

CBI to open center for currency, gold exchange



IRNA - The Central Bank of Iran (CBI) will open a new center for the exchange of currency and gold today in order to control the market fluctuations and determine the rates based on the economic realities of the country, CBI Governor Mohammadreza Farzin announced in a live TV program on Monday. "Unfortunately, the current rate in the market is not the rate expected and accepted by us in the central bank", the official added.

More industrial companies active in stock market



IRNA - The production index of 280 Iranian industrial companies active in the stock market has grown 7.7 percent in the month to January 20, compared to corresponding figure for preceding year. According to Spokesman of the Industry, Mine, and Trade Ministry Omid Qalibaf, the increase in the production of industrial groups shows that the ministry will achieve its goal of an eight-percent growth in the current Iranian year (to end on March 20).

TSE index up



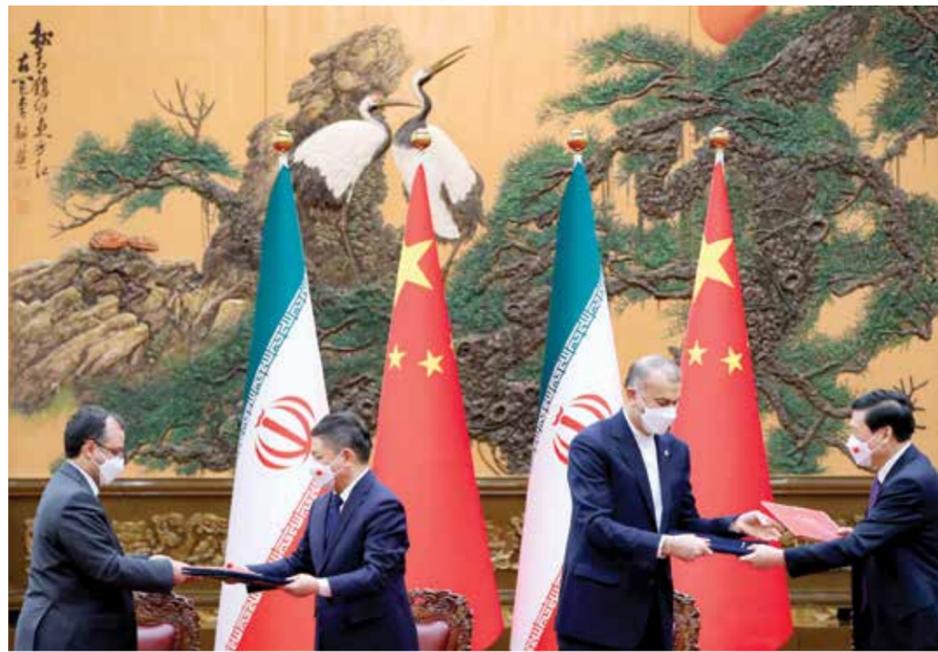
TSETMC - TEDPIX, the main index of Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE), gained 60,897 points to 1,594,262 on Monday. Over 12.547 billion securities worth 74.019 trillion rials (about \$185 million) were traded at the TSE. TSE is one of the four Iranian stock exchanges, and the most important one. The other three ones are Iran Mercantile Exchange (IME), Iran Energy Exchange (IRENEX), and Iran's over-the-counter (OTC) market, known as Iran Fara Bourse (IFB).

Official: Results of Iran-China agreements 'will be visible soon'

Recent agreements reached between Iran and China will become operational within the next two months, the effects of which "will be visible soon", the head of the Iran Trade Promotion Organization said. Alireza Peyman Pak on Monday touched on President Ebrahim Raeisi's landmark visit to Beijing last week, saying preparations for the trip had been made several months ago with the aim of developing trade and economic relations with China, Press TV reported. According to the official, develop-

ment of trade and economic relations between Iran and China is one of the important priorities of the Raeisi administration, given that China is currently one of the largest economies in the world. The trip marked a raft of agreements, memoranda and contracts signed between the two sides for development of various relations in tourism, mining, railway, commercial, machinery, industrial and mining equipment sectors. Peyman Pak said China is one of the largest consumers of mineral prod-

ucts in the world, adding discussions were held on the participation of Chinese companies in developing Iran's extractive sector. Iran and China, he said, reached "good agreements" on cooperating in the automotive industry, including on transfer of technology, improvement of production and supply of parts as well as in the rail sector. "Within the next one to two months, most of these memorandums, agreements and contracts will enter the implementation phase," Peyman Pak said.



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Iran's aluminum production increases: *IMIDRO*



● IRNA

Production of aluminum ingot in Iran rose 17 percent in the first 10 months of the current Iranian year (March 21, 2022-January 20, 2023), compared to the same period of time in the past year, according to the data released by Iranian Mines and Mining Industries Development and Renovation Organization (IMIDRO). The production of aluminum ingot stood at 528,060 tons in the 10-month period of this year, while the figure was 451,193 tons in the same time span of the previous Iranian year, IRNA reported. Among the country's four

major producers, South Aluminum Corporation (SALCO) had the best performance in the first 10 months of the present year, producing 226,467 tons of aluminum ingots, followed by Iranian Aluminum Company (IRALCO) producing 147,560 tons, Almahdi Aluminum Company producing 123,403 tons, and Iran Alumina Company producing 30,630 tons of the product.

According to the data previously released by IMIDRO, production of aluminum ingot in Iran rose 20 percent during the past Iranian year compared to its preceding year. The IMIDRO's data put the annual production of aluminum ingot at 538,633 tons in the year to March 20, 2022, while the figure was 446,836 tons in the year to March 20, 2021. Iranian officials estimate the country's aluminum sector to have a value of \$22 billion, which is sufficient to meet the country's aluminum needs. At present, Iran is the 18th biggest aluminum-producing country in the world.

Iran's 10-month export of crude steel exceeds 5.7m tons: *ISPA*

Iran exported 5.748 million tons of steel ingots during the first 10 months of the current Iranian year (March 21, 2022-January 20, 2023), announced the Iranian Steel Producers Association (ISPA). Based on the ISPA data, the 10-month steel ingot export indicates a one percent fall from the figure for the same period of time in the past year, which was 5.807 million tons, according to imidro.gov.ir.

As announced by the Iranian Mines and Mining Industries Development and Renovation Organization (IMIDRO), the country's export of steel ingots increased by 25 percent in the past Iranian year 1400 (ended on March 20, 2022), from the preceding year. The IMIDRO's data put the country's annual steel ingot exports at 7.678 million tons in the past year, and at 6.162 million tons in its previous year. The Iranian Steel industry has been constantly developing over the past years



● IRNA

against all the pressures and obstacles created by outside forces like the U.S. sanctions and the coronavirus outbreak that has severely affected the performance of the world's top producers. According to the latest report released by the World Steel Association (WSA), Iran's crude steel production increased by eight percent in 2022 when the production by the world's top 64 steel-makers declined by 4.2 percent. Iran ranked first among the world's top steel producers in terms of production growth in the previous year.

IME monthly trade tops \$3.4b



The Iran Mercantile Exchange (IME) announced that over 10.39 million tons of commodities, worth over \$3.4 billion, were traded in its domestic trading and export halls in the month closing on February 19. A total of 8.59 million tons of various products, worth over \$2 billion, were traded at IME's domestic and export metal and mineral trading hall, ime.co.ir reported on Monday. Among the traded prod-

ucts were 186,807 tons of steel, 1.97 million tons of iron ore, 1.57 million tons of steel, 122,400 tons of sponge iron, 53,750 tons of zinc, 42,095 tons of aluminum ingots, 30,372 tons of copper, 790 tons of molybdenum concentrate, 48 tons of precious metals, 33 kg of gold bars, 4.64 million tons of cement and 10,730 vehicles. In addition, 1.74 million tons of various commodities, valued at over \$1 bil-

lion, were traded at IME's domestic and export oil and petrochemical trading halls. Other traded items were 437,433 tons of polymeric products, 392,000 tons of vacuum bottom, 195,500 tons of lube cut, 175,975 tons of chemical products, 49,400 tons of sulfur, 18,475 tons of base oil, 400 tons of insulation, 2,104 tons of petroleum products and 478,069 tons of bitumen.