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By Ebrahim Fallahi
Tehran Times Journalist

Iranian households welcoming rooftop renewables

Renewable energy sources are opening their place in the energy basket of all countries around the world even in energy regions like West Asia because of their cleanness and their much lower costs compared to fossil fuels.

Like many other countries, Iran is also embracing this new technology and considering its geographical advantages in terms of the number of sunny days and wind power, the government has been pursuing the development of this sector along with other types of power plants for addressing the electricity needs of the country.

To promote the use of this clean and cheap energy sources, the government has been following several plans, one of which has been to manufacture and distribute rooftop photovoltaic power stations (known as PV systems) for the high-consuming electricity subscribers in order to reduce the pressure from the national network.

Based on the Iranian Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Organization (SAT-BA) data, so far over 5,000 such rooftop stations have been installed for households across the country and the government plans to build and distribute even more of them in the future.

More than 90 percent of these small-scaled power stations have been installed in underprivileged areas, according to the Director-General of SATBA's Regulatory Office, Mojtaba Loni.

Meanwhile, in an interview with IRIB on Monday, SATBA Spokesman Jafar Mohammad-Nejad said that over 1,000 new PV stations are going to be installed for urban households by the end of the current Iranian calendar year (ends in March 2021).

"These power stations will be installed in order to promote the use of renewable energy sources in the country, and in this regard, the government also guarantees the purchase of the excess electricity from these units," Mohammad-Nejad said.

The official noted that those households that install such power stations are ensured that the government guarantees the purchase of their electricity for 20 years. **→4**

Iran's presence in Syria only related to Damascus: Russia

TEHRAN — Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov has said that Iran's presence in Syria is only related to the Damascus government.

Lavrov also said Iran's presence in Syria depends on the Syrian sovereignty's will and has nothing to do with Russia's willingness, ISNA reported on Tuesday.

Iran's mission to the United Nations has issued a statement saying Tehran will proudly continue helping the Syrian government against terrorism.

The statement was issued as a response to remarks made by a spokesperson of the U.S. State Department who told Newsweek that removal of Iranian and Iran-backed forces from Syria is an objective of the U.S.

"The United States' policy objectives for Syria have been consistent and remain the same: the enduring defeat of ISIS and Al-Qa-

eda, an irreversible political solution to the Syrian conflict in line with UNSCR 2254, and the removal of all Iranian-supported forces," the State Department spokesperson claimed.

The Iranian mission to the UN fired back, saying, "Iran's role in Syria has just been helping the Syrian government and people to fight terrorism and restore security and stability to the country."

The statement also called the U.S. an "un-invited intruder" in Syria.

"Iran and Syria have been strategic partners for more than four decades and this unity has been the main obstacle to foreign hostility in the region. Iran will proudly continue helping the Syrian government protect its territorial integrity and also its people against the terrorist groups," the statement added.

U.S. protests: Protesters wear 'spit hoods' in solidarity with Daniel Prude

Six naked, or near-naked, demonstrators gathered early Monday morning in downtown Rochester, in upstate New York, wearing "spit hoods" over their heads in solidarity with Daniel Prude, a Black man who died there in March days after police put a mesh hood over his head as he knelt naked and restrained on the street.

Monday's demonstration came after a fifth night of street protests in Rochester ended peacefully and with no arrests, Reuters reported.

The six protesters on Monday sat in the rain, some with "Black Lives Matter" painted on their backs and wearing white hoods over their heads, according to images and videos posted on local media and social media.

Video posted by the Democrat and Chronicle newspaper showed the demonstrators later being wrapped in blankets and led away from the protest site.

Prude, a 41-year-old Black man, died after an encounter with Rochester police in March. His

family last week released body camera footage from his arrest, showing a group of officers putting a mesh hood over Prude's head - apparently to prevent his spit from possibly transmitting the novel coronavirus - as he kneels naked and restrained on the street.

Release of the video was followed by protests in Rochester, turning the city of 200,000 people in the northwest corner of the state into the latest flash point in a summer of civil unrest over racism and police brutality.

The Rochester Police Department said they made no arrests on Sunday night as some 1,000 protesters marched through the city after officials vowed to reform policing and address mental health issues. The protests in Rochester, like others that have raged across the country since the killing of George Floyd, a Black man, at the hands of Minneapolis police in May, have become fodder for the presidential election campaign.

Educational systems suffer largest-ever disruption amid Covid-19

By Salman Parviz

Even before the Covid-19 coronavirus pandemic, the world was facing a learning crisis. When it comes to deprivation from education, children from war-torn areas like Yemen, Lebanon, Libya, and many other countries where students deserve mention lack of educational facilities.

In Libya, for example, education is free and compulsory between the ages of 6 and 15. However, due to the nine-year civil war, most schools remain closed as they are located in the line of

fire, depriving thousands of children of getting the education they deserve.

With the emergence and growing number of Covid-19 pandemic infections, another hurdle is placed between the children and their education.

There is an acute lack of treatment and testing facilities in such war-torn countries to make things worse.

In Moslem culture, children learn to pray five times a day, and they are required to cleanse themselves hygienically each time. But what happens if there are no water outlets to perform this

ritual? What about plain simple drinking water?

A United Nations report was released as countries wrestle when and how to safely open schools. The report estimates that 43 percent of schools around the world don't have access to water and soap for basic hand-washing. In places where the schools remained open, were the educational institutions equipped to provide all the hygiene facilities amid the pandemic for children to continue learning? Should parents be concerned about entrusting their children to the educational system? **→5**



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VP honors top knowledge-based companies

TEHRAN — Vice President for Science and Technology, Sourena Sattari, honored the top knowledge-based firms during the 18th annual meeting of Pardis Technology Park in Tehran on Monday.

Iran is playing the leading role in the region in the fields of fintech, ICT, stem cell, aerospace, and is unrivaled in artificial intelligence, Sattari told the Tehran Times in an exclusive interview on September 1.

"We are vigorously developing technology centers and expanding all knowledge-based elements. We have made a serious change in science and technology, but in the next ten years, these changes must be evident in people's daily lives, more importantly, moving towards smart cities."

Vice president declares strategic plan for tourism development

TEHRAN — First Vice-President Es'haq Jahangiri on Monday declared a strategic plan for the development of the national tourism industry.

The official declaration gives all related bodies, organizations, and institutes a clear mandate to assume defined duties to bolster the country's tourism sector through coordinated policymaking by executive bodies, academics, and the private sector.

The strategic plan is based on Article 100 of the Fifth Five-Year National Development Plan (2016-2021), and it pursues sustainable tourism development through coordinated, inter-sectoral, and integrated policies with the cooperation of executive bodies, university professors, the private sector activists, according to a governmental press release.

The plan also touches upon elements such as tourism management, business environment issues, tourism infrastructure, manpower, cultural concerns, and issues relating to foreign travelers, as well as spheres of advertising and marketing.

Defining main policies in the field of tourism, creating the ground for developing a national tourism development plan, implementing goals most dynamically and efficiently possible, a more competitive environment, as well as empowering local tourism, natural and cultural tourism are among the other objectives of the strategic plan.

The rapid spread of the novel coronavirus has plunged the travel and tourism industry and economy in the global scene over that past couple of months as passenger traffic on airlines and hotel occupancy rates have fallen off a cliff compared to the same periods previous years. However, some experts expect Iran to achieve a tourism boom after coronavirus contained, **→6**

MP urges world to stand up to U.S. illegal measures

POLITICAL d e s k **TEHRAN** — The chairman of the Parliament's National Security and Foreign Policy Committee has urged the international community to stand up to the United States' unilateral and illegal measures such as repeated violations of international treaties.

"Standing up to the U.S.'s unilateral and illegal measures, including its repeated violations of international treaties such as environmental treaties, non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and Barjam (nuclear deal), is a necessary move so as to prevent that country from further violations in the world stage," Mojtaba Zonnour said on Monday, Mehr reported.

Zonnour made the remarks in a meeting with visiting President of the Swiss National Council's Foreign Affairs Committee Tiana Moser and member of the Council of States and President of the Council of States Security Policy Committee Thomas Minder in Tehran.

Elsewhere in his remarks, he pointed to the historic, friendly ties between Iran and Switzerland, saying, "The



development of parliamentary ties between the Swiss and Iranian parliaments, especially between their National

Security and Foreign Policy Commissions, will play an effective role in facilitating and expanding interactions between the two countries."

"Making use of the capabilities of the two countries will help the two sides further develop mutual economic, scientific, environmental and humanitarian cooperation," he added.

Switzerland represents the United States' interests in Iran, and also hosts a so-called humanitarian channel, known as the Swiss Humanitarian Trade Arrangement (SHTA), that is meant to help Tehran avoid American

sanctions.

The meeting comes amid heightened tensions between Tehran and Washington, with the latter having recently resorted to a political ploy to reimpose the UN sanctions on Iran under the 2015 nuclear agreement it ditched in May 2018.

The U.S. move, which comes under a mechanism commonly known as "snapback", has been rejected vehemently as illegal by other parties to the deal, including Iran on the one side and Russia, China, France, Britain and Germany on the other.

Commenting on Natanz explosion is up to SNSC, says nuclear chief

POLITICAL d e s k **TEHRAN** — Ali Akbar Salehi, the director of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI), said on Tuesday that he was not authorized to speak about a July explosion at the Natanz nuclear facility and that it was up to a top security body to comment on the explosion.

"The Supreme National Security Council should comment on those behind the sabotage incident at the Natanz nuclear plant," Salehi told the Islamic Consultative Assembly News Agency (ICANA) at the sidelines of a security meeting held in the Iranian Parliament.

On Tuesday afternoon, the Parliament's National Security and Foreign Policy Committee held a meeting to discuss nuclear activities in Iran's neighboring countries such as Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, and Saudi Arabia.

"The Emirates has launched its first nuclear reactor and is expected to have



four nuclear reactors. Saudi Arabia has also made a serious decision to enter this field. Extensive activities have been launched in Turkey in connection with the construction of power plants," Salehi said, adding the parliamentary committee is seeking consultations with the AEOI to assess the security implications of these activities for Iran.

He also said the Natanz explosion has been discussed at the committee's

past meetings and that the details of the explosion have been clarified.

According to the director, the AEOI has taken measures to obtain equipment and to make preparations for producing advanced centrifuges immediately after the explosion occurred at the nuclear facility.

On July 2, Iran announced that an incident took place at the Natanz facility, but it didn't disclose the cause of the incident at the time. However, at a later time, it declared that the incident was an act of sabotage.

"Security investigations confirm the sabotage [nature] of this action and what is certain is that the explosion took place in Natanz, but the security officials will announce the details of the explosion and how it took place and what materials were used in the explosion," Behrouz Kamalvandi, the AEOI spokesman, told the al-Alam news network in August.

Iran, Turkey should make a unified decision on UAE 'betrayal': Rouhani

POLITICAL d e s k **TEHRAN** — President Hassan Rouhani told his Turkish counterpart Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Thursday that Iran and Turkey should take a unified stance on a recent normalization deal between the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Israel.

Speaking at the sixth meeting of the High-Level Cooperation Council between Iran and Turkey, Rouhani said: "The Emirates' treacherous agreement with the Zionist regime is a threat to regional security and harms the world of Islam and the Palestinian cause, and since Iran and Turkey have common opinions on many issues of the world of Islam, they should make a unified decision in this regard and cooperate closely on the issues of the Muslim Ummah."

On August 13, the UAE and Israel reached a deal to fully normalize their bilateral relations. Under the deal, officially known as the Abraham Accords, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Sheikh Moham-

med Bin Zayed "agreed to the full normalization of relations between Israel and the United Arab Emirates," according to a joint statement issued by the U.S., Israel and the UAE. The two leaders have also "committed to the exchange of embassies and ambassadors, and to begin cooperation in a broad range of fields including education, healthcare, trade, and security," the White House said in a statement on August 13.

Iran and Turkey denounced the deal as a "betrayal" to the Palestinian cause.

During the Tuesday meeting, President Erdogan dismissed the UAE-Israel deal as "betrayal."

Referring to the agreement reached by some countries in the region with the Israel, the Turkish president said, "These agreements are a clear betrayal to the World of Islam and are definitely against the interests of Muslim nations and we must all remain loyal to the Palestinian cause," according to a statement issued by the Iranian presidential website on Tuesday.



ONE STAGE TENDER INTERNATIONAL CALL

FOR PURCHASE OF 500 MT CRUSHED BATH FOR ALUMINUM INGOT SMELTER PLANT

TENDER No.:J/35 **DATE.: 09th ,September,2020**

1.Subject.: Iran Alumina Company (IAC) intends to purchase the following high quality Crushed Bath via one stage Tender according to following conditions as mentioned in the relevant Tender documents .:

2. Bid Bond Gurantee(BBG): 10,750 Euro/or 2,861,650,000 Rials

3. Tender proposal.: Since the tendering is to be done in one stage ,thus the eligible Bidders should follow and regard the relevant Tender instructions and present and submit all of required justified documents and the mentioned Tender envelopes in one package for each Good together.The eligible Bidders may propose for one or all of the above mentioned raw materials separately according to the relevant tender documents and requirements according their capabilities.

4. Closing Date.:The eligible Bidders should submit their Bids/proposal to the central administration office as mentioned below and also in the Tender documents before 14:00 pm ,local time , on the day, **13th October ,2020 .**

5. Opening Date.: **20th October , 2020. on 11:30 AM.**

6. Contact information .: For more details and receiving the relevant Tender documents , the Bidders can refer to the following contact information.

Add : Km 7 of Sankhast Road ,city of Jajarm , Northern Khorasan Province,IRAN,P.O.Box:1135-94415 ,Commercial department / legal and contractual Affairs .

Tel .: **0098-58-32605348 - 0098-21-86073184**
Fax.: **0098-58-32272487 - 0098-21-88833748**
website: **www.iranalumina.ir** E-mail.: **aluminumjajarm@gmail.com**
IRAN ALUMINA CO en.iranalumina.ir



ONE STAGE TENDER INTERNATIONAL CALL

FOR PURCHASE OF 2000 MT ALUMINUM FLORIDE (ALF3)

TENDER No.: J/33 **DATE: 09th /September/2020**

1.Subject.: Iran Alumina Company (IAC) intends to purchase high quality Aluminum Floride (ALF3) in amount of 2000 MT for using in its Primary Aluminum Reduction Smelter Plant through one stage Tender according to following conditions as mentioned in the relevant Tender documents .:

2.: Bid Bond Guarantee: 67,770 Euro/or 18,040,350.000 Rials

3.:Tender proposal.: Since the tendering is to be done in one stage ,thus the eligible Bidders should follow and regard the Tender instructions and present and submit all of required justified documents and the mentioned Tender envelopes in one package together.


4.:Closing Date.: The eligible Bidders should submit their Bids/proposal to the central administration office as mentioned below and also in the Tender documents before 16:00 pm ,local time , on the day **13th oct ,2020 .**

5.: Opening Date.: **20th oct , 2020 on 11:00 AM.**

6.: Contact information.: For more details and receiving the relevant Tender documents , the Bidders can refer to the following contact information.

Add.: Km 7 of Sankhast Road, city of Jajarm, Northern Khorasan Province, IRAN, P. O. Box:1135-94415 legal and contractual Affairs .

Tel .: **0098-58-32605348 - 0098-21-86073184**
Fax.: **0098-58-32272487 - 0098-21-88833748**
website: **www.iranalumina.ir** E-mail.: **aluminumjajarm@gmail.com**
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ONE STAGE TENDER INTERNATIONAL CALL

FOR PURCHASE OF 20000 MT BAKED ANODE BLOCK

TENDER No.: J/34 **DATE: 09th /September/2020**

1.Subject.: Iran Alumina Company (IAC) intends to purchase high quality Baked Anode Block, in amount of 20000 MT for using in its Primary Aluminum Reduction Smelter Plant through one stage Tender according to following conditions as mentioned in the relevant Tender documents .:

2.: Bid Bond Guarantee: 145.646 Euro/or 38.771.200.000 Rials

3.:Tender proposal.: Since the tendering is to be done in one stage ,thus the eligible Bidders should follow and regard the Tender instructions and present and submit all of required justified documents and the mentioned Tender envelopes in one package together.

4.:Closing Date.: The eligible Bidders should submit their Bids/proposal to the central administration office as mentioned below and also in the Tender documents before 16:00 pm ,local time , on the day **13th oct ,2020 .**

5.: Opening Date.: **20th oct , 2020 on 12:00 AM.**

6.: Contact information.: For more details and receiving the relevant Tender documents , the Bidders can refer to the following contact information.

Add.: Km 7 of Sankhast Road, city of Jajarm, Northern Khorasan Province, IRAN, P. O. Box:1135-94415 legal and contractual Affairs .

Tel .: **0098-58-32605348 - 0098-21-86073184**
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website: **www.iranalumina.ir** E-mail.: **aluminumjajarm@gmail.com**
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Rouhani, Erdogan co-host cooperation meeting

POLITICAL **TEHRAN** — Iranian President Hassan Rouhani and his Turkish counterpart Recep Tayyip Erdogan co-chaired the 6th Meeting of the Turkey-Iran High Level Cooperation Council on Tuesday.

During the meeting, which was held via videoconference, the two presidents discussed all aspects of relations between Iran and Turkey, according to Mehr.

The two sides exchanged views on bilateral relations as well as regional and international matters.

In the meeting, Rouhani said Iran and Turkey have had formidable relations throughout history.

“Relations between Iran and Turkey have been formed on very strong bases throughout history and the occurrence of bitter and unfortunate incidents has not harmed the ties between the two brotherly and friendly countries,” he said, according to Khabar Online.



The president said during the last seven years, Iran and Turkey have continuously strived to expand their ties as well as their regional and international cooperation.

“The two countries are two major regional powers and there have always been enmities toward both countries which have persisted until today,” he pointed out.

As a solution to the issue of common enemies, Rouhani called for improvement of relations in order to “thwart their plots”.

He also expressed the hope that the meeting would lead to productive results.

Erdogan, for his part, said holding the meeting in the face of the spread of the coronavirus shows the two countries’ resolve to expand and deepen relations and cooperation.

The Turkish leader further said that the two countries are expanding their cooperation and accelerating implementation of previous agreements signed between the two neighbors.

Leader slams French magazine for enmity against Islam, Muslims

POLITICAL **TEHRAN** — Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has condemned the republication of cartoons insulting the Holy Prophet of Islam (PBUH) by the French satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo, saying the move once again exposed the enmity of the political, cultural centers of the Western world toward Islam.

“The unforgivable sin of a French magazine in insulting the Holy Prophet (PBUH) once against exposed the enmity and the vile spite of the political and cultural centers of the Western world toward Islam and the Muslim community,” Ayatollah Khamenei said in a message on Tuesday.

He said freedom of expression is misused by some French politicians to not condemn such great crime. This is “completely wrong and demagogic,” the Leader noted.

The deep anti-Islamic policies of the Zionists and arrogant governments are the cause of such hostile moves, said Ayatollah Khamenei.

“This move at this time could also be a measure to distract the nations and governments of West Asia from the sinister plots of the United States and the Zionist regime for the region.”

“Muslim nations, especially West Asian nations, should maintain vigilance regarding the issues of this sensitive region and never forget the hostility of Western politicians and rulers towards Islam and Muslims,” the Leader concluded.

In a reckless, provocative move, the French satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo on September 2 republished the same cartoons about Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) that prompted a deadly attack on the magazine in 2015.

The cartoons were republished so as to mark the start of the terrorism trial of people accused as accomplices in the attack. The magazine posted the cartoons online on September 1 and they appeared in print the next day.

13 men and a woman accused of providing the attackers with weapons and logistics went on trial on charges of terrorism.

Twelve people, including some of France’s most famous cartoonists, were killed on January 7, 2015, when two French-born brothers of Algerian descent, Said and Cherif Kouachi, went on a gun rampage at Charlie Hebdo’s offices in Paris.

The brothers identified themselves as belonging to the terrorist group al-Qaeda and cited “avenging the prophet” as their reason for the attack. The attack touched off a wave of killings claimed by Daesh (ISIS) terrorist group across Europe.

On January 9, 2015, Said and Cherif’s friend, Amedy Coulibaly, took hostages and killed four people at a kosher supermarket in Paris. Coulibaly and the Kouachi brothers, who were in contact during the attack, were killed in standoffs with the police.

10 months later, in November 2015, a group of Daesh gunmen and suicide bombers killed 130 people and injured more than 400 at multiple sites across Paris, which became the deadliest of the attacks.

Throughout the world, many Muslims see the publication of the cartoons as a renewed provocation by Charlie Hebdo, which has a history of publishing material considered racist and anti-Muslim.

Tehran on September 3 strongly condemned the French magazine, saying any insult against the prophet of Islam and other divine prophets is not acceptable at all.

“The French magazine’s offensive move, which has been repeated on the pretext of freedom of speech, has hurt the feelings of the world’s monotheists, is a provocative move and an insult to the Islamic values and beliefs of over one billion Muslims in the world,” Foreign Ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh said in a statement.

Khatibzadeh defended freedom of speech but also suggested that the issue regarding the Charlie Hebdo controversy is not about free speech but it’s about an attack against the “peaceful coexistence of human beings”.

“Unlike the offensive move made by the magazine, freedom of speech is a great value which must be used in a constructive way in line with the peaceful coexistence of human beings and further understanding among religions,” the spokesman said, according to the Foreign Ministry website.

Indian foreign minister meets Zarif in Tehran

POLITICAL **TEHRAN** — Indian Minister of External Affairs Subrahmanyam Jaishankar met on Tuesday with Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif to discuss bilateral ties and other subjects of mutual interest.

Jaishankar visited the Iranian capital on Tuesday on his way to Russia for a meeting of the foreign ministers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO).

“Just a couple of days after the Indian Defense Minister visited Tehran, today FM @JZarif is hosting the External Affairs Minister of India @DrSJaisankar,”

Foreign Ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh wrote in a tweet.

“During the talks, the two sides emphasized their will to further expand the bilateral ties in all aspects,” he added.

Seyed Rasoul Mousavi, head of the West Asia Department at Iran’s Foreign Ministry, also tweeted that Zarif and Jaishankar usually exchange viewpoints on a vast array of issues, especially as India will join the UN Security Council as a non-permanent member for a two-year term beginning on January 1, 2021.

The meeting came two days after Indian Defense Minister Rajnath Singh visited



Tehran, where he met his Iranian counterpart Brigadier General Amir Hatami. Prior to his Tehran visit, Singh was in

Moscow on a three-day trip for a meeting of the SCO defense ministers.

“We are deeply concerned about the situation in the Persian Gulf,” Singh said in his address at a meeting of the SCO.

“We call upon countries in the region - all of which are dear and friendly to India, to resolve differences by dialogue based on mutual respect, sovereignty, and non-interference in internal affairs of each other,” he said in his address at the combined meeting of defense ministers of the SCO, Collective Security Treaty Organization and Commonwealth of Independent States member states.

Swiss FM lauds talks with Rouhani on future of nuclear deal

POLITICAL **TEHRAN** — Swiss Foreign Minister Ignazio Cassis has said that he had good conversations with President Hassan Rouhani on the future of the 2015 nuclear deal and the region.

“Meeting with President @HassanRouhani. Good exchange on future of Iran nuclear deal and stability of the region,” Cassis tweeted on Tuesday.

Rouhani met with Cassis on Monday afternoon. During the meeting, Rouhani said that history has shown that the Iranians do not give in to bullying of a power.

“It has been for many years that the United States has been seeking to eliminate the Islamic Republic system and interfere in Iran’s internal affairs. In a miscalculation, Mr. Trump imagined he could bring the Islamic Republic’s system to knees in three months

through imposing pressure and economic war on Iran,” Rouhani stated.

Rouhani added that Washington has realized that it will achieve nothing by its sanctions on Iran.

However, Rouhani said, “The path is open for the United States whenever it decides to stop making mistakes and make up for its illegal actions and return to the 2231 resolution and the JCPOA.”

Donald Trump pulled the United States out of the 2015 nuclear deal (JCPO) in May 2018 and introduced the harshest ever sanctions in history against the Islamic Republic under his famous “maximum pressure” strategy against Tehran. By quitting the deal and imposing sanctions the U.S. violated UN Security Council Resolution 2231 which endorsed the JCPOA.

For his part, Cassis said that Switzerland stands beside Iran in solving the problems, noting that the Swiss financial channel has been launched in this respect.

The Swiss foreign minister also said that all countries should honor international rules and regulations.

“All countries in the world should be assured that a strong legal system works in the world so that they can live in tranquility and that is why that all countries, especially powerful countries, should be fully committed to international rules and regulations.”

Cassis visited Iran to celebrate the centenary of diplomatic relations between the two countries. Cassis, accompanied by a delegation, started his three-day tour of Iran on Saturday. He first visited the touristic city of Isfahan and then Tehran.

‘Europe seeking more active diplomacy with Iran’

POLITICAL **TEHRAN** — Mohammad Javad Jamali Nobandegani, a former MP, has said that Swiss Foreign Minister Ignazio Cassis’ visit to Iran shows that the European countries are seeking to have more active diplomacy with Iran.

The Europeans have come to the conclusion that the United States’ pressure on Iran has had no tangible result and therefore should play a more active role in diplomacy, he told IRNA in an interview published on Tuesday.

He also said the Europeans failed to fulfil their commitments under the 2015 nuclear deal, known as the JCPOA, after the United States withdrew from the agreement and imposed sanctions on Iran.

Europe has just talked about keeping the JCPOA without taking practical actions, the

former MP said.

Pointing to INSTEX (the Instrument in Support of Trade Exchanges), Nobandegani said that the mechanism was the least the Europeans had to do, however, it did not yield any result.

INSTEX has been designed to facilitate legitimate trade with Tehran. It was introduced on January 31, 2019, by France, Germany, and Britain, the three European countries party to the nuclear deal.

INSTEX was supposed to be a financial channel and a special mechanism for transferring money in spite of U.S. sanctions on Iran. Its objective was to facilitate Iran’s transactions with European companies.

In late November 2019, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, the Netherlands, Norway, and

Sweden issued a joint statement announcing becoming shareholders of INSTEX.

“In light of the continuous European support for the agreement and the ongoing efforts to implement the economic part of it and to facilitate legitimate trade between Europe and Iran, we are now in the process of becoming shareholders of the Instrument in Support of Trade Exchanges (INSTEX) subject to completion of national procedures. INSTEX was established by France, Germany, and the United Kingdom in January 2019,” read the statement, published by the Foreign Ministry of Finland.

Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has called INSTEX a “silly game”.



Through INSTEX, the Leader said, Europeans made the Iranian economy “conditional”.

SPORTS

Abdollahi named Esteghlal sporting director

S P O R T S **TEHRAN** — Nasrollah Abdollahi has been named as sporting director of Esteghlal football team on Tuesday.

The 69-year-old has replaced Saeid Ramezani who stepped down from his role after Hazfi Cup final, where Esteghlal lost to Tractor 3-2.

Abdollahi has previously coached Esteghlal in the 90s as well as Saipa who qualified for the 1995 Asian Club Championship semifinals.

The ex-Iran defender has vast experience, both internationally and at club level, and can help Esteghlal since the team are far from their heyday.

Esteghlal have recently appointed Majid Namjoo Motlagh as the interim coach as Farhad Majidi’s replacement.

The club are one of four Iranian teams who will feature in the AFC Champions League’s West Zone restart in Qatar next week.

Esteghlal have collected one point from the two Group A matches in February, with the first of their four remaining fixtures coming against UAE’s Al Wahda next Monday.

Yakhchali reveals why he opted to play for Rostock

S P O R T S **TEHRAN** — Iranian international shooting guard Behnam Yakhchali revealed he has joined Rostock Seawolves since German coach Dirk Bauermann has called him at the right time.

The 24-year-old guard joined the German team from Iran’s Shahr-dari Gorgan in late June.

Yakhchali also played for Monkey Kings (Chinese CBA) in the Chinese league where in 11 games he had very impressive stats: 16.1ppg, 5.2rpg, 3.2apg and 1.5spg.

“I was looking for a powerful club. A club that strives for success. Dirk Bauermann called me at the right time,” Yakhchali said in an interview with sportbuzzer.de.

From 2015 to 2017, Bauermann headed Iran national team. “Iran will play at the Olympic Games next year. I want to shine at Rostock with good performances since I want to represent my country in Tokyo,” he added.

Yakhchali has been a member of Iranian international program for some years. He has regularly played for Iranian senior team since 2012.

Persepolis complete signing of Ali Shojaei

S P O R T S **TEHRAN** — Persepolis football team completed the signing of Nassaji left winger Ali Shojaei on Tuesday.

Shojaei, 23, has joined Persepolis on a two-year contract for an undisclosed fee.

The 2018 runners-up face Saudi Arabia’s Al Taawoun in Group C on September and need a win after having lost 2-0 to Qatar’s Al Duhail and drawn 2-2 with UAE’s Sharjah before the competition was halted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Christian Osaguona officially leaves Persepolis

S P O R T S **TEHRAN** — Persepolis football club officially parted ways with Nigerian forward Christian Osaguona.

Osaguona has joined Iraqi football team Al Shorta.

Osaguona joined Persepolis in January but scored just one goal for the team.

Persepolis have recently signed Sanat Naft forward Issa Alekasir and are going to sign paykan forward Shahriar Moghanloo.

Al Shorta coach Abdul-Ghani Shahad has confirmed that the Iraqi club has signed Osaguona.

Al Shorta will meet Esteghlal in the 2020 AFC Champions League group stage in Doha, Qatar.

Matin Karimzadeh reaches agreement with Esteghlal

S P O R T S **TEHRAN** — Matin Karimzadeh has reached an agreement with Esteghlal to pen a three-year contract with the team.

The 21-year-old player, who was a member of Iran at the 2019 AFC U23 Championship, plays at left back.

He will sign a contract with Esteghlal from already-relegated Pars Jonoubi.

Mohammad Hossein Moradmamand has also reached an agreement to join Esteghlal football team.

Esteghlal have already signed Tractor goalkeeper Rashid Mazaheri.

The team will sign Paykan midfielder Saeid Vasei.

Arman Ramezani pens contract with Persepolis

S P O R T S **TEHRAN** — Saipa forward Arman Ramezani has officially signed for Iran Professional League club Persepolis on Tuesday.

The 28-year-old striker has penned a two-year contract with Iran titleholders.

Ramezani started his playing career at Malavan in 2011 and has also played at Fajr Sepasi, Pas and Saipa.

He is Persepolis’s seventh signing for the new season.

Persepolis have previously completed the signing of goalkeeper Hamed Lak, Sanat Naft forward Issa Alekasir, Sepahan left back Saeid Aghaei, Zob Ahan winger Ehsan Pahlavan, Shahr Khodro defensive midfielder Milad Sarlak and Nassaji winger Ali Shojaei, with all four players have joined the Reds on two-year deals.

The 2018 runners-up face Saudi Arabia’s Al Taawoun in Group C on September and need a win after having lost 2-0 to Qatar’s Al Duhail and drawn 2-2 with UAE’s Sharjah before the competition was halted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Govt. bodies ink MOU for co-op in mining industry

ECONOMY **TEHRAN** — Iranian Mines and Mining Industries Development and Renovation Organization (IMIDRO) and the vice presidency for science and technology signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on Monday for cooperation in the promotion of new technologies in the mining industry.

As IRNA reported, the MOU was signed by the IMIDRO Head Khodadad Gharibpour, the Vice Presidency’s Director for Development of Strategic Technologies Esmail Ghaderifar, and Kambiz Mehdizadeh, director of innovation and technologies development plan for mining and mining industries at the vice presidency for science and technology.



The MOU is aimed at developing innovation in the mining industries and also at supporting knowledge-based companies and start-ups by using the maximum capacities and capabilities of such companies in the country.

Cooperation in supporting projects related to increasing productivity in the mining industry along with cooperation for establishing the innovation center for the mining and related industries (known as IMINO) were also mentioned among the goals of this MOU.

As reported, currently five startups and knowledge-based companies are working with IMINO for implementing new ideas and research-based projects in the mining industry.

The mentioned startups were chosen for cooperation with IMINO among the candidates that had attended the second InnoMine Exhibition.

TEDPIX falls 37,145 points on Tuesday

ECONOMY **TEHRAN** — TEDPIX, the main index of the Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE), which is Iran’s major stock exchange, fell 37,145 points to 1.57 million on Tuesday, IRNA reported.

As reported, 1.204 billion securities worth 19.055 trillion rials (about \$453.6 million) were traded at the TSE on Tuesday.

The first market’s index dropped 32,675 points, and the second market’s index fell 52,781 points.

TEDPIX dropped five percent to 1.631 million points at the end of the past Iranian calendar week (ended on Friday).

The index had also experienced a two-percent fall in the week ended on August 28, an 11.3-percent drop in the week ended on August 21, and a two-percent fall in the week ended on August 14.

Housing price in Tehran rises 1.9%

ECONOMY **TEHRAN** — Housing price in Tehran city has risen 1.9 percent during the first half of the current Iranian calendar month (August 22-Septemehr 5), from the first half of the previous year, according to the latest report released by the Central Bank of Iran (CBI).

The CBI’s report put the average price for one square meter of a residential unit at 235 million rials (about \$5,595) in the capital city during the first half of the present month, Tasnim news agency reported.



According to the CBI’s previous report, the housing price in Tehran city has risen 10.5 percent in Mordad, which is the fifth month of the Iranian calendar year (July 22-August 21), from its previous month.

The CBI report also indicates that the housing price in the capital city has risen 77.4 percent in the fifth month of this year, from the same month of the previous year.

The report put the average price of one square meter of a house at 231.1 million rials (about \$5,502) in the capital city.

Meanwhile, the number of real estate deals has fallen 35.4 percent in Tehran in the fifth month of this year compared to the fourth month, while rising 175.8 percent compared to the same month of the past year.

Earlier this month, Mostafa Qoli Khosravi, the chairman of Real Estate Agencies Union, said, “The housing market is now passing an acceptable trend, and we are seeing growth in the number of deals.”

But what is witnessed in the capital city does not seem acceptable at all. Jumping prices in Tehran’s housing sector is not what the people can afford.

In early May, the deputy head of the Tehran Real Estate Association had said, “The housing market is experiencing inflation and rise in prices, both in terms of rentals and sales, but the rise in prices is not going to be like the last year’s sudden surge.”

Hesam Oqbaei said, “Last year when house prices experienced a 100-percent growth, rent prices rose by as much as 30 percent. Of course, this year we anticipate that rent growth will not reach inflation and will stay below the inflation rate.”

Oqbaei underlined the lack of balance in supply and demand as the main reason for the upward trend in housing prices and said since there are not enough bank facilities available to homebuyers, more people will stay as tenants and the demand for house rents increases, so consequently rent prices will also rise in areas where there is an imbalance between supply and demand.

Rentals for embassy personnel and foreign workers

Darus 4 bedroom 350 meter

Grand view 24 h security

09124750969

Petchem output up 6% in 5 months yr/yr

1→ “Petrochemical industry as one of the parent industries is one of the most important pillars of development and the driving force of various sectors of the economy and the NPC’s approach is to complete the production chain, diversify products, supply feedstock for the domestic industries and elevate the quality of products”, he added.

The official went on to say that given the provided capacities and underway measures, this year the necessary infrastructure and condition is created to achieve Surge in Production in the petrochemical sector, adding that through implementing new projects, using the highest capacity of the existing production complexes is on agenda.

Earlier this month, NPC Head Behzad Mohammadi said the country’s petrochemical products basket is going to be more diversified by the Iranian calendar year of 1404 (starts on March 21, 2025).

The official noted that major development plans were underway for diversifying the country’s petrochemical output considering the wide range of feedstock available.

“The macro development planning that the company is currently making for the petrochemical industry is beyond the second and third leaps of the industry, and we expect the company’s projects directorate to follow up and help achieve these plans,”



Mohammadi said.

Noting that implementing 17 petrochemical projects is planned for the current Iranian calendar year (ends on March 20, 2021), the deputy oil minister for petrochemical affairs added: “Medium-term planning shows the determination of the National Petrochemical Company and its commitment to these

plans, everyone in NPC is following this trend and the effective role of this company in the development of the country’s petrochemical industry is becoming more prominent.”

In late August, Mohammadi had said that Iran is going to become the top petrochemical producer in the region after the realization of the industry’s third leap in the Iranian

Iranian households welcoming rooftop renewables

1→ As the responsible government body, the Energy Ministry has defined several new programs for the expansion and promotion of the use of renewable energy sources among households and in this regard has called upon various organizations to participate.

Back in November 2019, Iran’s Planning and Budget Organization (PBO) inked a memorandum of understanding with the Imam Khomeini Relief Foundation and the Organization for Mobilization of the Oppressed for the construction and installa-

tion of 20,000 photovoltaic power stations across the country.

Based on the MOU, 350 million rials (about \$8,300) of facilities were going to be paid to each underprivileged household for construction of the mentioned PV systems and the Energy Ministry would also purchase the excess generated electricity.

The ministry is also implementing a program, based on which 100,000 PV systems will be constructed for rural and nomadic households.



‘Mining sector able to bring \$20b of annual income’

ECONOMY **TEHRAN** — Iranian acting minister of industry, mining and trade said that mining sector has potential and capability to create \$20 billion of annual revenue for the country, IRNA reported.

Saying that of the total \$41.4 billion of non-oil exports in the past Iranian calendar year (ended on March 19), about \$10 billion was the share of mining sector, Jafar Sarqeini underscored that the figure can be doubled.

Minerals and mining projects constitute the main part of the 200 major industrial, mining, and trade projects, which are planned to be inaugurated across the country by the Iranian calendar year of 1400 (begins on March 20, 2021).

According to Deputy Industry, Mining, and Trade Minister Saeed Zarandi, the said projects are going to be implemented under a new program called “Persistent Production-Effective Employment-Sustainable Exports”.

As reported, some 1.69 quadrillion rials (about \$40.23 billion) has been invested in the mentioned projects that are going to create job opportunities for

41,000 people.

In terms of the number of projects, Kerman Province with 26 projects and in terms of the volume of investment, Khuzestan Province with nearly 360 trillion rials (about \$8.57 billion) have the largest share of the said projects in the country, Zarandi said.

He noted that the said projects, which are characterized by factors like completing the industry’s value chain, reducing imports, being export-oriented, using technology, and creating jobs, have been selected as national projects.

In the current Iranian calendar year which has been named the year of “Surge in Production” by the Leader of the Islamic Revolution of Iran Seyed Ali Khamenei, the government is determined to support domestic production and promote the country’s non-oil exports.

The “Persistent Production-Effective Employment-Sustainable Exports” program has been defined by the Industry, Mining, and Trade Ministry in line with the government’s new strategies for developing the country’s infrastructure in order to realize the “Surge in Production” motto.

ICCIMA ready to draft strategic plan for industrial development

ECONOMY **TEHRAN** — Head of Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA) said the private sector is ready to draft a strategic plan, aligned with the country’s economic potentials, for development of the industry sector.

Speaking in a committee meeting on the matter, Gholam-Hossein Shafeie said: “If the government puts the chamber in charge of preparing this plan, we will do it without any budget requirements.”

As reported by the ICCIMA portal, the mentioned committee meeting was attended by senior ICCIMA officials along with university professors and economic experts.

In the meeting, Shafeie referred to the drafting of the country’s first industrial development strategy document in the Iranian calendar year 1380 (ended in March 2002), said: “As far as I remember, all governments wanted to formulate an industrial development strategy, but this



Head of Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA) Gholam-Hossein Shafeie (2ndL) speaking at an ICCIMA industry committee meeting in Tehran on Monday.

Iran, Austria discuss prospects of economic co-op

ECONOMY **TEHRAN** — Head of Iran’s Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) Hamid Zadboum held an online meeting with the Austrian Deputy Economy Minister for Economic Affairs, Innovation and International Policy Florian Frauscher to discuss the roadmap for economic cooperation between the two countries.

The officials also discussed holding the

two countries’ joint economic committee meeting, the TPO portal reported on Tuesday.

In the meeting, Zadboum referred to the positive progress of the cooperation agreements and memorandums signed within the economic roadmap of the two countries, and said: “Despite the sanctions and their effects on Iran’s trade, there are still favorable conditions for the development of economic relations between the

two countries.”

The TPO head also stressed the need to make some changes in the two sides’ joint working groups for the 2020-2021 period and stated: “We welcome any proposals or opinions from the Austrian side and we hope that a document will be signed for the new period by the end of this year.”

Frauscher for her part underlined the satisfactory performance of the two countries’

calendar year 1404.

In addition to the projects in the second and third leaps of the petrochemical industry, 34 new projects with an investment volume of \$17 billion, and a total capacity of 19 million tons have been defined, with their implementation, Iran’s position will be more privileged, the official stated.

He pointed to the Iranian petrochemical industry’s pioneering projects, saying such projects are the key to the development of the petrochemical industry.

“Along with other pioneering plans, defining new petrochemical projects based on mixed feedstock is a process based on thinking, effort, engineering, and accurate market calculations,” Mohammadi stressed.

According to the official, the NPC’s pioneering projects have been classified into four major categories, namely methanol, propylene, ethylene, and benzene, according to which 20 smart projects have been defined for meeting the domestic demand and diversifying the export basket.

The petrochemical industry is playing a crucial role in Iran’s non-oil economy, so that based on official data, petrochemical exports constitute the second-largest hard currency earner in Iran after crude oil. Petrochemical exports already make up nearly 33 percent of the country’s non-oil exports.

22m tons of goods transported via roads, railways in half a month

ECONOMY **TEHRAN** — Iranian Transport and Urban Development Minister said more than 22 million tons of goods have been distributed via land transportation during the first half of the current Iranian month (August 22-September 5) stressing that this is an indication of the economy’s dynamism.

As reported by IRNA, speaking in a ceremony for unveiling 70 new domestically made or renovated wagons and locomotives on Monday, Mohammad Eslami said: “Despite the enemies’ sabotage, the wheels of the country’s economy are still turning.”

Referring to the increase in the share of rail transport in distributing goods from ports, Eslami said: “According to statistics, the share of rail transport in distributing goods from ports has increased 2.2 times since the beginning of this year compared to the previous year, and this shows the rail transport is moving towards its maximum capacity.”

“In [the Iranian calendar year] 1394 (March 2015-March 2016), the share of railways in the country’s freight transportation was seven percent, last year it reached

13 percent, and by the end of this year, the figure will exceed 15 percent,” he added.

Back in May, Deputy Transport Minister Abdolhashem Hassan-Nia had said that over four million tons of goods were distributed from the country’s ports through land transportation in the first two months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20-May 20).

According to the official, in the mentioned period, more than 160,000 trucks transported basic goods to different parts of the country from ports, especially the port of Imam Khomeini.

Also in April, the head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Railways (known as RAI) announced that transit of basic goods to the ports via railway network in the first Iranian calendar month of Farvardin (March 20-April 19) was tripled (up 200 percent) compared to the figure for the same month last year.

“The direct transport of goods from ship to train, which took place in the country’s ports after 15 years, plays an important role in increasing the speed of cargo transportation and reducing the costs,” Saeed Rasouli said.

plan has never achieved a desired result.”

“Developing new programs in this area requires that we first determine the areas in which we have the advantage to improve and grow, and this requires us to fix the whole and then address the details,” Shafeie said.

Industrial strategy refers to a set of long-term government approaches that define a framework for the development of the country’s industrial sector in relation to the global economy.

Earlier this year, Shafeie had called on the Iranian parliament to support the private sector in preparing a strategic plan for the industry sector.

“One of the main problems in the production sector is the lack of an industrial development strategy,” he said in a parliament open session.

Shafeie has constantly announced the readiness of the country’s chambers of commerce, guilds and co-operatives for formulating this strategy.

economic working groups and stressed the need for constant evaluation of these working groups in parallel by both Iran and Austria.

At the end of the virtual meeting, the two sides expressed hope for the elimination of the problems caused by the coronavirus, and the U.S. sanctions, and announced their readiness to hold the next physical meeting of the two countries Joint Economic Committee in the first half of the next year.

News

Michael Cohen: 'Trump was a mobster, plain and simple'

The U.S. president's longtime personal lawyer and fixer, Michael Cohen, says in a new book that Trump acted like a mob boss and used mafia-type tactics to battle foes and advance his personal agenda.

According to the New York Times, which received an advanced copy of the book, Disloyal, a Memoir, set to be released this week, Cohen explains how the Trump Organization acted as an organized crime unit and that the Donald himself sat in the position of the family don.

"As I've been saying since the beginning, Trump was a mobster, plain and simple," Cohen wrote when describing his part of a pressure campaign that Trump waged against then Fox News' Megyn Kelly. The paper says Cohen describes how he helped then-candidate Trump coordinate a softball interview with Kelly after Trump's attacks created a security risk for the former Fox host.

In an interview, set to air on Tuesday, Cohen told NBC News that he believes Trump will do anything to hold on to power.

China offers Taliban road network in exchange for peace

China has offered to build a road network for the Taliban if they can ensure peace in Afghanistan after the U.S. military withdrawal, according to two senior tribal leaders in Pakistan with close ties to the militants, FT reported on Tuesday.

Diplomats from Beijing offered "sizeable investments in energy and infrastructure projects" in the country during talks that have been taking place over the past three months in Beijing, the tribal leaders from Pakistan's south-western Balochistan province told the Financial Times. "Chinese officials have told the Taliban to bring peace [to Afghanistan] and China will invest in roads to begin with," said one leader.

"In future, China also wants to look at energy projects like generating electricity and then transporting oil and gas from central Asia [through Afghanistan]."

A second tribal leader in Balochistan, who returned from Afghanistan in late August after spending a month there, said China had pledged to build motorways that would link Afghanistan's main cities.

"The Chinese promise is led by a road network across Afghanistan. Once such a network is built with six-lane highways, the Chinese have said local commerce and trade will flourish," he said.

A senior Pakistani government official in the foreign ministry confirmed that Chinese officials continued to meet Taliban representatives as the Trump administration began withdrawing troops.

Resistance News

Haneyya: We are keen on Lebanon's security

INTERNATIONAL d e s k **TEHRAN** — Ismail Haneyya, Hamas's political bureau chairman, met Walid Jumblatt, the head of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, on Monday and confirmed that his Movement is keen on Lebanon's security and stability.

Haneyya valued Jumblatt's supportive attitude towards Palestinian unity and his willingness to work to achieve decent living for Palestinian refugees in Lebanon.

He affirmed the unique and balanced Hamas relations with all Lebanese components, and that the Movement does not interfere in Lebanon's internal affairs, and is always working on enhancing fraternal Palestinian-Lebanese relations.

Haneyya reiterated Hamas's position on rejecting any normalization process with the Israeli entity, as well as the projects aimed at liquidating the Palestinian cause on top of them the deal of the century and the annexation plan.

Educational systems suffer largest-ever disruption amid Covid-19

UNESCO: Over 100 countries still to decide dates for reopening of schools

1 → Covid-19 pandemic has created the largest disruption of education systems in history, affecting nearly 1.6 billion learners in more than 190 countries, according to an August UN report titled "Education during Covid-19 and beyond". The closure of schools and other learning centers has impacted 94 percent of the world's student population, up to 99 percent in low and lower-middle-income countries.

Over 100 countries around the world have yet to announce dates for opening schools. In a typical year, nearly two-thirds of schoolchildren in the world return to their classrooms by the end of August. But this year is anything but typical.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced early August that reopening schools in September was a social, economic, and moral imperative and insisted they would be able to operate safely despite the ongoing threat from the pandemic.

Schools in England closed in March during a national lockdown, except for the children of key workers, and opened in June for a small number of pupils.

The economic costs for parents who cannot work if schools are shut are spiraling, and the country faces big problems if children miss out on education, Johnson warned.

In Ontario, Canada, the city of Hamilton announced mandatory masks, smaller class sizes, and staggered reopening schedules for back-to-school plans.

Educational Board of Iran mandates that schools schedule the academic year's opening on September 5 (15 Shahrivar). This year, the locations are divided into red, yellow, and white zones, depending on the infection rate severity.

As far as the community schools in Tehran, most of them, including Pakistan Embassy International School & College, Indian Kendriya Vidyalaya School, and others, are conducting online virtual classes and distance learning for the time being.

Another major reason for school closures in Tehran in the past is air pollution, which gets worse during the winter season. However, due to the pandemic, there is less traffic on Tehran's streets, and people have experienced a healthier atmosphere.

Among the regional countries, Jordan and Kuwait target e-schooling. Jordan has confirmed 1,716 cases of Covid-19 to date, with 1,344 recoveries and 14 deaths.

Kuwait also confirmed it would adopt distance learning for the upcoming semester. Minister of Education and Minister of



Sharlene, 14, studies at her mom's sewing table in the single-room home her family of 5 shares in Mathare, an informal settlement in Nairobi, Kenya. She was a Class 8 candidate until schools closed in March 2020. "My biggest concern is girls getting pregnant," says her father, Naman. "When girls are in school, they are protected, but now she is vulnerable." Schools are due to open in Nairobi again in January 2021. (Photo: UNICEF/Everett)

Higher Education Saud al-Harbi said the decision was applicable to all public and private schools and is subject to revision in November.

The Persian Gulf Cooperation Council members unveiled a series of plans for the Fall 2020 semester to bring students back to campus in a limited capacity while operating numerous courses through remote delivery, i.e., online education.

All classrooms and labs have been assessed to determine the maximum capacity while adhering to social distancing guidelines.

The number of cases in the Middle East (West Asia) and North Africa (MENA) states ready to reopen schools as regional case tally crosses 1.57 million on August 31, according to World meters data collected. Schools are preparing to reopen in parts of the MENA region.

The situation is worse in low-income countries due to lack of funding to provide basic educational tools and institutions that provide access to books, educational tools like the world wide web, and lack of equipment and space at home. The "digital divide" between regions, where in the high-income countries some 65 percent of youth were taught classes via video-lectures while only 18 percent of low-income countries were able to keep studying.

"The pandemic is inflicting multiple

shocks on young people. It is not only destroying their jobs and employment prospects but also disrupting their education and training and having a serious impact on their mental well-being. We cannot let this happen," said International Labor Organization (ILO) Director-General Guy Ryder.

Urgent action is needed to address the global education emergency triggered by Covid-19. Today's real and present danger to the public-health crisis will create a "COVID generation," which loses out on schooling and for whom opportunities can be permanently damaged.

An immediate concern as we bring the lockdown to an end is the fate of an estimated 30 million children who, according to UNESCO, may never return to school. For these, the world's least-advantaged children, education is often the only escape from poverty – a path that is in danger of closing.

According to the World Bank, the long-term economic cost of lost schooling could be as much as \$10 trillion.

The United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres recently underlined the need for "bold steps" to address the crisis.

Despite efforts to continue learning during the crisis, the UN chief said that many are still not being reached by delivering lessons by radio, television, and online. Members of minority or disadvantaged

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Second Announcement

Call for public tender (First/Second publish)

One Stages tender

National Iranian Drilling Company

Subject of Tender:

P/F CIRCUMFERENTIAL ACOUSTIC SCANNING TOOLS

Tender descriptions:

| The Tender holder | Registration No. through national electronic tendering system | Tender No. /Indent No. | Estimated value (Rial) |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|------------------------|
| National Iranian Drilling Company | 17/483/352 | Tender No.: FP/12-99/062 Indent No.: 08-22-9745067 | 4,650,000,000 |

Qualitative evaluation of tenderers

| Method | Qualification process will be done in plain mode in offers opening session according to presentation of valid practice certificate / legal documents (certificate of corporation/ supply announcement up to latest changes) which should be related to tender subject. |
|--------|--|
|--------|--|

Purchasing & Submitting

| | | |
|---|--------------------|---|
| Tender Document Distribution by Company | Distribution Place | Hall No.: 113, 1 st floor, Foreign Procurement Dept., National Iranian Drilling Company, Airport square, Ahwaz, IRAN 061-34148660 Room No. 431, 4 th floor, Oil central building No.8, Yaghma alley, Jomhori Islami st., Tehran – Iran |
| | Submitting Method | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitting one original Bank Fund Receipt in the amount of 190,000 Iranian Rials under account number 4001114004020491 (Shaba No. IR 520100004001114004020491) in name of "NIDC Incomes Centralized Fund" issued by I.R. of Iran Central Bank. Submitting format Request for the purpose of receiving Tender Documents. |
| Documents Receiving Method | Closing date | 35Days after the last time of Purchasing) .closing date 31 OCT 2020 /The envelopes will be opened At 9:15 a.m On 1 NOV 2020 |
| | Address | Hall No. 107, 1 st floor, Tender Committee, Operation building, National Iranian Drilling Company, Airport square, Ahwaz, IRAN, Tel: +98-61-34148580 +98-61-34148569 |

Tender Guarantee

| Value of guarantee | 000/000/233 Rial 004/1 / Euro |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Type of guarantee | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bank guarantees or guarantees issued by non-bank institutions that obtain activity license from the central bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Submitting one original Bank Fund Receipt under account number 4001114006376636 (Shaba No. IR 350100004001114006376636) in name of "NIDC saving account" by the central bank of Islamic Republic of Iran. |
| Duration of credit & quotation | Tender Guarantee and quotation should be valid for 90 days and extendable maximum for one time in initial validity duration. |

(Foreign Procurement Dept.)

More of this & other tenders are accessible by click on: www.nidc.ir http://sapp.ir/nidc_pr

تهران تایمز نوبت دوم ۹۹/۶/۱۹

Second Announcement

Call for public tender (First/Second publish)

Two-Stages (semi compressed) tender

National Iranian Drilling Company

Subject of Tender :

| Indent No. | Description |
|------------------|---|
| 43-22-9603848045 | PRESSURE CONTROL EQUIPMENT PACKAGE 5000 PSI |
| 43-22-9704648004 | HEAVY WEIGHT DRILL PIPE (HWDP) |
| 43-22-9803048015 | PNEUMATIC SPINNING WRENCH |
| 43-22-9803048016 | AIR HOIST |
| 43-22-9903948045 | Air compressor (BY INSTALLMENT) |

Tender descriptions:

| The Tender holder | Registration No. through national electronic tendering system | Tender No. /Indent No. | Estimated value (Rial) |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|------------------------|
| National Iranian Drilling Company | 17,371,779 | Tender No.: FP/17-99/073 Indent No.: 43-22-9603848045 | 31,137,340,000 |
| | 17,372,122 | Tender No.: FP/17-99/074 Indent No.: 43-22-9704648004 | 135,750,485,640 |
| | 17,372,401 | Tender No.: FP/17-99/075 Indent No.: 43-22-9803048015 | 10,540,000,000 |
| | 17,372,562 | Tender No.: FP/17-99/076 Indent No.: 43-22-9803048016 | 6,820,000,000 |
| | 17,372,678 | Tender No.: FP/17-99/077 Indent No.: 43-22-9903948050 | 15,595,000,000 |

Qualitative evaluation of tenderers

| Method | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Based on minimum scoring (50) made in award criterion reflected in the tenderers pre-qualification forms. |
|--------|---|
|--------|---|

Purchasing & Submitting

| | | |
|---|--------------------|---|
| Tender Document Distribution by Company | Distribution Place | Hall No.: 113, 1 st floor, Foreign Procurement Dept., National Iranian Drilling Company, Airport square, Ahwaz, IRAN, Ms. Naderi / Mr. Sangbahram , tel: 061-34148656 /06134148615 |
| | Submitting Method | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitting one original Bank Fund Receipt in the amount of 190,000 Iranian Rials under account number 4001114004020491 (Shaba No. IR 520100004001114004020491) in name of "NIDC Incomes Centralized Fund" issued by I.R. of Iran Central Bank. Submitting format Request for the purpose of receiving Tender Documents. |
| Documents Receiving Method | Closing date | 14Days after the last time of Purchasing. |
| | Address | Hall No. 107, 1 st floor, Tender Committee, Operation building, National Iranian Drilling Company, Airport square, Ahwaz, IRAN, Tel: +98-61-34148580 +98-61-34148569 |

Tender Guarantee

| Value of guarantee | 1,557,000,000 Rial / 63,065 Euro | Regarding Indent No. 43-22-9603848045 |
|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| | 5,416,000,000 Rial / 2,333 Euro | Regarding Indent No. 43-22-970468004 |
| | 527,000,000 Rial / 2,135 Euro | Regarding Indent No. 43-22-9803048015 |
| | 341,000,000 Rial / 1,381 Euro | Regarding Indent No. 43-22-9803048016 |
| | 780,000,000 Rial / 3,360 Euro | Regarding Indent No. 43-22-9903948050 |
| Type of guarantee | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bank guarantees or guarantees issued by non-bank institutions that obtain activity license from the central bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Submitting one original Bank Fund Receipt under account number 4001114006376636 (Shaba No. IR 350100004001114006376636) in name of "NIDC saving account" by the central bank of Islamic Republic of Iran. | |
| Duration of credit & quotation | Tender Guarantee and quotation should be valid for 90 days and extendable maximum for one time in initial validity duration. | |

(Foreign Procurement Dept.)

More of this & other tenders are accessible by click on: www.nidc.ir http://sapp.ir/nidc_pr

تهران تایمز نوبت دوم ۹۹/۶/۱۹

Vice president declares strategic plan for tourism development

➔ **1** believing its impact would be temporary and short-lived for a country that ranked the third fastest-growing tourism destination in 2019.

Iran expects to reap a bonanza from its numerous tourist spots such as bazaars, museums, mosques, bridges, bathhouses, madrasas, mausoleums, churches, towers, and mansions, of which



24 being inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage list. Under the 2025 Tourism Vision Plan, it aims to increase the number of tourist arrivals from 4.8 million in 2014 to 20 million in 2025. The latest available data show eight million tourists visited the Islamic Republic during the first ten months of the past Iranian calendar year (started March 21, 2019).

No harm to Golestan historical sites by quake

TOURISM TEHRAN — No damage has been reported to historical sites and museums across the northern Golestan province as a medium-sized quake struck the province on Monday, according to the province's Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts Department.

Based on field visits by experts of the province's cultural heritage department, no serious damage to historical relics and monuments has been reported, provincial tourism chief Ahmad Tajari announced on Tuesday.



According to the data published by the Iranian Seismological Center (IRSC), affiliated to Tehran University, the first quake struck the city of Ramian measuring 5.1 on the Richter scale at 2:04 a.m. at a depth of 9 kilometers, leaving 34 injured.

Four other quakes measuring 2.9 – 3.1 on the Richter scale shook the area within hours.

Golestan is reportedly embracing some 2,500 historical and natural sites, with UNESCO-registered Gonbad-e Qabus – a one-millennium-old brick tower – which is of high architectural importance as an exemplar and innovative design of the early-Islamic-era architecture.

Narratives say the tower has influenced various subsequent designers of tomb towers and other cylindrical commemorative structures both in the region and beyond. The UNESCO comments that the tower bears testimony to the cultural exchange between Central Asian nomads and the ancient civilization of Iran.

Rasht-Mashhad five-star train to resume service today

TOURISM TEHRAN — A 5-star train will resume service between Rasht and Mashhad on Wednesday evening. The train is scheduled to leave Rasht at 19:00 local time towards the holy city of Mashhad, which embraces the shrine complex of Imam Reza (AS).

Operated by the Islamic Republic of Iran Railways, the train benefits from skillful crew, and a range of up-to-date catering, health facilities fully based on COVID-19 railway protocols and operational guidelines for the resumption of railway operations in the country, Mehr reported.



Train tours stopped in Iran back in July once again over coronavirus fears as health officials have announced a surge in virus infections in some parts of the country. Train tours, however, gradually was embarked at the beginning of Khordad (mid-May) when coronavirus curbs eased in a bid to restore normal life and reopen an economy facing the threat of recession.

Every single day, Mashhad plays host to thousands of travelers and pilgrims who come from various Iranian cities, neighboring countries and even across the globe to visit the imposing, massive holy shrine complex of Imam Reza (AS), the eighth Imam of the Shia Muslims.

Swiss FM visits historical palace in Tehran, urges deepening cultural ties

TOURISM TEHRAN — Swiss Foreign Minister Ignazio Cassis paid a visit to the Niavaran Cultural-Historical Complex in Tehran on Monday, emphasizing the need to deepen and strengthen cultural relations between the two countries.

The complex, covering an area of about eleven hectares, is composed of several landmark buildings, museums, and monuments constructed in the 19th and 20th centuries during the Pahlavi and late Qajar eras.

Cassis was accompanied by Swiss Ambassador to Tehran Markus Leitner during the visit.

History of the palace complex stretches back to about 280 years ago when Fath-Ali Shah of the Qajar Dynasty ordered for a summer residence to be built over the then countryside area of the capital. The two-story Ahmad Shahi Pavilion is one of the highlights of the complex.

The main palace of the complex was originally erected for the purpose of royal ceremonies and gatherings. However,



it later turned into the resident of the second king of Pahlavi king, Mohammad Reza Shah, and his family.

With an area of 9,000 square meters, the palace is entirely adorned with magnificent plasterwork, mirrorwork, and tilework. Its architecture boasts a blend of pre and post-Islamic art.

Its beautifully decorated and fully furnished interior features loads of artworks such as precious paintings and sculptures by Iranian and foreign artists.

Upon arrival in the Islamic Republic on Saturday, the Swiss FM went to the central city of Isfahan, where he visited the UNESCO-registered Naqsh-e Jahan Square and some other historical sites, calling the ancient Iranian city of Isfahan 'a pearl in the Middle East'.

He also met with Bishop Sepian Kashchian, the Bishop of the Armenians of Isfahan and southern Iran, at the centuries-old Vank Cathedral.

Cassis traveled to Iran, on a three-day visit, to mark the 100th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Iran and Switzerland.

Third Parthian skeleton unearthed in Isfahan

TOURISM TEHRAN — Iranian archaeologists have discovered the remains of an ancient human in a prehistorical mound in Isfahan, central Iran, saying that is "the third Parthian skeleton" being unearthed there over the past couple of weeks.

"Right next to the burial site of the second skeleton we [had previously] found on Tepe Ashraf, we came across another skeleton that was only its head was evident, and we dug below the [modern] sidewalk to unearth the [whole] body," Alireza Jafari-Zand who leads the archaeological survey was quoted as saying by ISNA on Monday.

The senior archaeologists, however, lamented provincial officials, of both the cultural heritage department and Isfahan Municipality, saying they have not taken any practical steps to inject funds and [help to] expand the excavation area.

"They have only given speeches about the importance of Tepe Ashraf and its discoveries," he said.

Elsewhere in his remarks, Jafari-Zand said it is unfortunate that Isfahan has not a special museum dedicated to such treasured discoveries.

"We are nearing the end of the seventh archaeological season [at Tepe Ashraf] and the skeletons [so far] found

will be transferred to a room in the Museum of Decorative Arts in Isfahan. Of course, it is unfortunate that there is no museum dedicated to these valuable ancient monuments in Isfahan."

The ancient hill originally measured some 13 ha in area, however, only seven hectares of it has been remained being owned by the provincial administrations (some six ha has been tuned into modern urban spaces).

Over the past weeks, a team of Iranian researchers, led by Jafari-Zand, has found a new range of discoveries that offer novel clues about the history of Isfahan. They have also found an ancient burial containing the remains of a horse -- estimated to be four years old was found near a place where a giant jar-tomb was unearthed weeks earlier.

"Tepe Ashraf is the second place after the Tepe Sialk (in Isfahan province) that has yielded the discovery of such jar tombs that offers valuable clues to uncover the obscure history of pre-Islamic Isfahan," according to the archaeologist.

Excavations at Tepe Ashraf initially began in 2010 when Jafari-Zand announced his team found evidence at the site suggesting that the Sassanid site had also been used during the Buyid dynasty (945–1055). "We stum-



bled upon a reconstructed part in the ruins of the castle, which suggests that the structure had been used during the Buyid dynasty."

The Parthian Empire (247 BC – 224 CE), also known as the Arsacid Empire, was a major Iranian political and cultural power in ancient Iran. The Parthians largely adopted the art, architecture, religious beliefs, and royal insignia of their culturally heterogeneous empire, which encompassed Persian, Hellenistic, and regional cultures. At its height, the Parthian Empire stretched from the northern reaches of the Euphrates, in what is now central-eastern Turkey, to eastern Iran.

Iran ranks tenth on UNESCO World Heritage list

HERITAGE TEHRAN — Iran ranks 10th in the world in terms of the number of historical monuments and sites registered on the UNESCO World Heritage list.

The director of the World Heritage Affairs Office at the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts, Farhad Azizi announced that Iran is ranked 10th regarding the number of historical monuments and sites registered in the UNESCO World Heritage list, and upgrading this position can be very effective in the development of tourism in the country, Mehr reported on Monday.



Before the Islamic Revolution, Persepolis, Naghsh-e Jahan Square, and Chog-haznabil were the only three UNESCO-listed monuments, but today the number has been increased this number to 24 historical sites, he added.

Azizi informed that within the next two weeks, a UNESCO Assessor will pay a visit to the Uraman region in western Kordestan province, which is a candidate for becoming a World Heritage site in 2021.

The global registration of the Uraman region is a good opportunity to introduce the historical and scenic areas of Iran,

he said.

The Islamic Republic expects to reap a bonanza from its numerous tourist spots such as bazaars, museums, mosques, bridges, bathhouses, madrasas, mausoleums, churches, towers, and mansions, of which 24 being inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage list. Under the 2025 Tourism Vision Plan, Iran aims to increase the number of tourist arrivals from 4.8 million in 2014 to 20 million in 2025. The latest available data show eight million tourists visited the Islamic Republic during the first ten months of the past Iranian calendar year (ended March 20).

Haul of ancient relics confiscated from smugglers in southern Iran

TOURISM TEHRAN — Iranian authorities have confiscated a number of historical relics, which are estimated to date back to the Safavid era (1501–1736), from smugglers in Bandar Abbas, the capital city of the southern Hormozgan province.

After days of intelligence operations 23 historical objects including crowns, earrings, bracelets, necklaces, daggers, and all kinds of precious stones were seized from four smugglers, ILNA quoted Gholamreza Jafari, a provincial police commander, as saying on Tuesday.

Cultural heritage experts are assessing that the objects worth 80 billion rials (some \$1.9 million at the official rate of 42,000 rials), he explained.

The culprits were surrendered to the judicial system for further investigation, he added.

The Safavid dynasty was one of the most significant ruling dynasties of the country, often considered the beginning of modern Iranian history.

Known as the province of islands, Hormozgan province is located on the northern coasts of the Persian



Gulf. It embraces scenic islands among which Kish, Hormuz, Hengam, and Qeshm are the most beautiful ones and top tourist destinations in southern Iran.

Over the past couple of decades, the coral Kish

Island has become a beach resort where visitors can swim, shop, and sample a laid-back and relatively liberated local lifestyle. It is home to free-trade-zone status, with ever-growing hotels, shopping centers, apartment blocks, and retail complexes.

Hormuz, which is mostly barren and hilly, is situated some eight kilometers off the coast on the Strait of Hormuz, which attracts many tourists by its colorful mountains, silver sand shores, and great local people.

Hengam Island has scenery rocky shores, serene sunset, and kind natives, which can attract travelers who enjoy a relaxing trip by spending time on this tranquil island.

Qeshm Island is a heaven for eco-tourists as it embraces wide-ranging attractions such as the Hara marine forests and about 60 villages dotted mostly across its rocky coastlines. The island also features geologically eye-catching canyons, hills, caves, and valleys, most of which are protected as part of the UNESCO-tagged Qeshm Island Geopark, itself a haven for nature-lovers.

Centuries-old Juniper added to national heritage list

TOURISM TEHRAN — A 600-year-old Juniper in Aligudarz, western Lorestan province, has recently been inscribed on the national heritage list, the provincial tourism chief has announced.

The Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts announced the inscription on Sunday in a letter to the governor-general of the province, Seyyed Amin Qasemi said on Tuesday.

The height of the tree, which is of the

cypress family, is estimated at 24 meters. It is 168 centimeters in diameter and its circumference is 52 meters.

Juniper is a very valuable and long-lasting species that grows in mountainous and high areas and has a special place in the legends and myths of Iranian people.

It has long been a symbol of immortality in Iranian culture and it can be seen in historical Iranian miniatures.

Lorestan, which is a region of raw

beauty, was inhabited by Iranian Indo-European peoples, including the Medes, c. 1000 BC. Cimmerians and Scythians intermittently ruled the region from about 700 to 625 BC. The Luristan Bronzes noted for their eclectic array of Assyrian, Babylonian, and Iranian artistic motifs, date from this turbulent period. Lorestan was incorporated into the growing Achaemenid Empire in about 540 BC and successively was part of the Seleucid, Parthian, and Sasanid dynasties.



History café, a place letting you embark back in time

By Faranak Bakhtiari

TEHRAN — Embarking on a historical journey is when you step into a nostalgic yard with a goldfish pond and potted flowers adjacent to an old brick building with colorful stained glass; inside the building, each part displays a historical item, from the headlines of old newspapers that covers one side of the wall, to the signatures of famous people, and 100-year-old banknotes. The owner of this café is a historian.

“Online History Café” was opened by “Hossein Dehbashi”, a historian and documentary filmmaker, which is remembered for its controversial videos and conversations about the contemporary history of Iran.

Dehbashi was born on June 17, 1971. He received his bachelor’s degree in industrial engineering from the University of Tehran and industrial management from the Islamic Azad University.

He then got his master’s degree in media from the SOAS University of London. He was a Ph.D. student in Public Diplomacy at Georgetown University.

From documentation to history

I started my first cultural activity with Ravayat-e Fath (literally meaning The Chronicles of Victory, was a war documentary television series directed by Morteza Avini and filmed on the front lines of the Iran–Iraq War of the 1980s), Dehbashi told the Tehran Times.

Despite my family being active in the industrial sector, my involvement in cultural activities at a young age led to working crisis journalism; years later, I gradually shifted to international journalism and documentary production, he stated.

Dehbashi further highlighted that my first experience of film making began with “Afghanistan, Days of Fall” documentary, adding, I also among the few men who were working to set up Al-Manar, a Lebanese satellite television station.

“At the end of the war, I came to the conclusion that my goal is to fight against oblivion, he said, adding, the most notable



lesson the history could teach us is narrating the weaknesses or successes in the past and how not to run through them in future, and this approach was the idea behind producing the largest project in the contemporary history of Iran in the world.”

The detailed collection of the Iranian Oral History Project has been prepared and published both as a documentary film and as a collection of books of which four volumes have been published so far, but Dehbashi has published the whole collection with his own capital, that is now showcased in the café.

In this series, Dehbashi has interviewed for the first time 48 individuals who played major roles in or were eyewitnesses to important political events in Iran from the 1920s to the 1980s.

In 2016, he produced the second Iranian Oral History Project which held talks with the officials of the Islamic Republic.

“To document, a background of the subject must be stated, and sometimes a brief background is not appropriate and requires historical studies, that was when I realized that my goal is not to publish documents, but to collect them, and to prevent them from being lost and forgotten,” he highlighted.

History is like a treasure map that shows you which paths have led to failure in the past and which have led to success so that we will not make bigger mistakes, he said.

History should be told to ordinary people, not just to historians

Wherever you look, you see a part of the history, a wall is filled with historical black-and-white photographs, from photographs of important historical monuments such as the Dar al-Fonun School to photographs of influential figures in contemporary Iranian history such as Mossadegh.

The other wall is full of Iranian newspaper headlines during the past 150 years, the most important news that once obsessed numerous minds and now are not being paid attention to.

Among the headlines, there is a board that has been written a verse of Hafiz in Nasta’liq script.

Another wall is dedicated to the headlines of English newspapers and narrates important events in the history of the world. A signature board is also displayed on a wall which includes the signatures of people who wrote him a memorial note and the signatures of famous authors, thinkers, and political figures that he has requested from museums around the world, such as “Napoleon Bonaparte” or “Simone de Beauvoir”.

A collection of old colorful banknotes also catches your eye, that next to it is a library that is accommodated numerous books that will be lent to the customers in the near future. More interestingly, it is host to the most complete television archive of Iran before the revolution.

The café is not only a recreational place but also a hall to hold several programs and narratives of history for the people; like every night a story from contemporary history is told in the café.

But during Muharram, a special program was held in the History Café from the first night of Muharram to Ashura, and every night it reviewed one of the famous historical books about Ashura. These discussions were handled by an expert.

“The idea behind the History Café was that history should be told to ordinary people, not just to scholars and historians. With the aim that people who have little interest in history can choose the right path of life with historical narratives.

However, it is undeniable that the café is a way income generation for more historical projects,” Dehbashi says with a smile on his face.

The menu of History Café, unlike the new cafés, is so simple, instead, is nostalgic like everything in the café.

World medical community, by its oath, has a duty to help lift Iran’s sanctions: health minister

1 → The U.S. government based on the interim order of the International Court of Justice, in addition to general obligations and multilateral treaties must lift sanctions in the field of medicine and medical equipment.”

According to the Hippocratic Oath, the first principle of equality is the provision of health facilities and services to all human beings. The world medical community, by its oath, has a humanitarian duty to help lift Iran’s drug and food sanctions and provide equitable and timely access of medical and public goods such as vaccines.

While appreciating WHO’s leadership in combating the pandemic, Namaki said this issue requires solidarity, integrity, dedication and commitment at all levels across the globe.

He outlined the latest progress of efforts by Iran to fight COVID19-, saying, “We have applied three rounds of nationwide screening, where in the current practice, 28 million high risk people have been screened since two weeks ago. In the meantime, we have started reopening of the businesses three month ago through ‘smart distancing’, ‘wearing mask’ through national campaigns, and most recently reopened schools. Public health measures, updated



treatment protocols, local production of PPEs, substantial up-scaling diagnostic capacities, infection prevention and control (IPC), risk communication and community engagement, protecting essential health services and

provision non-COVID measures, and at the top, ‘Whole Government’ approach where all implemented to ensure the least adverse effects of the outbreak.”

“Despite all our effort, we painfully lost tens of highly educated and dedicated healthcare professionals,” he regretted, adding, “We have suffered difficult circumstances for the last 7 months, while we have fought against COVID19- and the unlawful, unilateral sanctions at the same time. Therefore, our legal and legitimate expectation in this emergency situation is that the World Health Organization, the United Nations and all International Agencies to ensure that medicine and humanitarian items are made available to the Iranian people. It is the time for a global call to remove all sanctions, which could endanger the health of affected individuals.”

“Thus, I urge Your Excellency to take necessary measures to end the illegitimate and unilateral sanctions of the United States that inflicting pain and death upon Iranian people and other nationalities, bringing negative consequences for global health and health security,” Namaki concluded.

ENGLISH IN USE

LEARN NEWS TRANSLATION

آغاز طرح بیماریابی خانه به خانه برای مقابله با کرونا از فردا

وزارت بهداشت طرحی را با هدف یافتن افراد احتمالی مبتلا به ویروس کرونا از فردا در سراسر کشور آغاز می کند.

به گزارش ایرنا، سعید نمکی وزیر بهداشت گفت ۳۰۰ هزار اکیپ با همکاری مراکز درمانی برای غربالگری کرونا و بیماریابی خانه به خانه مردم از روز سه شنبه به خانه های مردم مراجعه می کنند.

او افزود: حرکت بزرگی را شروع کرده ایم و طرحی را آماده کرده ایم که در قالب بسیج ملی شکست کووید ۱۹ به عنوان یکی از پیشتازان کشورهای شرق مدیترانه اجرا می کنیم.

نمکی گفت مراکز بهداشتی و درمانی را نیز آماده می کنیم. در اسرع وقت موارد پراکنده بیماری را شناسایی می کنیم و موارد مشکوک به مراکز بهداشتی و درمانی ارجاع می شوند و تحت پیگیری قرار می گیرند.

Home to home program to be launched to combat COVID-19

The Ministry of Health is to start a home to home program on Tuesday with the aim of finding people suspected of having coronavirus from around the country.

Some 300,000 teams of specialists will visit homes in collaboration with health centers for COVID-19 screening, Health Minister Saeed Namaki said, IRNA reported.

“As one of the leading countries in the Eastern Mediterranean region, we have started a big move and have prepared a plan that will be implemented as part of the national campaign to defeat COVID-19,” he explained.

“We are also preparing the health centers and we will identify sporadic cases, and all suspected cases will be referred to health centers for further treatment.”

The number of coronavirus cases in the country has risen to 1501, with 66 deaths so far.

Meteorite study suggests Earth may have been wet since it formed

A new study finds that Earth’s water may have come from materials that were present in the inner solar system at the time the planet formed -- instead of far-reaching comets or asteroids delivering such water. The findings published Aug. 28 in Science suggest that Earth may have always been wet.



Researchers from the Centre de Recherches Petrographiques et Geochimiques (CRPG, CNRS/Universite de Lorraine) in Nancy, France, including one who is now a postdoctoral fellow at Washington University in St. Louis, determined that a type of meteorite called an enstatite chondrite contains sufficient hydrogen to deliver at least three times the amount of water contained in the Earth’s oceans, and probably much more.

Enstatite chondrites are entirely composed of material from the inner solar system -- essentially the same stuff that made up the Earth originally.

“Our discovery shows that the Earth’s building blocks might have significantly contributed to the Earth’s water,” said lead author Laurette Piani, a researcher at CPRG. “Hydrogen-bearing material was present in the inner solar system at the time of the rocky planet formation, even though the temperatures were too high for water to condense.”

The findings from this study are surprising because the Earth’s building blocks are often presumed to be dry. They come from inner zones of the solar system where temperatures would have been too high for water to condense and come together with other solids during planet formation.

The meteorites provide a clue that water didn’t have to come from far away.

“The most interesting part of the discovery for me is that enstatite chondrites, which were believed to be almost ‘dry,’ contain an unexpectedly high abundance of water,” said Lionel Vacher, a postdoctoral researcher in physics in Arts & Sciences at Washington University in St. Louis.

Vacher prepared some of the enstatite chondrites in this study for water analysis while he was completing his PhD at Universite de Lorraine. At Washington University, Vacher is working on understanding the composition of water in other types of meteorites.

Enstatite chondrites are rare, making up only about 2 percent of known meteorites in collections.

But their isotopic similarity to Earth make them particularly compelling. Enstatite chondrites have similar oxygen, titanium and calcium isotopes as Earth, and this study showed that their hydrogen and nitrogen isotopes are similar to Earth’s, too. In the study of extraterrestrial materials, the abundances of an element’s isotopes are used as a distinctive signature to identify where that element originated.

“If enstatite chondrites were effectively the building blocks of our planet -- as strongly suggested by their similar isotopic compositions -- this result implies that these types of chondrites supplied enough water to Earth to explain the origin of Earth’s water, which is amazing!” Vacher said.

The paper also proposes that a large amount of the atmospheric nitrogen -- the most abundant component of the Earth’s atmosphere -- could have come from the enstatite chondrites.

“Only a few pristine enstatite chondrites exist: ones that were not altered on their asteroid nor on Earth,” Piani said. “In our study we have carefully selected the enstatite chondrite meteorites and applied a special analytical procedure to avoid being biased by the input of terrestrial water.”

Coupling two analytical techniques -- conventional mass spectrometry and secondary ion mass spectrometry (SIMS) -- allowed researchers to precisely measure the content and composition of the small amounts of water in the meteorites.

LET’S LEARN PERSIAN

(Part 20)

(Source: saadifoundation.ir)

این کتاب است. is replaced by unstressed /e/ after consonants:

این کتاب است. ← [این کتابه.]

آیا is normally ignored in speech:

آیا شما دانشجو هستید؟ ← [شما دانشجو هستین؟]

Written Form

Spoken Form

- این چیست؟
- آن کتاب است.
- این دفتر است؟
- نه، آن دفتر نیست.
- من دانشجو هستم؟
- نه، شما دانشجو نیستید. استاد هستید.
- متشکرم. بفرمایید.

Exercises on conversation patterns in each lesson:

1. Circle the letters which are omitted or weakened.
2. Pronounce the spoken form of other changeable elements.
3. Read each sentence in the spoken form.

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SPIRITUAL AWAKENINGKindness elevates human beings, and
faithfulness is the sign of decency.

Imam Hussein (AS)

Iranian children honored at Nova Zagora art exhibition

A R T **TEHRAN** — Five Iranian children have been honored at the 22d International Youth Art Exhibition Nova Zagora in Bulgaria, Iran's Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (IIDCYA) announced on Tuesday.

Mersana Beigzadeh, Ava Moqaddasian, Arjang Bakhtar, Fatemeh Alizadeh and Asra Sadeqi have received honorable mentions at the exhibition organized at the Rusi Karabiberov Art Gallery in Nova Zagora from June 1 to 30.

The children are the members of IIDCYA branches in the country.

The young artists aged 4 and 20 years from around the world took part in the exhibition, which is an initiative of Nova Zagora Association and DUGA Art Studio.

No specific topic was determined for the showcase and the artists were allowed to choose materials, collages, photography and computer drawing.

Shahram Mokri: Iran sanctions big obstacle to joint film projects

➔ He also talked about Iranian's higher regard for cinema, Iran's good film market for mutual film projects, and the higher rate of speed of film production in Iran compared to European and American countries as positive points for joint productions.

However, he said that the U.S. sanctions on Iran have been a big obstacle impeding the transfer of money and assets between the Iranian banks and other countries, leading to less interest by Iranian producers and managers to invest in other countries for joint productions.

"Careless Crime" is competing in the Orizzonti section of the 77th Venice Film Festival, dedicated to films that represent the latest aesthetic and expressive trends in international cinema.

"Careless Crime" goes back forty years ago, during the uprising to overthrow the Shah's regime in Iran, when protestors set fire to movie theaters as a way of showing opposition to Western culture. Many cinemas were burned down. In one tragic case, a theater was set on



Director Shahram Mokri poses on stage with the Special Orizzonti Award for his movie "Fish and Cat" during the Closing Ceremony of the 70th Venice International Film Festival at the Palazzo del Cinema on September 7, 2013 in Venice, Italy. (Getty Images/Ian Gavan)

fire with four hundred people inside, most of whom were burned alive. Forty years have passed and, in contemporary Iran, four individuals also decide to burn down a cinema. Their intended target is a theater showing a film about an unearthed, unexploded missile.

In addition, two more Iranian films, "Sun Children" and "The Wasteland" were screened in various sections of the festival.

Directed by Majid Majidi, "Sun Children", also known as "The Sun", was screened in the official competition of the event.

The drama about child labor in Tehran won the Crystal Simorgh for best film at the 38th edition of the Fajr Film Festival in Tehran in February.

"The Wasteland" by Ahmad Bahrami was competing in the Orizzonti section.

It is about an old brick manufacturing factory that is going to be shut down, and all that matters to the factory supervisor is to keep his lover unharmed.

Iranian filmmakers are frequent visitors to the Venice Film Festival.

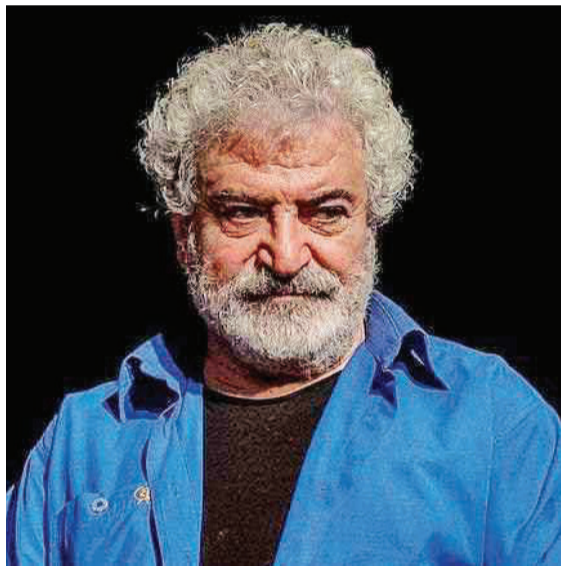
Veteran actor Kazem Hajir-Azad writes memoirs

A R T **TEHRAN** — Veteran stage and screen actor Kazem Hajir-Azad has recently completed writing his memoirs.

He has applied for publishing permission from the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance for his book titled "In the Presence of the Master", he told the Persian service of ISNA on Tuesday.

"When one reaches seventy, it's better to sit reviewing all the past fifty years ago and what has been done, telling about his/her masters, colleagues and students; I have written about all of these, perhaps it will serve the needs of the youth," the 70-year-old Hajir-Azad stated.

About the title of the book, he said, "I'm deeply indebted to a master who taught me theater from A to Z, Mostafa Oskui. He initially taught me how live. Therefore, I would like to dedicate my book to him both to acknowledge my debt to the teacher and to give a guideline to those who owe a debt of gratitude to their tutors."



Actor Kazem Hajir-Azad in an undated photo.

Movies from Iran in lineup for ROZAFA AniFest

A R T **TEHRAN** — Four movies by Iranian filmmakers will be competing in the ROZAFA AniFest in the Albanian capital of Tirana during November.

"Blue Girl" directed by Keivan Majidi, "The Last Embrace" by Saman Hosseinpour, "What With" by Mahin Javaherian and "The Myth of Haftvay Worm" by Asghar Safar and Abbas Jalaliyekta have been selected to screen in the children's short film festival, which will take place from November 1 to 8.

"Blue Girl" tells the story of the children in a mountain village in a remote area of Kurdistan who are very fond of playing football. However, there is no level terrain for football in their village, so the kids exert a lot of effort to play soccer on top of a mountain.

In "The Last Embrace", a little girl wants to show her drawing to her family, but since everybody is busy with their cellphones, she goes to her grandpa who has just passed away a few minutes earlier without anybody noticing.

"The Myth of Haftvay Worm" is about a girl who spins cotton on a hill every day. One day a gust of wind causes an apple to fall from a tree. The girl grabs the apple and takes a bite from it, but finds a worm inside. Feeling pity for the worm, she puts it



A poster for "The Last Embrace" by Saman Hosseinpour.

on a spinning wheel to keep it safe. Then the worm starts to spin cotton with a magic dance.

"What With" familiarizes children with some tools used in construction, gardening, agriculture, sewing, shoemaking and several other jobs.

Play depicting Che Guevara's last days to go on stage in Tehran

A R T **TEHRAN** — Iranian director Mehran Ranjbar plans to stage a play portraying prominent communist figure in the Cuban Revolution Che Guevara's experience of the last few days of life.

The play written by Iranian playwright Hamidreza Naeimi will be performed by a cast of dozens in Tehran, Ranjbar told the Persian service of MNA on Tuesday.

"Naeimi wrote the play in 2008 and it depicts the time of his arrest and execution in Bolivia," he said.

He added that the play is a big project with 10 actors playing the major roles and about 40 other actors who will have good knowledge of opera and performance.



An undated photo of Che Guevara.

"The play will have a slight revision made by Naeimi, and we have negotiated with musician Nikan Ebrahimi, and Vahid Lak

is collaborating as a producer," he added.

"Steve Jobs" and "Marlon Brando" are two plays by Ranjbar staged previously in Tehran.

Ernesto Guevara de la Serna was an Argentine physician and Marxist revolutionary who played a key role in the Cuban Revolution.

He also served in the government of Cuba after the communist takeover before leaving Cuba to try and stir up rebellions in Africa and South America. He was captured and killed on October 1967, 9 in La Higuera by the Bolivian army, which had been aided by CIA advisers. Guevara's image remains a prevalent icon of leftist radicalism and anti-imperialism.

"Asho" named best short at Sevastopol festival in Russia

A R T **TEHRAN** — "Asho" by Iranian filmmaker Jafar Najafi has won the award for best short film at the 16th Sevastopol International Festival of Documentary Films and TV Programs, which was held in the Republic of Crimea, Russia from August 27 to September 4.

"Asho" is about a shepherd boy who is obsessed with Hollywood movies and wants to become an actor.

The film has been screened earlier in several international events and won some honors, including the jury award at the DOQUENTA International Documentary Film Festival in the Mexican city of Queretaro last week.

Last year, "Asho" received the award for best short documentary in the international competition section of the 13th Cinéma Vérté, Iran's major documentary film festival.

The organizers of the Sevastopol festival added the phrase "Win Together" to the name of the event this year

to celebrate the 75th anniversary of victory in World War II and the Great Patriotic War.

The festival's program included a national competition of documentary films, four international documentary competitive events, a TV contest, a contest of film schools, and a contest of social movies, social video and social advertising.

The festival's program included more than 150 films from 37 countries and 21 regions of Russia. The non-competitive program included creative meetings, special programs of film screenings and conferences.

"Once More into the Breach" by the Italian directors Michele Manzolini and Federico Ferrone received the Grand Prix.

The award for best feature film was given to "Reanimation" co-directed by Stanislav Stavinov and Andrey Timoshenko from Russia.

"Where Is Matryon?" by Elena Laskari from Russia was selected as best documentary.

