

Iran tests homegrown aero engine

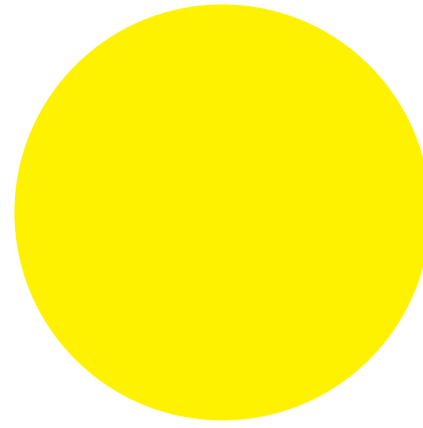
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Teachers of Iran pillars of progress and cultural preservation

EXCLUSIVE

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Rial-rupee mechanism crucial for Iran-India trade: SNSC

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A protester holds a sign reading "Shoked by burnt plastic but not by our stolen pensions" during a demonstration on May Day, more than a month after the government pushed an unpopular pensions reform act through parliament, in Lyon, eastern France, on May 1, 2023.

JEFF PACHOUD/AFP

India determined for further cooperation with Iran



By Nozar Shafiei
Expert on international relations

EXCLUSIVE

India's national security adviser, Ajit Doval, held talks with Iranian officials during a visit to Tehran on Monday.

There have always been many areas for cooperation between Iran and India. However, the cooperation between the two countries has had its vicissitudes.

It seems that three main factors have been affecting relations between the two countries. The first is Tehran's relations with Washington, the second factor is Tehran's relations with Arab countries, and the third is Iran's ties with its eastern neighbor, Pakistan.

Relations with the United States, or rather the lack of relations between the two countries, are not currently posing an obstacle to ties between Tehran and New Delhi.

Although the U.S. has the tendency to politically isolate Iran, the growing relations between Iran and China – a great and serious rival to both the U.S. and India – has caused Washington to allow New Delhi to expand its cooperation with Tehran.

Regarding the Arab countries, with the recent de-escalation of tensions between Iran and the Arab countries, especially Saudi Arabia, this factor has lost its negative impact and may have become a positive factor in the improvement of relations between Iran and India.

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Jordan FM: Regional talks with Syria step toward solution

Jordan's top diplomat said on Monday that regional talks with Syria are a step in the right direction to end a decade of hostility between Syria and Arab countries and bring Damascus back into the Arab fold. Jordanian Foreign Minister Ayman Safadi's remarks came as Jordan hosted a meeting of envoys from Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Egypt and Syria. Before the meeting kicked off, Safadi met one-on-one with his Syrian counterpart, Faisal Mekdad. The Jordanian Foreign Ministry said the meeting on Monday came as a follow-up to talks with Persian Gulf Arab countries, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt held in Saudi Arabia last month and focused on a "Jordanian initiative to reach a political solu-

tion to the Syrian crisis." "There was clarity and honesty," Safadi said of the talks in Amman. "This meeting is the beginning of an Arab-led political path to reach a solution to the crisis." The diplomats also discussed Syria's humanitarian needs, especially in light of the devastating Feb. 6 earthquake that struck parts of Turkey and Syria, drug smuggling across Syria's borders and the refugee crisis from the war in Syria. "We agreed on mechanisms to start organizing their (the refugees) safe and voluntary returns, in coordination with the United Nations," he added. The outreach to Damascus picked up pace after the February earthquake and the China-brokered



AFP

reestablishment of ties between Saudi Arabia and Iran. Saudi Arabia, the regional heavyweight that once backed Syrian rebel groups, has been leading the rapprochement. Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan visited Damascus last month for the first time since the kingdom cut ties with Syria more than a decade ago.

The kingdom will host a meeting of the Arab League this month, where many expect to see the start — if not full return — of Syria's membership. Some resistance to that remains, mainly from Qatar. The Arab League is a regional organization of the Arab world, established to promote cooperation among its members.

EU aware of Iran's response to 'irrational measures' on JCPOA: Spokesman

National Desk

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani said that the European parties to Iran's nuclear deal have been informed of Tehran's response if they take "irrational measures" in connection with the agreement. Kanaani's remarks were in reaction to media reports that the European parties to the nuclear deal have recently informed some members of the United Nations about triggering the snapback mechanism in order to re-impose sanctions on Iran.

"If the other side makes a mistake and takes an irrational action regarding the nuclear deal and the negotiation process, they know precisely and clearly what Iran's reaction would be, according to the message they previously received from Iran," Kanaani said. He said that the path of diplomacy is still open and the exchange of messages between the sides continues. Kanaani emphasized that Iran is ready to conclude the negotiations if its red lines are observed, but he said that the door to the negotiations will not be open forever.



UN envoy says Sudan's warring sides agree to negotiate

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Bil Gardani, a 2,000-year-old ritual in Markazi Province

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Iran's Sa'di sculpture unveiled in Tehran

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MI6 Iranian spy disclosed Fordo and Fakhrizadeh: NYT

International Desk

Alireza Akbari, an Iranian spy who was recruited by MI6 had divulged to British intelligence officials the identity and the activities of over 100 Iranian officials, according to a New York Times report published on Monday. Co-authored by Iranian-American journalist Farnaz Fassihi and Ronen Bergman, the report caused several moments of shock and awe, but the most surprising details of all were that Akbari had built close connections with Mohsen Fakhrizadeh, an Iranian nuclear scientist assassinated in

2020 by the Mossad, and Akbari had disclosed to the British intelligence officials in 2008 the intelligence on the Fordo nuclear site. "The intelligence on Fordo that Mr. Akbari provided was one of the revelations that the British intelligence official passed on to Israeli counterparts and other friendly agencies in 2008, according to three Western intelligence and national security officials," the report said. It then went on to note that in the videos broadcast by Iran's state TV on January 12, 2023, after Akbari was executed that "Mr. Akbari said he was recruited in

2004 and told he and his family would be given visas for Britain. The next year, he traveled to Britain and met with an MI6 handler, he said. Over the next few years, Mr. Akbari said he created front companies in Austria, Spain and Britain to provide cover for meetings with his handlers. Iran has said that MI6 paid Mr. Akbari nearly two million pounds, currently about \$2.4 million." In April 2008, Britain received and shared with Israel and Western agencies the intelligence about Fordo, according to The New York Times.



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