Moises Caicedo.

A point is enough to edge Chelsea into the top four, six points ahead of United who sit 13th.

Doncic Powers Mavs Past Magic

NEW YORK (Dispatches) - Luka Doncic had 32 points, nine rebounds and seven assists in 32 minutes of action and the Dallas Mavericks cruised to a 108-85 victory over the visiting Orlando Magic on Sunday.

Daniel Gafford scored a season-high 18 points, Kyrie Irving added 17 and Dereck Lively II had 11 points and 11 rebounds for Dallas, which led 65-40 at the break after outscoring the Magic 35-18 in the second quarter.

Dallas carried its momentum into the second half and stretched its lead to 82-52 on Doncic's free throw with 6:05 left in the third quarter.

Orlando lost its third straight game and fell to 0-2 without All-Star forward Paolo Banchero, who is out indefinitely with a torn right oblique. Franz Wagner led the Magic with 13 points, Jett Howard scored 12 and Jalen Suggs and Moritz Wagner had 10 apiece.

Pistons 106, Nets 92

Cade Cunningham scored 19 points to lead six Pistons in double figures as visiting Detroit Pistons dominated inside and surged ahead in the second half to beat Brooklyn Nets 106-92.

Tobias Harris added 18 points, including the go-ahead three-point play late in the third quarter for the Pistons. Malik Beasley



also contributed 18 as he and Cunningham combined for 17 points in the fourth quarter.

Cameron Johnson scored 22 of his game-high 26 points in the first half but the Nets were unable to win a third straight game and move above .500. Cam Thomas added 17 and was Brooklyn's only other double-figure scorer as the Nets shot 45.1 percent, misfired on 22 of 31 3-point tries and shot 61.3 percent (19-of-31) at the foul line.

Hawks 126, Pelicans 111

Jalen Johnson matched his career high by scoring 29 points, Trae Young had a double-double and visiting Atlanta Hawks defeated New Orleans Pelicans.

Young finished with 23 points and 12 assists, former Pelicans Dyson Daniels and Larry Nance Jr. scored 16 points and 14 points, respectively, and No. 1 overall pick Zaccharie Risacher and Garrison Mathews added 11 apiece for the Hawks.

Brandon Ingram scored 32 points, Jordan Hawkins chipped in 19 and Brandon Boston Jr. and Jamal Cain each finished with 14 to lead the Pelicans, who played without star forward Zion Williamson (hamstring).