

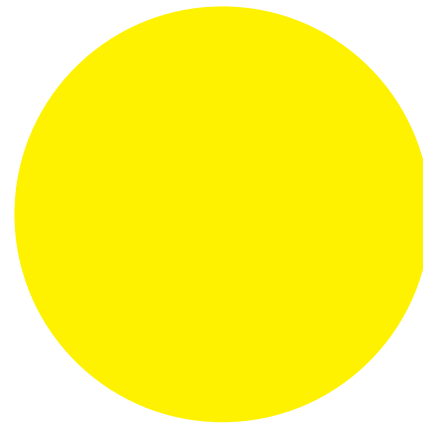
Iran Daily congratulates its readers on the occasion of Eid al-Ghadir.



EXCLUSIVE

Why save water this hot summer and how

7 >



Iran Daily



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Iran calls for NAM's more active role in the world



The photo shows a general view of the conference hall at the start of the ministerial meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement in Baku, Azerbaijan, on July 5, 2023. AZERBAIJAN'S PRESIDENTIAL WEBSITE

International Desk

Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian called for the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) to play a more active role in international bodies in order to strengthen the rule of law in the world. Addressing NAM's ministerial meeting in Baku, Azerbaijan, Amir-Abdollahian said that the movement should support multilateralism more strongly than

before. He also called for the movement to strongly express its opposition to some countries' instrumental use of international bodies, and more decisively defend the fundamental principles of international law. With its 120 member states, NAM is the largest grouping of countries outside of the UN, making it an important player in global and multilateral affairs.

The Iranian foreign minister also said Iran strongly condemns a recent "provocative" act of desecration of Muslims' holy book, the Qur'an, in Sweden. Amir-Abdollahian told his counterparts participating in the conference that due to the fact that some European governments intend to officially support the establishment of such illegitimate procedures in support of Islamophobia and xenophobia, the

Non-Aligned Movement should condemn the move in strongest terms. On June 28, Salwan Momika, a 37-year-old Iraqi immigrant, stomped on the Qur'an before setting several pages alight in front of Stockholm's largest mosque. The insult to the Muslim holy book was made under the authorization and protection of the Swedish police. Amir-Abdollahian also said the

threat posed by Israel's weapons of mass destruction against the peace and security of the world, its systematic violence against Palestinians, destruction of their houses, and storming holy sites, including Al-Aqsa Mosque, still persist. He also said Iran strongly condemns the recent "barbaric" attacks by the regime against innocent Palestinians in Jenin refugee camp, calling on the international

community to decisively react to the hostile actions in the occupied territories. Undoubtedly, the recent normalization of some regional countries with the regime would result in destabilization of the region, he said. He also underlined that the regime must immediately end its military attacks against countries in the region, including Syria and Lebanon.



Ilam's handwoven carpet industry in need of more attention

4 >



Short-handed Iran undone by Olympic champion France

5 >



Iran's production of glass targeted at 3m tons

6 >

Iran to import camels from Qatar, Australia for breeding



By Sadeq Dehqan
Staff writer

Iran is planning to import camels from Qatar and Australia, with the objective of enhancing the local camel population, as well as improving the quality and quantity of milk and meat production, a Yazd Province agricultural official told Iran Daily on Wednesday. Mehdi Gheibollahi, a deputy director general of Yazd's Agricultural Organization, said a recent agreement was reached between Iran's Ministry of Agriculture and

a Qatari company as well as the Iranian Livestock Farmers' Union to facilitate the importation of camels. Gheibollahi emphasized the need for improved breeding practices and eugenics in Iran and acknowledged that the existing camel population in the country might not possess the desired quality for efficient meat production. "Therefore, the decision was made to import ten male camels from abroad, aiming to enhance the quality of camel meat and milk production within Iran.

Page 6 >

Two goals on agenda in Baku



By Mohsen Pakaein
Caucasus affairs expert

OPINION EXCLUSIVE

The visit of Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian to the Republic of Azerbaijan holds significance in both bilateral and international contexts. On an international level, the purpose of this trip is to participate in a meeting of foreign ministers from the Non-Aligned Movement. This gathering focuses on glob-

al and regional challenges, aiming to establish and strengthen stability and security in various parts of the world. Additionally, it seeks to foster friendship among nations and promote a world order based on multilateralism, countering the unilateral system advocated by Western countries. The majority of countries that endorse a multilateral approach are part of the NAM, a fact highlighted by Amir-Abdollahian in his speech to the event on Wednesday. Iran, aligning with this ideology, supports the presence of multilateralism worldwide.

Page 2 >

NEWS IN BRIEF

Borrell:
De-escalation,
cooperation
with IAEA
crucial

International Desk

The European Union's foreign policy chief Josep Borrell on Wednesday tweeted about his phone conversation with Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian on the "importance of continuing dialogue on JCPOA," saying "de-escalation on nuclear programme & cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) remains crucial". Borrell welcomed the ongoing cooperation and negotiations between Tehran and the IAEA and assessed the continuation of that cooperation as useful and positive. Borrell said, "The JCPOA and maintaining its structure, as well as the continuation of constructive negotiations, on the one hand, and the process of normalizing relations between Tehran and Riyadh, on the other hand, are important for the EU."

Iranian rapper's death sentence commuted to imprisonment



● TASNIM

IFP – Iranian rapper Toomaj Salehi, who was arrested for "provoking violence" during anti-government protests in Iran last year, first received a death sentence, but the ruling was later commuted to imprisonment. Tasnim news agency said in a report on Wednesday that Salehi's sentence has been commuted because of his "active cooperation" with authorities. The report did not say where it had received the news from, or how long Salehi's prison sentence was.

None solely owns Arash gas field: Ex-deputy

International Desk

Mehdi Hosseini, a former Iranian deputy oil minister, said Wednesday no country can legally claim exclusive ownership of the Arash gas field since no demarcation has been done for it. In recent statements, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia claimed joint sovereignty over the Persian Gulf gas field, excluding Iran.

Thirty historical artifacts returned to Iran in past two years

National Desk

Iran's Minister of Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts, and Tourism reported that 30 historical artifacts have been returned to Iran since the incumbent government took office two years ago. Ezzatollah Zarghami on Wednesday cited the return of the rock relief of an Achaemenid soldier as an example of the achievement, according to Fars news agency. Expressing dissatisfaction with the current efforts at restoring historical buildings, he said that a special new office in the ministry will be dedicated to overseeing the efforts and issuing expert warnings to the institutions that are putting the buildings to use. "The law mandates that any institution that uses historical buildings must financially support the restoration of those build-

ings," he underlined. The minister also announced that 850,000 foreign tourists have visited Iran since the beginning of the current Iranian year (which started on March 21), 550,000 of whom arrived in Iran in the month to June 21. He stressed that despite attempts made by some European countries like France to prevent tourists from traveling to Iran, the visits have increased. "The fact that France is currently falling into utter chaos and dealing with widespread arson and looting proves that Macron should have been careful of what he was wishing for," Zarghami pointed out. However, he maintained that the Achilles' heel of the country's development is its diffused leadership in many of its important national missions such as facilitating tourism. "The inefficient manage-

ment of this sector, which has haunted us for years, does not allow plans to conclude," he said, adding that, fortunately, the ministry has proposed various solutions including the establishment of a council of provincial governors that will have the last word in many issues of tourism, which was eagerly received by the government and adopted in Iran's Seventh National Development Plan. Earlier, the minister also said that Iran is planning a visa waiver program for 50 countries unilaterally. Zarghami then expressed his belief that a collective alliance should be formed to cancel visas with a large number of countries. Referring to the rumored plan to tax social media influencers, Zarghami concluded his remarks by denying any knowledge of such a plan.

The photo shows the petroglyph (statue) of a Sassanid soldier, discovered in England about seven years ago, which was returned to Iran in June 2023.
● IRAN PRESS



Two goals on ...



Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian (R) shakes hand with Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev before holding bilateral talks in Baku, Azerbaijan, on June 5, 2023.
● mfa.gov.ir

The country opposes the dominance of one or more Western powers over international relations. Iran's membership in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization also serves to bolster the multilateral approach. It is expected

that the Iranian foreign minister's speech at the NAM meeting will receive a positive reception from its member states. A special NAM committee has been set up to address the Palestinian issue. Considering the ongoing challenges in the Middle East, including Israeli aggres-

sion against Palestinians and the persistence of settlement policies opposed by the international community, these discussions hold significance. However, in the context of bilateral relations during the trip to Azerbaijan, it is important to point out to the recent misunderstandings between Tehran and Baku. The visit of Iran's foreign minister and the subsequent discussions with Azerbaijani authorities are expected to play a crucial role in resolving these misunderstandings and paving the way for improved relations between the two neighbors. On the sidelines of the NAM gathering, President Ilham Aliyev of Azerbaijan held a meeting with Amir-Abdollahian, and reports suggest that Baku

has shown a positive inclination toward enhancing relations and resorting to diplomatic means for resolving disputes, a stance that Iran also appreciates. I firmly believe that officials from both countries should engage in direct diplomatic dialogue, as relying on other channels such as the media is unlikely to contribute to rapprochement. The anticipated meeting between Aliyev and his Iranian counterpart President Ebrahim Raeisi in the future instills hope that the meeting will emphasize commonalities. Given the numerous shared interests between the two nations, they have the potential to advance their relations by addressing and resolving their misunderstandings.

Media reports have highlighted that, during the meeting between the Iranian foreign minister and the president of Azerbaijan, discussions also touched upon the North-South Corridor and the construction of the Rasht-Astara railway. Although Iran recently signed a contract with Russia build of this route, with plans to commence construction in March, Iran welcomes Azerbaijan's participation in this project. It is hoped that a trilateral meeting involving Tehran, Baku, and Moscow regarding the construction of the Rasht-Astara railroad will take place soon. The acceleration of this project and its subsequent opening would bring benefits to all countries in the region.



Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist



'Iran-IAEA ties based on NPT, safeguards'

The head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) has rejected claims that the organization has breached the law concerning its cooperation with the UN nuclear watchdog, saying the relationship is restricted to the safeguards agreement and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). "Our relations with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) are based on the safeguards agreement and the NPT. No more, no less," Mohammad Eslami told a cabinet meeting in Tehran on Wednesday, Press TV wrote.

He also dismissed accusations that the AEOI has violated a 2020 anti-sanction law in its March deal with the IAEA on bilateral engagements. The law, or the Strategic Action Plan to Counter Sanctions, was approved by the Iranian parliament in December 2020 in a bid to counter illegal sanctions imposed on Iran by the United States and its Western allies. It requires the Iranian administration to restrict the IAEA inspections and accelerate the development of the country's nuclear program beyond the limits set under

the 2015 US-abandoned nuclear deal. Iran has repeatedly voiced its readiness to resolve differences with the IAEA within a framework of constructive and mutual interaction and technical cooperation. On Tuesday, Eslami announced that Iran has for the first time manufactured a nuclear reactor simulator, applauding the feat as a monumental achievement in the field of high tech. The simulator is designed to manage the control chamber temperature and has a thermal capacity of 100 megawatts.

French police, protest violence is problematic: *EU Commissioner*

Violence in France, by some police officers and by demonstrators who turn to looting, "poses a problem," EU justice commissioner Didier Reynders said Wednesday. "It is striking" that a "very high level of violence" was seen in protests in France in recent years over cost of living, pension reform and last week's police killing of a teen driver, Reynders told Belgian public radio RTBF, AFP reported. "That really needs to be looked at because it poses a problem," the commissioner, a former Belgian prime minister, said. Reynders said the issue was with "a certain number of police officers... (and) the behaviour of people who have the right to freely protest -- that's a fundamental right -- but not to loot shops, to destroy stores, not to destroy public equipment". He said that Brussels sees

"probably two or three demonstrations a day, but these demonstrations -- which fortunately aren't all violent -- are handled in a way that perhaps relies more on prevention... rather than direct confrontation". Later Wednesday, Reynders was to present the European Commission's annual report on rule of law in the 27 EU countries. It looks at media freedom, the functioning of courts and the fight against corruption, and offers a series of recommendations. However, law enforcement and fundamental rights do not come under its scope. Two EU countries, Poland and Hungary, are in Brussels' sights for "very big deviations when it comes to rule of law," Reynders said. They have already had EU funds frozen pending reforms to improve the independence of judges and to battle corruption.



● GETTY IMAGES

Resistance groups hail Palestinians' operation against Israel



Palestinian resistance groups in the Gaza Strip have hailed the Palestinian people's successful operation against Israeli invaders in the city of Jenin that forced the latter to with-

draw from the northern West Bank city. Speaking on Tuesday, Hamas' Political Bureau Chief Ismail Haniyeh congratulated Palestinians on their inflicting a "humiliat-

ing defeat" on Israel during the resistance operation, the Palestinian Information Center news agency reported. "We say this to the Zionist enemy that their days

when it would perpetrate crimes against the Palestinian nation without paying the price are over," he said. The resistance operation featured an "integrated response" on the part of Palestinian fighters from various branches, striking "fear and terror" inside the heart of the Israeli military, Haniyeh noted, Press TV reported.

Israel launched the military campaign against



Thousands of people turn out in the occupied northern West Bank city of Jenin on July 5, 2023 for the funeral procession of a dozen Palestinians killed by Israeli military forces during a raid on the Jenin refugee camp two days earlier.

● SHEHAB NEWS AGENCY

Jenin in early Monday, mobilizing upwards of 1,000 troops as means of supposedly damaging the resistance "infrastructure" in the city and the refugee camp that it hosts.

At least 12 Palestinians and one Israeli trooper died as a result of the conflict, during which a steadfast Palestinian resistance response prompted the regime to pull out its forces after less than two days. Thousands of people turned out for the funeral procession of the dozen Palestinians, Press TV reported.

On Wednesday, the mourners converged outside Jenin's governmental hospital as they grieved for the victims of the latest Israeli onslaught.

They shouted slogans in commemoration of the fallen Palestinians and in support of the resistance fighters, who courageously withstood the Israeli violence and forced the regime's troops to withdraw. In his message, Haniyeh described the Tel Aviv operation as "heroic." He said it indicated that all Palestinians from various plac-

es and societal strata were supportive of the struggle that was going on in Jenin, and considered resistance to be their "strategic option" against the enemy's atrocities and towards forcing the occupiers out of the Palestinian land.

"We conveyed a clear message from all parties to the enemy," the Hamas official asserted, saying the message was that "the Zionist enemy should end its invasion against the Jenin camp fast."

The Islamic Jihad, Hamas' fellow resistance movement in Gaza, also felicitated Palestinians on the occasion of the "great victory." "Through their unity and the support they provided for the Palestinian fighters, the Palestinian people proved that they can defeat the enemy in whatever confrontation," said the Islamic Jihad's Secretary-General Ziad al-Nakhleh.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ukraine, Russia trade blames over nuclear plant attack

AP - Ukraine and Russia accused each other Wednesday of planning to attack one of the world's largest nuclear power plants, but neither side provided evidence to support their claims of an imminent threat to the facility in southeastern Ukraine that is taken by Russian troops.

Russia and Ukraine have regularly traded blame over shelling near the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant that caused power outages. Over the last year, the U.N.'s atomic watchdog repeatedly expressed alarm over the possibility of a radiation catastrophe like the one at Chernobyl after a reactor exploded in 1986.

North Korea satellite had 'no military utility': S. Korea

S. Korea



● YNA/AP

REUTERS - South Korea's military said on Wednesday it had retrieved the wreckage of a North Korean spy satellite that plunged into the sea in May after a botched launch and found it had no meaningful military use as a reconnaissance satellite.

The South's military said it had on Wednesday ended salvage operations, which began immediately after the debris splashed down off South Korea's west coast on May 31. Aircraft, the navy and deep-sea divers were involved in the effort.

Ten dead, 38 wounded in three US mass shootings



Police officers work at the scene as investigations are ongoing the day after a mass shooting in the Kingsessing section of southwest Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S. on July 4, 2023.

● BASTIAAN SLABBERS/REUTERS

Ten people were killed and 38 wounded in mass shootings in Philadelphia, Baltimore and Fort Worth ahead of the Fourth of July holiday, officials said, prompting a fresh call from President Joe Biden to pass gun control legislation. In Fort Worth, three people were killed and eight wounded in a mass shooting after a local festival to mark the U.S. Independence Day holiday, police said on Tuesday. In a separate mass shooting in Philadelphia on Monday evening, five people were killed and two were wounded, including a 2-year-old boy and 13-year-old boy, both of whom were shot in the legs, when a suspect in body armor and armed with an AR-15 opened fire on strangers, according to local police. The Monday night shootings came a day after two people were shot dead and 28 others injured, about half of them children, in a hail of gunfire at a neighborhood block party in Baltimore.

The motives in all three recent shootings remained unclear. The United States is struggling with a large number of mass shootings and incidents of gun violence. There have been over 340 mass shootings in the country so far in 2023, according to data collected by the Gun Violence Archive, which defines a mass shooting as an incident in which at least four people are shot, excluding the shooter. Biden condemned the violence on Tuesday and renewed his calls to tighten America's gun laws. Citing constitutional protections for gun ownership, Republicans in Congress have generally blocked attempts to significantly reform gun safety laws and oppose Biden's push to reinstate a ban on assault weapons.

Two killed as strongest summer storm blasts Netherlands, Germany

A record-breaking summer storm hammered the Netherlands and Germany on Wednesday, killing two people and throwing international air and rail travel into chaos.

Storm Poly packed howling winds of up to 146 km/h, toppling trees and forcing the cancellation of 400 flights from Amsterdam's Schiphol airport, one of Europe's busiest hubs, AFP reported. Meteorologists said the storm was the strongest on record to hit the Netherlands in the summer months and issued a rare "code red" warning for millions of people in the low-lying nation to stay indoors.

Schiphol Airport said the number of flights would "gradually improve" as winds started to drop but would remain disrupted for the rest of the day. "At the moment, 400 flights have been cancelled," a Schiphol spokesperson told AFP. Eurostar trains from Amsterdam to London and high-speed rail services to the German cities of Cologne and Hamburg were also called off, while many domestic trains were cancelled, Dutch train operator NS said.

The Dutch meteorological service KNMI said winds of force 11, the second highest on the scale, were measured along with a gust of 146 km/h measured in the northern port of IJmuiden.

It was the "first very severe summer storm ever measured" in the country, Dutch weather service Weerplaza said, adding that the gusts were also the strongest ever recorded in the summer in the Netherlands.



A tree uprooted by Storm Poly landed on a houseboat in Amsterdam, on July 5, 2023.

● phys.org

Ilam's handwoven carpet industry in need of more attention

Iranica Desk

The people of the western province of Ilam have always been famous in various artistic fields and their past nomadic life has caused handicrafts to become prevalent in the region.

Today handicrafts, from embossed kilims to handwoven carpets, are being produced across the province. The available figures show that, presently, the craftspeople of the province manufacture 33 types of handicrafts, IRNA reported. Handwoven carpets have been found in the houses of local people since a long time ago. Consequently, a boom in the carpet-weaving industry has played a significant role in the livelihoods of rural families.

However despite its great capacity, the province's carpet-weaving industry has no fame in the country, and is not supported by relevant organizations.

Kobra Azizi, who has been involved in the carpet-weaving industry for 20 years, said that carpet weavers have to sell their products at very low prices. She said earning a low wage is the main problem faced by carpet weavers who are active in the province.

"A 2x3 meter rug takes at least nine months to be woven but, unfortunately, we don't get a good salary at the end," she said. She noted that a large num-

ber of the province's carpet weavers are not covered by social security insurance.

Ali Khodayari, a carpet expert, said that lack of branding is the main problem faced by the province's carpet industry, adding that 95 percent of handmade carpets produced in the province are being exported to foreign countries, but no one knows about that.

The designs of carpets woven in Ilam are taken from other parts of the country, thus the products woven in the region are sold to domestic and foreign markets under the name of other provinces.

He said that proper planning in the field of carpet production would help generate jobs for a large



IRNA



number of villagers, pointing out that in some villages of the province, such as Cheshmeh Shirin of Badreh, most of the residents earn a

living through carpet weaving.

Khodayari continued that the unilateral sanctions imposed on Iran have caused a

reduction in the province's carpet exports, pointing out that the establishment of a carpet production township is the first strategy

which should be adopted to develop the sector in the province.

Head of the province's Industries and Mines Organi-

zation Mohammad Rahimi said that about 4,100 meters of handwoven carpets were produced across the province in the past Iranian

year (ended March 20, 2023). He noted that more than 3,050 people are involved in carpet weaving in the province.

Hamedan hosts several thanksgiving festivals in summer



ghatreh.com

Iranica Desk

Sacrifice of sheep and making vows, as practices of worship and thanksgiving, are among rituals held in Iran since ancient times.

The Harvest Thanksgiving Festival is held by the residents of Sonqorabad village in the western province of Hamedan every year at the end of the

harvest season. Fariba Nemati, an expert from Hamedan Province's Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts Organization, said that it is one of several thanksgiving ceremonies held in the province that coincides with the wheat harvest.

"Early in the morning, villagers gather around a hill at the foot of a mountain, have breakfast together,

sacrifice a sheep and cook abgoosht [a traditional Iranian stew]."

She continued that at the end of the day, they go to the shrine of an Imamzadeh in the village to pray and thank God for the blessings they have received, and then return to their homes.

Nemati said that due to the outbreak of COVID-19 in the country, the festi-

val was not held for two years, pointing out that efforts are underway to register the festival on Iran's National Heritage List. The expert said that another thanksgiving ceremony, named 'Dar-Imam,' is being held in Hamedan Province, which was registered nationally in June. It is a ceremony held several times a year in Heydareh Qazikhan vil-

lage, on a hill with several springs and trees. In May, when the springs are full of water, the rural people go to the hill, gather around a tree known as Dar-Imam, sacrifice sheep and cook abgoosht for lunch.

Another thanksgiving festival associated with the harvest season is held on the hill next to the tree on a day in July or Au-

gust, when the villagers sacrifice a sheep, spend time together until the afternoon and then pray to God.

Mount Alvand, with a height of 3,574 meters above sea level, is to the south and southwest of the city of Hamedan.

The altitude of this province and its location at the foothills of the Zagros and Alvand mountains

results in heavy rain and snowfall. This has created many springs to flow through this land.

These features have made this land green and have made it an ideal place for nomad life and cattle breeding.

The economy in this province is primarily based on farming and husbandry, and then on mining activities.

Volleyball Nations League: Short-handed Iran undone by Olympic champion France



Sports Desk

Iran's slender chances of progressing to the last-eight round of the Volleyball Nations League virtually ended after a straight-set loss (25-18, 25-22, 25-19) to France in Anaheim, California, on Tuesday.

A seventh defeat in nine outings – followed by the Netherlands' 3-1 win against Canada later in the day – means Iran will now have to win its remaining fixtures and hope other results go their way to qualify for VNL Finals, though it will more likely be a fight for reputation and consolation in the next three games for the Asian powerhouse, which made it to the quarterfinals last year.

Iran will take on Argentina and Bulgaria before concluding the preliminary round against Cuba on Sunday.

It was always going to be a daunting task against the reigning Olympic champion for Iran, which stepped on the court at the Anaheim Convention Center without

head coach Behrouz Ataei as well as prolific opposite Amin Esmaeilnejad, starting setter Mohammad-Taher Vadi, and Arman Salehi after all four were denied an entry visa by the US Embassy in Ankara.

The controversial decision convinced the international governing body of the sport, the FIVB, to freeze Iran's points in the Men's World Ranking – which will play a decisive part in the qualification for next year's Paris Olympics – during Week 3.

Iran's depleted side still managed to go toe-to-toe with the defending champion until the middle stages of every set but again some poor reception and individual errors, coupled with Frenchmen's fine serving, cost the Asian side a fourth consecutive defeat against the European heavyweight. With the French star man Earvin N'Gapeth ruled out of the final week with a knee injury, outside hitter Timothée Carle stole the show with a game-high 17 points – including three aces – while Boyer Stephen contributed 11.

Morteza Sharifi topped the scoring for Iran with eight points, with team captain Seyyed Mohammad Mousavi and Amirhossein Esfandiari chipping in seven apiece.

"We gave it our all to win the game but the France's high experience eventually prevailed," said Iranian Esfandiari, who also rued the absence of several members of the team and coaching staff.

"The team was under a lot of pressure throughout the game as we only had two coaches on the bench."

Iranian assistant coach Alireza Tolou-Kian echoed Esfandiari's words, saying: "It was really difficult to be without the head coach and the analyst today. It's literally impossible to play and coach with a naked eye in modern-day volleyball."

Elsewhere on the first day of the final week, Japan extended its winning streak to nine games after coming from behind twice to beat China in a five-set thriller (24-26, 25-23, 25-21, 25-23, 15-12) in Pasay, the Philippines, and stay atop the table.

Reigning world champion Italy also rallied to come out on top against Brazil in four sets (23-25, 25-20, 25-15, 25-21) for a sixth victory in the preliminary round, while Argentina bounced back from a five-set defeat against Japan to beat Serbia 3-1 (19-25, 25-16, 25-19, 25-18).

The top seven of the 16-team will join host Poland in the VNL Finals – starting July 16 in Gdansk.



French outside hitter Timothée Carle (23) goes up for a spike during a straight-set victory over Iran in the Volleyball Nations League in Anaheim, CA, US, on July 4, 2023.

● FIVB

Alcaraz 'doesn't feel' best of his generation



BBC – Spain's world number one Carlos Alcaraz says he "does not feel the best player of his generation" after beginning his Wimbledon campaign with a victory.

US Open champion Alcaraz, 20, is aiming to become the third youngest player to win the men's singles title and beat veteran Jeremy Chardy 6-0 6-2 7-5.

"There are a lot of great players in my age there right now – we are going to share great moments," said Alcaraz.

His match was one of only a few to finish on a rain-affected day two.

There was no play on the outside courts from just after midday because of the poor weather, with only the matches on Centre Court and Court One – the two courts with roofs – completed on Tuesday.

Alcaraz impressed, dropping only seven games and needing less than two hours to defeat 36-year-old Frenchman Chardy, who was playing the last competitive singles match of his career.

As well as his US Open win, Alcaraz reached the semi-final of the French Open in May, losing to 23-time Grand Slam champion Novak Djokovic.

Asked if he felt he would be the successor to the Serb, Alcaraz highlighted 21-year-old Italian Jannik Sinner and 20-year-old Dane Holger Rune, ranked eighth and sixth in the world respectively, as other options.

"I don't feel I'm the best of my generation," said Alcaraz.

"Sinner is there. Rune, as well. They are playing a great level.

"It's 1-0 head-to-head against Rune, he's up on me right now and I've had great matches with Jannik."

Eight-time Wimbledon champion Roger Federer retired in September and was watching on from the Royal Box on Centre Court, with Alcaraz disappointed he did not see his match on Court One.

"I saw that Roger Federer was here and I was a little bit jealous," added Alcaraz. "Honestly, I want Roger Federer to watch one of my matches obviously."

"I wish to talk a little bit with him and for me it would be amazing so I hope to see him around more than once."



Carlos Alcaraz hits a serve during his Wimbledon first-round victory over Jeremy Chardy in London, Britain, on July 4, 2023.

● AFP

Arsenal, West Ham reach final agreement on £105m Rice deal

THE GUARDIAN – Arsenal have finalised terms over their £105m deal for West Ham's Declan Rice, with the guaranteed portion of the fee expected to be paid in three instalments over 24 months.

West Ham are selling the midfielder for £100m plus £5m in add-ons and the transfer is on the verge of completion. Arsenal wanted to spread the cost of the guaranteed payment over five years but have been forced to bring the number of instalments down in order to secure Mikel Arteta's top summer target.

Rice is expected to undergo a medical and join Arsenal this week.

Manchester City had targeted Rice after losing Ilkay Gundogan to Barcelona and had a £90m bid for the West Ham captain rejected last week. City decided to walk away after Arsenal, who had already seen two bids turned down, decided to go over £100m for the 24-year-old. The champions were unwilling to get into a bidding war with Arsenal and felt that West Ham's demands, particularly around the payment structure, were too high.

Arsenal are spending heavily as they prepare for another title challenge and have already bought the Germany attacker Kai Havertz from Chelsea for a fee rising to £65m. They are close to completing a deal for the Ajax defender Jurriën Timber for £40m and are expected to make space for Rice in midfield by selling Granit Xhaka and Thomas Partey.

Xhaka is likely to join Bayer Leverkusen while Partey has interest from Juventus and clubs in the Saudi Pro League. Arsenal could raise further funds by selling the USA striker Folarin Balogun and the Portuguese left-back Nuno Tavares.

While Rice was open to joining City, Arsenal were always his favoured choice. The England international admires Arteta's football and is believed to have agreed terms on a long-term deal already. Arteta has gone to great lengths to woo Rice and believes that his physicality and leadership will give Arsenal a better chance of ending City's dominance of the Premier League.

Arsenal could bring in another midfielder and are interested in Roméo Lavia, who is valued by Southampton at £45m. Chelsea, Liverpool and Manchester United are also interested in the 19-year-old.



● MARC ATKINS/GETTY IMAGES

Diniz appointed interim Brazil coach as Ancelotti pursuit continues

REUTERS – Fluminense coach Fernando Diniz has been appointed to lead Brazil on an interim basis while the national football federation (CBF) pursues Carlo Ancelotti.

The one-year contract starts at the 2026 World Cup qualifying matches in September, the CBF said. "It's a dream for anyone," Diniz said in video posted on the website of Brazilian

broadcaster Globo.

"It's an honour and a great pride to serve the national team. It was a call-up, especially the way it happened, in a joint effort between CBF and Fluminense.

"I'm convinced we have everything to take this forward and make it work."

The CBF are still pursuing Real Madrid manager Ancelotti to be their new coach in the long term, Globo said.

Globo, citing CBF President Ednaldo Rodrigues, reported the Italian would be in charge for the 2024 Copa America, which starts

on June 20 in the United States.

However, the details of Ancelotti's contract and start date are yet to be worked out, Globo added. The Italian coach has a contract with Madrid until 2024 and has said he would honour the final year.

The Brazil role has been vacant since the resignation of Tite following the team's

quarter-final exit at the 2022 World Cup.

The five-times world champions have been coached by under-20 manager Ramon Menezes in recent friendlies against African teams.

Diniz will continue his role at Fluminense while juggling national team duties, CBF said.



● MAILSON SANTANA/FLUMINENSE FC

Iran to import ...



IRNA

These imported camels will be distributed among local camel herds to improve overall genetic traits," he said.

Discussing the current camel population in Iran, Gheibollahi highlighted that the country is home to approximately 150,000 camels. Within Yazd Province, there are roughly 15,000 camels, constituting around 10% of the national total.

He further revealed that the central Yazd Province, which contributes 10% to the country's overall livestock production, leads in terms of camel production. Gheibollahi addressed the impact of recent droughts on the camel population. He explained that the camel numbers have declined in recent years, including in Yazd Province, due to the adverse effects of drought. To reverse this trend, a five-year plan for Yazd Province anticipates an increase in the camel population to 20,000 and an accompanying rise in camel meat production.

Export of camel meat

According to the provincial official, the current level of camel meat production in Iran is insufficient to support exports, as it only meets domestic demand. He emphasized that the primary focus at present is on increasing camel production and preserving the existing population. However, with the implementation of plans to enhance camel breeding and production nationwide, there is a possibility of future endeavors in exporting camel meat to other countries.

The unique adaptability of camels to hot and arid climatic conditions makes them well-suited for the desert provinces of Iran, including Yazd Province. Consequently, the production and breeding of camels hold significant economic advantages.

Camel breeding requires minimal water, fodder, and ample desert land, presenting favorable investment opportunities in Iran's arid regions.

In collaboration with the General Department of Natural Resources of Yazd Province, suitable counties and pastures have been identified for camel breeding in this region.

To support the development of camel breeding areas, eight distinct pasture management plans have been formulated and prepared across various parts of Yazd Province.

Camel farmers who possess pastures have been encouraged to participate in these plans, fostering a cooperative approach to the growth of the industry.

Iran's production of glass targeted at 3m tons



IRNA

Economy Desk

Iran has plans to produce more than three million tons of glass during the current Iranian year (to end March 19, 2024), announced the head of Iran Glass Industry Association on Wednesday.

Talking to ISNA, Hossein Zojaji said that of the figure, 1.85 million tons are flat glass, 850,000 tons pertain to packaging glass for the food and pharmaceutical industry, and 375,000 tons of table glass, including crystal and opal containers.

Companies from Italy, Germany, Turkey and China will attend the Iran Glass Show, which will be held in Tehran during July 14-17, the official noted.

In the international event, all kinds of glass industries, equipment and production lines, minerals and raw ma-

terial processing as well as all kinds of building glass, facade glass, doors and windows, office glass, bent glass, car glass, bulletproof glass, raw materials and others related industries will be showcased.

"Currently, 100 percent of raw materials for the glass industry are available in Iran, which is the most important advantage of the glass industry in the country," he noted.

Silica, sodium carbonate, lime, dolomite and feldspar are among the most important raw materials for the production of glass, Zojaji explained, adding that they are easily available at a low price in the Iranian market.

"The high added value due to energy resources, specialized workforce, indigenous technology, and a consumer market of 500

million people in the region are other advantages of the industry."

Currently, more than 600,000 square meters of flat glass, including colorful and simple flute glass, simple and colored engraved glass, as well as plain and colored sheet glass are produced in 15 large glass factories across the country, he said.

About 40% of the produced flat glass is exported to Persian Gulf littoral states, Central Asia and even Europe, while 60% of the country's glass production meets the needs of the domestic market, Zojaji noted. Stating that flute glass is produced in 10 glass manufacturing units in the country, he said flute glass is the latest production method in the glass industry, which has replaced traditional methods.

Iran, Uzbekistan to strengthen agro-technical cooperation



IRNA

Economy Desk

Tehran and Tashkent discussed strengthening agricultural technical cooperation in water and soil projects in dealing with water scarcity. Ambassador of Uzbekistan to Iran Bakhodir Barotovich Abdullaev in a meeting with Deputy Minister of Agriculture of Iran Safdar Niazi Shahraki discussed developing bilateral cooperation, as well as following up on the agreements of the 15th meeting of the joint commission of Iran-Uzbekistan, which was held last month in Tashkent, IRNA reported on Tuesday.

In the meeting, the priorities and expectations of the Uzbek side were discussed, and the readiness and full welcome for the development of cooperation was emphasized by the Uzbek ambassador. Abdullaev noted that Iran enjoys valuable experience in dealing with water scarcity, which is one of the reasons for Uzbekistan's interest and preference for deepening technical cooperation with Iran. During the meeting, the Iranian official explained the water and soil plans and capacities, and offered proposals for further cooperation.

8th OPEC International Seminar kicks off in Vienna

The 8th OPEC International Seminar started in Vienna, the capital of Austria, on Wednesday. The two-day seminar brings together representatives from top oil-exporting countries as well as chief executives from global energy majors, teleSUR reported.

This year's main theme of the event is: "Towards a Sustainable and Inclusive Energy Transition." According to the program, 11 sessions have been scheduled to be held regarding various topics pertaining to the development of the energy sector. According to OPEC, first-day-discussions largely covered the stability of energy markets and problems with their financing.

Several ministers from OPEC+ countries and chief executives of energy companies took part in the panel sessions.

Iran to create 1m jobs in year to mid-March: Labor minister

Economy Desk

Iran has plans to generate one million jobs during the year to March 19, 2024, announced Iranian minister of cooperatives, labor and social welfare.

Solat Mortazavi said that last Iranian year, we had almost the lowest unemployment rate in the last two decades, as the figure decreased by nine percent, 0.2 percent less than the figure for the preceding year, ac-



mcls.gov.ir

cording to mcls.gov.ir.

"With the collaboration of the bodies related to the field of employment and the Vice Presidency for Science and Technology, the necessary arrangements

have been made for the employment of graduates so that we can fulfill the order of President Ebrahim Raeisi in the field of employment."

The president is seriously

pursuing the issue of employment, as he has ordered that a meeting of the Supreme Council of Employment be held every month, the minister emphasized.

Mortazavi announced the launch of two systems in the field of employment, saying, "Employers can register their requests for employees in the 'Job Search System,' and job seekers are introduced to employment centers from provincial offices."

First Announcement

Tender invitation

Invitation to public tender for Ethylene Bis Stearamide(S40)



Tabriz petrochemical company intends to procure its required quantity of Ethylene Bis Stearamide for Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene (ABS) production plant from reputable & reliable producer and supplier of said product.

Interested suppliers should send their request to the following email to receive the tender documents within 7 days after the second announcement.

Email: n.ahmadian@tpco.ir **Phone No.:** +98-41-34217426

Tender	No	Quantity
Ethylene Bis Stearamide(S40)	PVS-0241023	180000 kg

Public Relations of Tabriz Petrochemical Company (Public Stock)

First turn published: July 06, 2023 Second turn published: July 11, 2023



Notice of tender for export sale No. Z/1402/10

Golgohar Mining and Industrial Company

Hereby Golgohar Mining & Industrial Co. announces selling and export 70.000 metric tons of Pellet (%Fe:65.00) on basis of F.O.B at Barco Jetty Bandar Abbas - Iran. Interested bidders should find tender documents at Golgohar website: www.gog.ir. All bids on conformity to tender instructions must be submitted no later than 14:00 P.M. on 17. July.2023 to Golgohar complex in sirjan (50 km in shiraz road). Bidders are invited to the transactions commission department of the seller with an introduction letter of interested buyer and personal identification of the representative. Tender results shall be announced at 10:00 A.M. on 18.July.2023 at the office of the Seller.

Analysis%		
Min	65.00	Fe
Max	1.0	FeO
Max	0.05	P
Max	0.01	S
Max	3.5	SiO2
Max	0.7	Al2O3
Max	0.9	CaO
Max	2.5	MgO
Ave 255		CCS(kg/p)
Min 90		8-16 mm%
Ave5		-6 mm%
Max 3.8		A.1%
Min 95		T.1%
19-24		Prosity%
Min 90		Reducibility%

GOLGOHAR MINING & INDUSTRIAL CO.

Why save water this hot summer and how

Social Desk

EXCLUSIVE

As the summer heat intensifies, Iran grapples with an escalating water crisis, exacerbated by increased consumption and dwindling resources. The situation has reached a critical juncture, with the country's water reserves hitting alarmingly low levels.

In the past fortnight, parts of Tehran experienced water outages due to flooding and mudslides at the Karaj Dam, which obstructed the water supply. The disruption underscored the vulnerability of a system that many take for granted, expecting high-pressure, clear water to flow from their faucets at any given moment.

The reality, however, is that water is a finite resource, originating not from faucets but from nature. The thought of homes without water for even a few hours is distressing, yet it is a stark reality for millions worldwide who grapple with water scarcity. Many have endured prolonged water outages, relying on tankers and water tanks for their daily needs.

Drought and reduced rainfall have plagued many regions, including Iran, while indiscriminate exploitation of water resources has threatened the sustainability of freshwater reserves. The result is a landscape marred by dried-up and

polluted rivers, lakes, and wetlands, and the continued destruction of watersheds and water resources. This environmental degradation not only threatens biodiversity but also pushes various animal and plant species towards extinction. Statistics reveal an alarming 83 percent decrease in the population of freshwater species globally since 1970. These species play a crucial role in the maintaining health of freshwater ecosystems and enhancing their resilience to climate change.

Despite the scarcity of freshwater, consumption patterns suggest a lack of awareness of its finite nature. Tehran's water consumption has hit a record high of 50,000 liters per second, a 4,000-liter increase from the previous year. However, a 10 percent reduction in water usage could ensure a comfortable summer for the city's residents. Given the dire situation we're in water-wise, here are 10 simple yet effective ways for us to help save water in our daily lives this hot summer:

Fix leaks promptly

A small drip from a worn faucet washer can waste 75 liters of water per day, while larger leaks can waste more than 500 liters. Therefore, it is essential to fix leaks as soon as they are detected. Regularly check your pipes and faucets for leaks and get

them repaired promptly.

Install water-saving appliances

Consider investing in water-efficient appliances such as high-efficiency washing machines and dishwashers. These appliances use significantly less water than their standard counterparts. Also, consider installing low-flow showerheads and dual-flush toilets, which can significantly reduce your water usage.

Use water wisely in the kitchen

Be mindful of your water usage when washing dishes. Instead of letting the water run while you wash, fill one sink with wash water and the other with rinse water. Also, consider using a dishwasher, which typically uses less water than washing dishes by hand.

Limit your shower time

A standard showerhead uses 10 liters of water per minute. By reducing your shower time by just a few minutes, you can save a significant amount of water. Also, consider turning off the water while you lather up.

Water plants wisely

Water your plants during the early morning or late evening when temperatures are cooler to minimize evaporation. Also, consider using a soaker hose or drip irrigation system, which delivers water directly to the plant's roots, reducing water waste.



IRNA

Collect rainwater

Install a rain barrel to collect rainwater, which can be used to water your plants, wash your car, or even flush your toilets. This not only saves water but also reduces the amount of stormwater runoff, which can lead to erosion and pollution.

Reuse greywater

Greywater is the relatively clean wastewater from baths, sinks, washing machines, and other kitchen appliances. It can be reused for activities like watering gardens, significantly reducing your freshwater usage.

Educate yourself and others

Knowledge is power. The more you know about the importance of water conservation, the more likely you are to make changes in your daily habits. Share your knowledge with others and encourage them to save water too.

Be mindful of your consumption

Every product we consume requires water to produce. By being mindful of our consumption and reduc-

ing waste, we can indirectly save water. For example, it takes 9000 liters of water to produce one pound of beef, so reducing meat consumption can save a significant amount of water.

Advocate for water conservation policies

Support local, national, and international policies that promote water conservation. This could include policies that encourage the use of water-efficient appliances, regulate industrial water use, or protect natural water sources.

Water conservation is not just about saving water; it's about ensuring a sustainable future for ourselves and generations to come. By implementing these simple yet effective strategies, we can all play a part in preserving this precious resource. Remember, every drop counts.

The current crisis underscores the urgent need for sustainable water management and conservation efforts. As the summer heat continues to rise, so does the urgency to address this pressing issue.

Risk of simultaneous crop failures worldwide underestimated

The risks of harvest failures in multiple global breadbaskets have been underestimated, according to a study in which researchers said should be a "wake up call" about the threat climate change poses to our food systems. Food production is both a key source of planet-warming emissions and highly exposed to the effects of climate change, with climate and crop models used to figure out just what the impacts could be as the world warms, AFP reported.

In the new research published in Nature Communications, researchers in the United States and Germany looked at the likelihood that several major food producing regions could simultaneously suffer low yields.

These events can lead to price spikes, food insecurity and even civil unrest, said lead author Kai Kornhuber, a researcher at Columbia University and the German Council on Foreign Relations.



GETTY IMAGES

By "increasing the concentration of greenhouse gases, we are entering this uncharted water where we are struggling to really have an accurate idea of what type of extremes we're going to face," he told the media.

"We show that these types of concurring events are really largely underestimated."

The study looked at observational and climate model data between 1960 and 2014, and then at projections for 2045 to 2099. Researchers first looked at the impact of the jet stream - the air currents that drive weather patterns in many of the world's most important crop producing regions.

They found that a "strong meandering" of the jet stream, flowing in big wave shapes, has particularly significant impacts on key agricultural regions in North America, Eastern Europe and East Asia, with a reduction in harvests of up to seven percent.

The researchers also found that this had been linked to simultaneous crop failures in the past. One example was in 2010, when the fluctuations of the jet stream were linked to both extreme heat in parts of Russia and devastating floods in Pakistan, which both hurt crops, Kornhuber said.

Iran's 10-year document on food and nutrition security announced

Social Desk

Iran's Supreme Council of Health and Food Security (SCHFS) has announced the completion and approval of the national document on food and nutrition security for the years 2023-2033. The announcement was made during the council's 17th session, said Zahra Abdollahi, the head of SCHFS' food security and nutrition policy coordination group.

The document was prepared in the secretariat of the Supreme Council of Health and Food Security and was approved on April 20, 2023, as per the Ministry of Health's announcement, ISNA reported. Abdollahi made the announcement during a virtual meeting that focused on the global and national trends of food and nutrition security. The meeting was attended by heads and experts from health and

food security secretariats of universities, faculties of medical sciences, and officials of health secretaries of executive bodies and organizations across the country.

During the meeting, Abdollahi highlighted the increasing trend of food insecurity worldwide due to political tensions and economic shocks, including the economic fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic. She noted the impact of

job losses and reduced income, particularly in low-income communities, disruptions in the food supply chain, and fluctuations in food prices.

Abdollahi also drew attention to such crises as drought, decreased rainfall, floods, storms, sanctions, and reduced imports in countries that rely on food, energy, and agricultural imports. She emphasized the reduction in access to food due to price increases

and a decrease in humanitarian food aid, as well as food waste and losses globally.

Citing reports from the Food Agriculture and Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization, Abdollahi warned that if countries do not implement timely interventions and programs to improve food security, the of trend malnutrition and hunger worldwide will increase.

Iran's Leader has also emphasized the importance of food security and ensuring that all sections of society have access to an adequate, nutritious, and healthy food basket. President Seyyed Ebrahim Raesi during the 16th session of the Supreme Council of Health and Food Security, prioritized the development of a national and comprehensive document on food and nutrition security with the participation of all relevant executive bodies.

The 10-year national document outlines strategies, actions, and programs in various areas of food and nutrition security. These include food production and supply, physical and economic access to food for community members, meeting nutritional needs, and maintaining and improving the nutritional health of vulnerable groups such as pregnant and lactating mothers, children, adolescents, and the elderly. The document also addresses food health and safety and assigns tasks to each of the relevant institutions and scientific and research centers of the country. The secretariat of the Supreme Council of Health and Food Safety, based on its legal duties, will monitor the implementation of the national document through the specialized working group of food safety and nutrition and related technical committees.



IRNA

International Desk

Iranian President Ebrahim Raeisi on Wednesday conveyed his congratulations to his Algerian counterpart, Abdelmajid Tebboune, on the occasion of Algeria's independence anniversary. In his message, Raeisi expressed optimism about the potential for further development of bilateral relations between the two nations, built upon a foundation of mutual trust, understanding and cooperation.

He highlighted the cultural and historical ties that bind Iran and Algeria, emphasizing the need to pursue common interests and contribute to the welfare of both nations and the Islamic world. Raeisi praised Algeria's revolutionary struggle for independence, describing it as a significant achievement that not only empowered the Algerian people, but also inspired other countries and nations to take control of their own destinies.

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A kid on her mother's back looks at the camera, as her family in an Algerian village is displaced after a French air raid in 1957.



A group of revolutionary women demonstrates on a street in Algeria in 1960.



Algerian opponents of peace with France clash with French forces as they demonstrate on a street in 1960.

Raeisi congratulates Algeria on anniversary of independence



The youth of an Algerian village rejoice after the announcement of the referendum result and Algerian Independence in 1962.



An officer of Algeria's National Liberation Army pats a child on the back in rural areas of the country in 1957.



A group of Algerian people on a truck rejoices after the announcement of the referendum result and Algerian Independence in 1962.



Voters show their ballots on Algerian independence referendum day on July 1, 1962.



The photo, taken in 1957, shows soldiers of Algeria's National Liberation Army performing congregational prayers.