

Iran emphasizes 'peacefully' resolving Arash gas field dispute



Economy Desk

Iran restated its position on the disputed Arash gas field in the Persian Gulf with an Iranian vice president stressing on the 'integrated and joint' extraction with Kuwait and Saudi Arabia from the field, warning Tehran will start drilling in the field if Kuwait does so. Emphasizing that the ownership dispute with Kuwait should be "peacefully resolved," the Iranian Vice President for Legal Affairs Mohammad Dehqan told ISNA that a part of the gas and oil field belongs to Iran. He said his country believes in 'integrated and joint' extraction with Kuwait and Saudi Arabia from the disputed gas field, warning Tehran will start drilling in the field if Kuwait does so. Following Kuwait's repeated claim over the Arash gas field on Wednesday, Dehqan referred to not having a maritime border with Kuwait, adding that Iran discovered that field and has drilled rigs there many years ago without taking advantage of it so we won't create tensions with our neighbors," Dehqan clarified. "However, we have not utilized it so far to pre-

vent any challenges with Kuwait and neighboring countries," he said. Iran argues that nearly 40 percent of the gas field is located in the territorial waters of Iran, but Kuwait had presented a different border demarcation that puts the entire field within the neutral zone between Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, and denies Iran has any right over the field. Dehqan hit out at Kuwait for not proposing "any constructive idea so far" and for making agreements with Saudi Arabia on the issue. Iran began talks with Kuwait in 2000 to develop the gas field in the Persian Gulf, but no agreements were reached. The Iranian Foreign Ministry's spokesperson on Wednesday also dismissed Kuwait's "interfering" opinions about Iran's three islands in the Persian Gulf, and about the Arash oil and gas field, reminding the Arab state that one-sided claims would not entitle it to any rights. In a statement on Wednesday, Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani brushed aside the communiqué issued at the conclusion of the Kuwaiti emir's visit to the United Arab Emirates

regarding the three Iranian islands of the Lesser Tunb, the Greater Tunb and Abu Musa as well as Kuwait's claim to the Arash gas field. Kanaani rejected the interfering clauses of the Kuwaiti emir's statement, saying Iran has stressed time and again that the three islands - the Lesser Tunb, the Greater Tunb and Abu Musa - are integral and eternal parts of Iranian territory. The Islamic Republic of Iran never regards its territorial integrity as negotiable, the spokesman underlined. As for the repetition of Kuwait's claim on the Arash field in that statement, Kanaani noted, "We have said many times that making unilateral claims in such statements does not create any rights for the claimant." He pointed to previous talks between Iran and Kuwait, saying technical and legal negotiations are the best and most appropriate way to deal with the issue. Based on its historical rights and records of bilateral negotiations with Kuwait, Iran is ready to continue talks with the Kuwaiti government over a framework that would entail respect for mutual interests, he added.

Iran indigenizes 80% of oil equipment: Deputy Minister

Iran's deputy oil minister said the country has succeeded in manufacturing 80 percent of oil parts and equipment domestically despite being under sanctions. The Iranian Oil Ministry has focused on taking advantage of the expertise and technical know-how of knowledge-based companies, Jalil Salari said, emphasizing that more than 80 percent of the oil equipment is manufactured in the country, Tasnim News Agency reported. Speaking in a meeting

held in Abadan on reviewing the plans for oil byproducts, he said that the Oil Ministry has taken effective steps in the past two years for the domestic production of oil parts and equipment. One of these measures is related to the launch of extraterritorial refining plans overseas and the export of technical and engineering services, he stated. So far, three to four kinds of technical knowledge have fully been localized in refining companies in the field of producing cat-

alysts, compressor manufacturing and streamlining the quality of fuel oil, said the chief executive of the National Iranian Oil Refining and Distribution Company (NIORDC). He put the oil production capacity at Abadan Oil Refinery (AOR) at 500,000 barrels of oil per day (bpd), Mehr News Agency reported. With the increase in the capacity and quality of oil byproducts, the country's gasoline production capacity has reached 129 million liters per day, Salari highlighted.

Pakistan: No grounds for US objection to gas pipeline project with Iran

International Desk

Pakistan has dismissed the United States' objection to its decision to start work on a joint pipeline project between the country and Iran, with its Foreign Ministry spokesperson saying it had decided to initiate work on an 80-kilometer-long segment of the pipeline. Mumtaz Zahra Baloch said at a weekly briefing on Thursday that there is "no room for any objections" from a third party like the United States since the project was being constructed within Pakistani territory. "The cabinet of Pakistan decided a few days ago to start work on 80 kilometers of a Pakistan-Iran pipeline, and this is the beginning of construction of the pipeline, and it is in conformity with our commitment to the Iran-Pakistan pipeline." "Since this pipeline is being constructed inside



Pakistani territory, we do not believe there is room for any objections by any third party at this stage," she added. She made the remarks when she was asked if Islamabad had contacted Washington on the decision to begin constructing the pipeline. Last week, the IP gas pipeline project had reportedly been delayed as the US had expressed concerns about the project and refused to

waive the sanctions imposed on Iran. According to local sources, Pakistan has approached the US for a waiver to resume the project, but the US refused to give any concession. Also, late last month, Muhammad Ali, Pakistan's caretaker energy minister, said work on 80 kilometers (49 miles) of the pipeline would be carried out. Washington has opposed the project, saying it could

violate the sanctions that it has imposed on Tehran. The project, launched in 2013, required Pakistan to finish the construction of the pipeline on its territory by the end of 2014. But the work stalled, upsetting Tehran, which has said it has already invested \$2 billion in the pipeline on its side of the border. Pakistan is likely to face an \$18-billion fine if it terminates the gas pipeline agreement.

First Announcement

N.I.S.O.C
NATIONAL IRANIAN SOUTH OILFIELDS COMPANY
AHVAZ-IRAN

TENDER NO.: 08-38-9940004

National Iranian South Oilfields Company (NISOC) intends to purchase the following goods

Items	Material Description	Quantity
1	SLICKLINE, SPOOLED ON IRON REEL H2S, CO2 AND CHLORIDE ION TRIM TYPE: SUPA-75 OR SANICRO-26 STAINLESS STEEL UNS N08926 (ALLOY 25-6 MO) REF. "SANDVIK (ZAPP-GROUP)", "BRIDON" SIZE 0.082 INCH X 15000 FEET	47 RL

Vendors who intend to participate in aforesaid tenders are requested to send their "Intention To Participate" letter via fax to the following number along with their resume according to Qualitative Assessment Form no. 1, available at: www.nisoc.ir, not later than 14 days after the second announcement, otherwise, their requests for participation in the tender will be disregarded. The applicants should have relevant background in supplying the required goods and capability to provide and submit a bid bond of 39,655/60 EURO or 16,927,189,996 RIAL, in favor of NISOC. Tender documents including the materials through technical specifications and Qualitative Assessment Forms can be accessed via: www.nisoc.ir-material-procurement-management-tab.

ONLY ACCEPTABLE DELIVERY TERM IS D.D.P., NISOC'S WAREHOUSE, AGHAJARI, IRAN PAYMENT TERM IS C.O.D., SUBSEQUENT TO NISOC'S MATERIAL APPROVAL.

NOTE: Based on enactment notified by Nisoc's Tender committee, foreign companies must submit a Bid Bond Guarantee amounting to aforementioned (paragraph 2) Euro amount. Otherwise, their quotations will not be considered.

FOREIGN PURCHASING DEPARTMENT

Bldg. No. 104, Material Procurement Management Complex, Kouy-e-Fadaeian Islam (New Site), Ahvaz, Iran
Tel. No.: 061 34 12 4016
Fax No.: 061 34 45 74 37

PUBLIC RELATIONS

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First Announcement

N.I.S.O.C
NATIONAL IRANIAN SOUTH OILFIELDS COMPANY
AHVAZ-IRAN

TENDER NO.: 08-21-0140009

National Iranian South Oilfields Company (NISOC) intends to purchase the following goods

Items	Material Description	Quantity
1	TUBING 2-7/8 IN", API GRADE L-80 SEAMLESS "EU" THREAD, RANGE 2, 6.5 PPF	10,000LE

Vendors who intend to participate in aforesaid tenders are requested to send their "Intention To Participate" letter via fax to the following number along with their resume according to Qualitative Assessment Form no. 1, available at: www.nisoc.ir, not later than 14 days after the second announcement, otherwise, their requests for participation in the tender will be disregarded. The applicants should have relevant background in supplying the required goods and capability to provide and submit a bid bond of 117,227/81 EURO or 50,245,361,792 RIAL, in favor of NISOC. Tender documents including the materials through technical specifications and Qualitative Assessment Forms can be accessed via: www.nisoc.ir-material-procurement-management-tab.

ONLY ACCEPTABLE DELIVERY TERM IS D.D.P., NISOC'S WAREHOUSE, AGHAJARI, IRAN PAYMENT TERM IS C.O.D., SUBSEQUENT TO NISOC'S MATERIAL APPROVAL.

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