

NEWS IN BRIEF

Raeisi forms
probe panel on
Iran's unrest

● IRNA

National Desk

Iranian President Ebrahim Raeisi has ordered various executives to form an investigative committee to explore the dimensions of the protests that began last summer. The committee is to submit technical and expert reviews and to complete the investigations.

According to the president's executive order, Hossein Mozafar will be the head of the investigation; Kazem Gharibabadi, secretary of the Human Rights Headquarters; Sakine Sadatpad, in charge of pursuing social rights and freedoms; Zohreh Elahian, the head of Parliament's Human Rights Committee; and Hassan Safadoost, the head of the Central Bar Association will be the members of the special committee to investigate the unrest in Iran that began in September 2022.

Iran
'dismayed' with
EU's support for
terrorist
ringleader

International Desk

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman has expressed his disappointment over the EU's statement condemning the hanging of a terrorist ringleader.

In a statement issued on Sunday, Nasser Kanaani said, "It is very unfortunate that some European governments support terrorists in an unjustifiable act that is against the fundamental values of human rights, instead of confronting the terrorists who target the lives of innocent people.

Kanani added, "Habib Farajollah Cha'ab was the leader of a terrorist group responsible for designing and implementing numerous criminal operations such as the terrorist attack in 2018 in the city of Ahvaz, which led to the martyrdom and injury of a number of innocent citizens, including women and children. He has a black record of violence, terror and killing of innocent men, women and children." The Foreign Ministry spokesman said that the West's support for such terrorists is "not only an attempt to prevent the execution of justice, but will actually 'encourage' and 'promote' the sinister phenomenon of terrorism all over the world."

Uzbek speaker: Economic cooperation
plays vital role in Tashkent-Tehran ties

Chairman of the Legislative Chamber of Uzbekistan Nurdinjon Ismoilov (C) visits the holy shrine of Imam Reza (رضای) in the city of Mashhad, Iran, on May 7, 2023.

● IRNA

International Desk

Chairman of the Legislative Chamber of Uzbeki-

stan said that tourism and economic relations are complementary, and the presence of tourists will

lead to economic development.

In a meeting on Sunday with the governor of Khorasan Razavi Province, Nurdinjon Ismoilov said, "In recent years, relations between Iran and Uzbekistan have been developing, and we hope that these relations will expand in the future."

He went on to note that the governments of Uzbekistan and Iran have cooperation plans underway and, based on this, cooperation and contact between the ministries and economists will lead to more action and communication between the two countries.

Pointing out that economic relations between Uzbekistan and Iran need to be greatly expanded, the top Uzbek legislator said, "It is hoped that economic and trade relations between

the two countries will be at a suitable level and the visit of the president of Uzbekistan to Iran in the near future will lead to the signing of cooperation documents, so that the economy of the two countries would develop vastly." Elsewhere in his talks, the Uzbek parliament speaker said that by traveling to Isfahan and Khorasan Razavi provinces, he was able to learn about Iran's other capabilities, and a more complete picture of Iran has been formed for him. In this meeting, the speaker of the Legislative Chamber of the holding of a referendum on the new Constitution of his country, as well as the development of foreign policy with neighbors. Heading a four-member parliamentary delegation, Ismoilov visited Mashhad on Sunday.

Foreign Ministry denies hacking
of its website

National Desk

In an exclusive comment to Iran Daily, a senior diplomat denied the hacking of the Foreign Ministry's website, but admitted that "there was a security loophole." The diplomat, who spoke on

the condition of anonymity, noted that the ministry will soon issue a statement to clarify the matter.

A group of hackers associated with the terrorist Mujahedin Khalq Organization claimed on Sunday that they had broken into the Iranian

Foreign Ministry's website, gaining access to 50 terabytes of data.

The hacker group released the data it claimed to belong to 11,000 employees, as well as the agenda and details of meetings held in the Foreign Ministry.

The hackers also claimed that they had possessed "tens of thousands of Foreign Ministry's documents" and had access to "the most fundamental systems and internal workflows" of the ministry.

The alleged data appears to

be rather outdated, as it introduces Mohsen Baharvand as "Iran's ambassador to the UK." There are also dozens of similar examples indicating the released docs are apparently obsolete. Iran has not had an ambassador in Britain since March 2021.

Iran, Iraq sign MoU on Basra-Shalamcheh railway project

International Desk

CEOs of Iran and Iraq Railways on Sunday signed a memorandum of understanding on the implementation of the Basra-Shalamcheh railway. While visiting the railway, the top railway officials of the two countries were closely informed about the progress of this project. During the visit of the managing director and technical team of the Islamic Republic of Iran Railways, the memorandum of understanding on the implementation of the Shalamcheh-Basra railway

project was signed in a meeting attended by the managing directors and senior officials of the Iranian and Iraqi railways, as well as political officials in the Iranian Consulate in Basra. During this trip, which was carried out in line with the understanding between the ministers of road, urban development and transportation of the two countries, after holding a joint meeting with the technical and political teams of the parties at the border of Shalamcheh, the railway CEOs, along with the technical team of the railways, began to visit the

route. In this visit, the railway officials of the two countries visited the construction site of the new Basra railway station.

According to the report published by the Islamic Republic of Iran's Railway Company, after the negotiations that were held at the Iranian Consulate in Basra and lasted for about six hours, the parties agreed on the exact route of the railway line from Shalamcheh to Arvand River, and from the river to the said train station. The implementation steps for the construction



of the Shalamcheh-Basra railway line, including the scheduling of demining operations, the timing of the infrastructure and paving of the railway line from Shalamcheh to Arvand Riv-

er, and the construction of the bridge were discussed. The road construction map was also signed by the technical deputies of the parties as an attachment to this MoU.

IRGC tests homegrown rocket with
thermobaric warhead

The thermobaric explosive's lower sensitivity than TNT has made it a safer option in comparison with conventional warheads. The Fajr-5 rockets came into the spotlight after being delivered to the Palestinian resistance groups. They were unveiled during the 55-day war in 2012, when the Israeli regime attacked the

Gaza Strip. Reports came out at the time that the Hamas forces had defeated the Israeli regime's Iron Dome air defense system with the Fajr rockets. The new thermobaric warhead's function would also make the Fajr-5 rocket a suitable weapon for the fight against terrorist groups in mountainous and impassable areas, where the terrorists

construct shelters and trenches. Fajr-5 is known as the most advanced and longest-range version of the Fajr ground-to-ground rockets that have various classes with different utilities. The 333mm rocket that runs on solid fuel has single- and two-stage versions, with a range of 75km and 180km, respectively.

Familiar psychological operations
against Iran

In addition to these issues, the maintenance of a nuclear bomb also requires advanced and safe technologies that do not lead to damage to the nuclear bomb owner due to mistakes and errors. Israelis and Americans know this, but in line with the media war and psycho-ops, they make baseless claims to mobilize public opinion against Iran.

It seems that the goal of Israel and the United States is to create hype against Iran at the current stage, when Tehran is negotiating with the IAEA. If these negotiations bear fruit, a large part of the pressures and claims against Iran will be revealed and become ineffective. But Israel does not want this pressure to be lifted from Iran, especially since it has been facing internal

pressures for the past few months, and is trying to divert some of its internal crises to outside its borders by blaming other countries. Israel is also trying to force Iran to behave irrationally with this media hype in order to have more excuses for Iranophobia. The recent claims of the Israeli and American authorities are nothing new; it is in line with their project of creating Iranophobia.