

## NEWS IN BRIEF

Floods cause  
damage to  
SE cities

## National Desk

Floods caused by heavy rainfall have inflicted a lot of damage to infrastructure and agricultural products in southeastern cities in Sistan and Baluchestan Province.

According to authorities in the city of Taftan, floods have hit five villages in the region.

Several houses were seriously damaged after severe floods struck Chah Kamal village and neighboring areas of Khan Bibi and Shogeh.

Authorities have asked people in rural areas to refrain from approaching rivers or barrages as many of the barrages have been filled with flood water.

Floods also blocked roads and cut off water and electricity and uprooted trees in several other cities in the province.

Iranian  
copters armed  
with precision  
strike missiles

**TASNIM** - The Iranian Army Ground Force has equipped its military helicopters with missiles that hit targets with pinpoint accuracy, a ranking commander said.

Iran is in possession of the most powerful fleet of military helicopters in West Asia, Commander of the Iranian Army Ground Force's Airborne Division General Yousef Qorbani said on Sunday.

The commander said that Iran's military choppers have been furnished with up-to-date gear, including precision strike missiles and night-vision systems. Highlighting the Airborne Division's great combat preparedness, the general lauded local experts for turning the threat of sanctions into opportunities and manufacturing over 800 helicopter components in the country.

He also pointed to the Airborne Division's major role in helping civilians in natural disasters, saying his forces have saved more than 2,000 lives by airlifting patients and body organs.

Iranian fleet participates  
in Russia's Navy Day parade

Russian warship sails on the Neva river during the Navy Day parade in Saint Petersburg on July 30, 2023.  
● AFP

## International Desk

Iranian Navy's Caspian Sea fleet on Sunday participated in Russia's annual Navy Day event, a traditional show of military might which takes place in the Gulf of Finland and on the River Neva in St. Petersburg.

Russian President Vladimir Putin reviewed the parade of warships and nuclear submarines and announced that the Russian Navy would receive 30 new ships this year.

Forty-five ships, submarines and other vessels took part in the event. Around

3,000 navy personnel also took part in a parade on land, the Kremlin said.

Putin, accompanied by Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu and Admiral Nikolai Yevmenov, the head of the Navy, inspected some of the ships from a launch boat on the Neva before making a speech.

"Today, Russia is confidently implementing the large-scale tasks of our national maritime policy and is consistently building up the strength of our Navy," said Putin. "This year alone, 30 ships of different classes are being added to the fleet," he said.

Four African heads of state attended Sunday's event and five other African countries sent representatives, according to the Kremlin. They were invited after a Russia-Africa summit in St. Petersburg, which concluded on Friday, at which delegates discussed grain supplies and potential peace talks on Ukraine.

Iranian Navy Commander Rear Admiral Shahram Irani also traveled to Russia to attend the ceremony.

Upon his arrival in St. Petersburg, the Iranian commander told reporters that Iran's naval forces will try to achieve an effective and

successful presence in the international arena and raise the Iranian flag.

The navy chief highlighted naval diplomacy as a key mission pursued by navies worldwide, including the Iranian Navy.

He stressed that annual joint exercises conducted with the navies of Russia and China in Chabahar, the Makran coast, and the Indian Ocean were part of their naval diplomacy efforts.

Admiral Irani added that he had participated in Russia's Navy Day upon the official invitation of the Commander of the Russian Navy.

In July 2021, Iranian Navy destroyer Sahand and its accompanying support vessel Makran participated in the naval parade on the occasion of Russian Navy Day in St. Petersburg.

Iranian naval forces, together with their Russian counterparts, have held several joint war games in recent years with the purpose of improving the security of international maritime trade, countering piracy and maritime terrorism, exchange of information in naval rescue and relief operations, and exchange of operational and tactical experiences.

Iranian FM hails Iraq's role  
in region

Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian (R) talks with Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the United Nations Assistance Mission Jeanine Antoinette Hennis-Plasschaert in Tehran on July 30, 2023.  
● mfa.gov.ir

## National Desk

Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian underlined the role that neighboring Iraq plays in the Middle East region.

The Iranian top diplomat made the remarks at a meeting with visiting Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the United Nations Assistance Mission Jeanine Antoinette Hen-

nis-Plasschaert in Tehran on Sunday, according to IRNA.

Referring to strong relations between the two nations, Amir-Abdollahian said that relations between the two countries are based on people-to-people relations and official cooperation. The Iranian official underlined that relations have positive effects on both countries as well as developing stability and

security in the region. Amir-Abdollahian was also briefed on the latest situation and developments in Iraq by the UN official.

He also pointed to the importance of the security of both countries' common border and emphasized the strict implementation of the security agreement signed between Tehran and Baghdad to promote border security.



Mohammad Ali Rajabi  
Cartoonist

## Iran's National Day of Blood Donation



## At least 40 dead ...

"The JUI-F organised a workers convention in Khar town of Bajaur in which 40 people lost their lives and more than 130 were injured," district police officer Nazir Khan told Reuters.

He said an emergency had been declared in the hospitals of Bajaur and adjoining areas where most of the injured were taken.

Pakistan has seen a resurgence of attacks by terrorists since last year when a ceasefire between the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and Islamabad broke

down. However, most of the recent attacks have been on security forces and installations, rather than political gatherings.

The TTP pledges allegiance to, but is not directly a part of, the Taliban in western neighbour Afghanistan. Pakistan's security forces say the TTP have sanctuaries in Afghanistan, which the Taliban run-administration there denies.

Afghanistan's administration condemned the explosion in a statement by their spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid. The TTP are not the only militant group to car-

ry out attacks in the area, which has also been hit by a local chapter of the Daesh terrorist group.

Iran has also strongly condemned the attack with Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kan'ani saying terrorists once again committed another crime in the neighboring and brotherly country of Pakistan.

He extended Iran's sympathy to the Pakistani government and nation as well as the bereaved.

The Iranian spokesman said the Islamic Republic stands by Pakistan in tackling terrorism.