

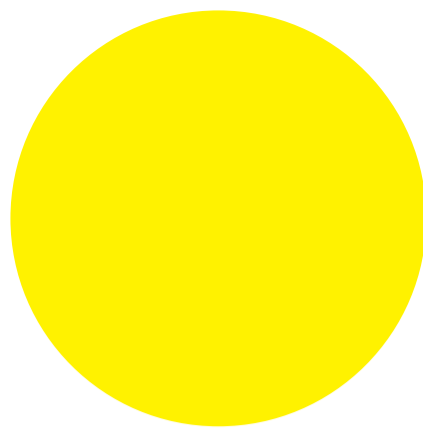
Iran books FIBA World Cup ticket despite China defeat

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Iran posts 70% rise in transit through northern ports

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Iran Daily

Syria, Arab Nations Rebuilding Ties



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● AP

Trans-regional interference meant to ensure Israel's security: Iran



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Iran's Defense Minister Mohammad Reza Ashtiani (R) and his Iraqi counterpart Thabet Muhammad Saeed al-Abbasi meet in Tehran on February 25, 2023.

● FARS

Iran's defense minister trans-regional countries' interference of in the Middle East was aimed at ensuring Israel's security as well as the flow of energy. In a meeting with his Iraqi counterpart Thabet Muhammad Saeed al-Abbasi in Tehran on Saturday, Mohammad Reza Ashtiani stressed that trans-regional states never seek to promote democracy but to create unnecessary crises, discord and conflicts in the region. "Experience has proven that the presence of trans-regional countries in

any part of the world has been accompanied by insecurity and division. This presence in our region is meant to ensure the flow of energy and strengthen the Zionist regime's security belt through creating artificial crises, differences, and conflicts between Muslim countries," Ashtiani added, referring to Israel. "Therefore, this presence has never been meant for helping human rights, promoting democracy, and aiding regional people."

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U.S. admits Iran does not have a military nuclear program

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China reports first official Iranian oil imports since Dec. 2020

China reported the first imports of Iranian crude oil in a year despite ongoing sanctions by the United States. China brought in 260,312 tons of Iranian crude oil in December, according to data from the General Administration of Chinese Customs, which last recorded Iranian oil inflows in December 2020 at 520,000 tons, Reuters

reported. It was not immediately clear which company brought in the latest cargo, which is equal to the amount of oil that would fit onto one very large crude carrier (VLCC) tanker, and which terminal it was discharged into. Unofficially, China's imports of Iranian oil had held above 500,000 barrels per day on average

between August and October, as buyers judged that getting crude at competitive prices outweighed the risks of busting U.S. sanctions, Reuters reported in November. Imports from Iran have accounted for about 6% of China's crude oil imports, according to shipping data and trader estimates.



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Oil and gas tanks are seen at an oil warehouse at a port in Zhuhai, China, on October 22, 2018.

● REUTERS

Yemen's Hodeidah receives first ship carrying cargo in years



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A coastguard boat sails past a commercial container ship docked at the Houthi-held Red Sea port of Hodeidah, as a container ship carrying general commercial goods docked at the port for the first time since at least 2016, in Hodeidah, Yemen, on February 25, 2023.

● REUTERS

A container ship carrying general commercial goods docked at Yemen's main port of Hodeidah for the first time since at least 2016 on Saturday as parties in Yemen's eight-year war are in talks to reinstate an expired UN-brokered truce deal. The conflict, launched by a military coalition led by Saudi Arabia against the Ansarallah or Houthi movement, has caused a

humanitarian crisis that has left 80% of the 30 million population needing help. Goods arriving at Hodeidah have to be vetted by a UN body established to prevent arms shipments from entering Yemen. In the past seven years, Djibouti-based UNVIM has given approval only to ships carrying specific goods like foodstuffs, fuel and cooking oil.

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Thousands in Italy protest West's weapons supplies to Ukraine

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Pigeon towers in central Iran

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Most politicians feel they have lower control over their lives than ordinary people

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Mazandaran Province to be destination for Kazakh tourists: Kazakh official

Iran's northern province of Mazandaran, having great tourist attractions, is a great opportunity to turn into a tourist destination for Kazakh people, said deputy governor of Mangistau region of Kazakhstan, Kulzhanov Kanat Zhanbyruly. He made the statement on the sidelines of joint economic and investment meeting held on Sunday in Tehran. He said that the economic and tourism infrastructure of Mazandaran is unique for the development of business relations and



● IRNA

the presence of Kazakh tourists, adding that health tourism and specialty doctors, as well as tourist attractions paved the ground for the presence of foreign tourists in the province.

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West must stop blame game over drones: Iran FM

International Desk

Iran on Sunday again rejected Western accusations that it had supplied military drones to Russia to be used in the Ukraine war, urging the West to put an end to its "futile" blame game. "Claims about the use of Iranian drones in Ukraine are false," Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian tweeted. Amir-Abdollahian criticized "certain Western parties" for making such claims "without presenting any evidence". He blamed the accusers for the possible cancellation of an expected meeting between Iran and Ukraine over the dispute.



● IRNA

"The West must stop this futile game," said the top Iranian diplomat, adding, "Iran supports peace and opposes war." At least two rounds of talks have been held between Iranian and Ukrainian officials in Oman to discuss the alleged supply of armed drones to Russian forces fighting in Ukraine.