

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Daily car production at 3,800: Minister



IRNA – Iranian carmakers manufacture 3,800 car per day, said Minister of Industry, Mine and Trade Abbas Aliabadi on Sunday. The stability of the car market in Iran is improving, added the minister, noting that the imports of electric cars are almost unrestricted, while priority of imports is given to public transportation and taxis.

## Parliament eases cruise ship imports

IRNA – Lawmakers in the Iranian Parliament approved a bill that facilitates importing cruise ships in a bid to further develop the tourism industry. Chaired by Speaker Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf, the open session of the Iranian Parliament was held on Sunday to continue the review of the 7th Development Plan. According to Article 83 of the 7th Development Plan, the necessary licenses for the import of cruise ships, recreational vessels, vehicles and special tourism equipment for investors of the private and cooperative sectors will be issued.

## Output at Iran's largest hydroelectric power plant up 60%



IRNA – Iran's largest hydroelectric power plant, Karun-3 Dam, has reported a 60% increase in power production in the current water year, which began on September 23, compared to the same period last year. Hamid Salehi, the CEO of the Production and Operation Management Company of Karun-3 Dam, announced the boost in energy generation on Sunday. Speaking about the critical need for a stable energy supply during the summer, Salehi hailed the power plant's optimal performance during the current water year.

## PGPIC boosts forex revenue by 19%: CEO

## Economy Desk

The CEO of the Persian Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company (PGPIC) said that the firm generated \$6.2 billion in foreign currency revenues in the year to June 21, 2023, registering a 19 percent growth. Abdolali Ali-Askari also noted Sunday that during the period, the PGPIC's consolidated retained earnings rose by 64%, while its production volume grew by 5%, according to SHANA. Looking back at the company's performance in the months that have passed since the beginning of the current Iranian calendar year (starting March 21), he highlighted the role

that the PGPIC plays in Iran's economy and expressed hope for a booming future.

"Since March 21, we boosted our production by nearly 1.2 million tons compared to the same period last year, showing a 9.5 percent growth," he added.

Ali-Askari pointed out that 29 developmental projects worth \$12.6 billion are being implemented by the company, adding that these projects are capable of producing 21 million tons of products.

The Persian Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company was ranked the top company in the previous Iranian year in terms of sales, export revenues, and market value, and



ranked second in terms of added value and profitability, he said.

Ali Askari also pointed out that in the ranking of the top 100 chemical distrib-

utors issued by the Independent Commodity Intelligence Services (ICIS)

international research institute, the PGPIC jumped to 27th place.

## Iran-China nine-month trade surpasses \$10b

China's Customs in its latest report said the trade exchanges between China and Iran in the first nine months of 2023 (January-September) surpassed \$10 billion. The value of the trade exchanges between Iran and China in the first

nine months of the current year hit \$10.79 billion, showing a 12 percent decline compared to last year's corresponding period, the report said. Iran and China had exchanged over \$12.32 billion from January to September 2022, Tasnim

news agency reported. China's exports of products to Iran in the first nine months of 2023 registered an eight percent growth compared to the same period last year, it added. In this period, China imported \$3.29 billion worth of products from Iran, recording a 12 percent decline compared to the same period last year. China had imported over \$5.37 billion worth of products from Iran between January and September 2022. In this period, the balance of trade between Iran and China stood at \$4.21 billion, in favor of China.



## Tehran to host six-nation meeting on Caucasus peace process

Foreign ministers from Iran, Turkey, Russia and Georgia will meet their counterparts from Azerbaijan and Armenia in Tehran today and discuss progress towards a peace agreement between the two South Caucasus neighbors, according to Iranian state media. IRNA quoted the Iranian Foreign Ministry as saying the six countries wanted to talk about regional issues "without the interference of non-regional and Western countries". That was an implicit reference to the United States and the European Union, whose interference in a peace agreement between Armenia and Azerbaijan has annoyed regional

states. Russia's Interfax news agency said Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov would travel to Tehran for the meeting. "We confirm Lavrov's planned talks in Tehran on Monday," Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman

Maria Zakharova told the TASS and RIA news agencies. Azerbaijan and Armenia have fought two wars in the past three decades and have so far failed to reach a peace deal despite long-running efforts by neighbors.



## Statistics and planning:

## Harnessing data for informed decision-making

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## OPINION

In today's data-driven world, the science of statistics has emerged as a crucial tool for effective planning and decision-making in various fields. From businesses to governments, organizations are increasingly relying on statistical analysis to gain insights, optimize processes, and enhance outcomes. But what is the significance of statistics in planning, and how can harnessing data lead to informed decision-making? At its core, statistics is the science of data collection, analysis, interpretation, presentation, and organization. It involves applying mathematical techniques and methods to quantify and understand complex phenomena. Planning, on the other hand, is the process of defining goals, objectives,

and strategies to achieve desired outcomes. By employing statistical principles and tools, planners can make more informed decisions and develop effective strategies. One important aspect of statistics is its ability to provide a comprehensive overview of the current situation. Planning demands a thorough understanding of the present scenario, including trends, patterns, and existing challenges. Statistical analysis enables planners to examine and interpret data from various sources to gain valuable insights. For example, in urban planning, statistics can help analyze population growth, traffic patterns, and housing demands, shaping decisions on infrastructure development and land use policies. Moreover, effective planning requires accurate forecasting and predictive modeling. Statistics plays a pivotal role in

these areas by identifying trends, patterns, and relationships within data. By analyzing historical and current data, statisticians can develop models that can predict future outcomes and support decision-making. For instance, in financial planning, statistical analysis of market trends, historical data, and risk assessment enables investors to make informed decisions on asset allocation, minimizing risks, and maximizing returns. The science of statistics also enhances planning by providing objective measures of performance and evaluating the effectiveness of implemented strategies. By collecting relevant data and applying statistical methods, planners can assess the impact and success of various interventions. This feedback loop enables organizations to continuously improve their planning and decision-making

processes. For example, a health care institution can track patient outcomes, infection rates, and treatment efficacy through statistical analysis to identify areas for improvement and optimize resource allocation. Another area where statistics greatly contributes to planning is in risk assessment and mitigation. By analyzing historical data and trends, statisticians can identify potential risks and uncertainties. With this knowledge, planners can develop contingency plans, allocate resources strategically, and make informed decisions to minimize adverse outcomes. This is particularly important in fields such as project management, disaster planning, and environmental conservation. In addition to mere data analysis, statistics also facilitates effective communication and visualization of complex information.

Planning often involves presenting information to stakeholders, policymakers, or the public, and statistics can aid in making sense of vast amounts of data. Charts, graphs, and other statistical visualizations help in presenting information in a clear and concise manner, making it easier for various stakeholders to understand and engage with the planning process. Finally, statistics encourages evidence-based decision-making, reducing the reliance on intuition or personal biases. In a world where decisions often have profound consequences, using data-driven methodologies ensures objectivity and accuracy. The science of statistics helps planners make rational decisions supported by empirical evidence and minimizes the risk of making poor choices based on subjective opinions.