

NEWS IN BRIEF

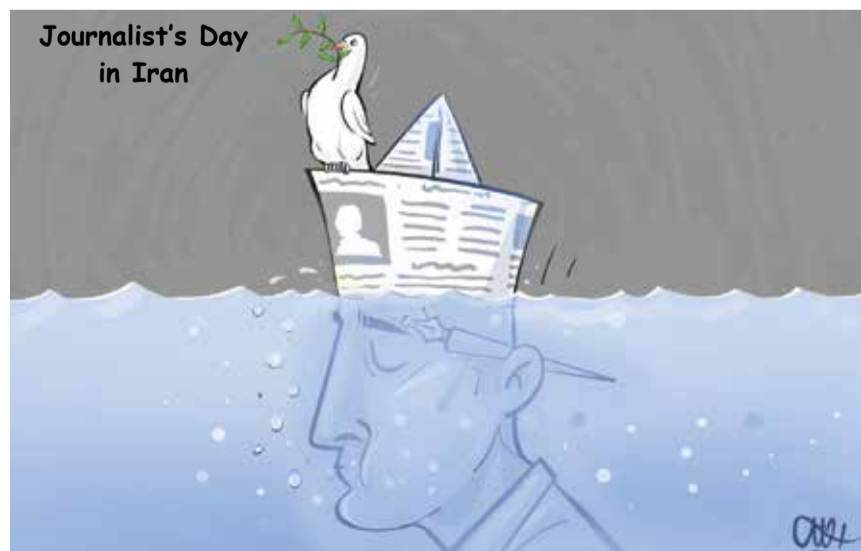
Iran's Qeshm, Russia's Dubna economic zones ink MoU

Iran's Qeshm Free Zone Organization and Dubna Special Economic Zone (SEZ Dubna) of the Russian Federation signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to attract mutual investment and enhance infrastructure development. The MoU was signed by Edris Ramouz, deputy for cultural, social and tourism affairs of the Qeshm Free Zone Organization, and Igor Koroglov, deputy CEO of the Dubna Special Economic Zone, IRNA reported. On the sidelines of the ceremony, Ramouz said that the MoU was signed in order to develop the international relations of Qeshm Island, improve profitable and mutual cooperation in the field of free and special economic zones management, and attract foreign investment. A delegation of Qeshm Free Zone, which has traveled to Russia within the framework of signing the memorandum also met with Kazem Jalali, Iran's ambassador to Moscow.

16m tons of goods transited via Iranian road, rail last year

A deputy ministry of roads and urban development said 16 million tons of goods were transited via Iran's railway and roads in the previous Iranian calendar year (March 21, 2023 to March 20, 2024). Kamal Hadianfar who is the Head of Roads and Urban Development for Transportation Organization said that 14.75 million tons of commodities were transited from the country via road while 1.59 million tons of goods were transited through rail, as reported by Tasnim News Agency. Speaking in the first session of the specialized commission of National Transit and Logistics Headquarters on Tuesday, he described the transit of 16 million tons of goods from the country via rail and road as a new record.

Mohammad Ali Rajabi Cartoonist



Annual petchem exports expected to hit 34m tons: NPC

Iran has plans to produce a sum of 83 million tons of petrochemical products during the current Iranian year (March 20, 2025), said the director of planning and development of National Petrochemical Industries Company, adding that 34 million tons of the figure is expected to be destined to international markets. Addressing the closing ceremony of the 15th Iran Petrochemical Forum on Monday, Hassan Abbaszadeh stated that by launching new units, the nominal production capacity of the country will hit 103 million tons. Abbaszadeh went on to say that petrochemical

complexes of Iran churned out 74 million tons of products during 2023 which included 10 million tons of methanol, 5 million tons of ammonia, 7 million tons of ethylene and about 8 million tons of urea. As per the seventh Development Plan of Iran (2024-2029), a total of 60 petrochemical projects will be implemented across the country which will increase the nominal production of Iran by 35 million tons, the NPC official said. Abbaszadeh stressed that the projects have progressed over 50 percent, and a sum of \$24 billion is needed to complete the projects.



SHANA

Iran-Tajikistan visa-free system to begin Aug. 10

Iran and Tajikistan have agreed to scrap visa requirements for travels between the two Farsi-speaking countries as of August 10. Speaking to Tasnim on Tuesday, the director

general of the Iranian Foreign Ministry's consular department said the governments of Iran and Tajikistan are going to roll out reciprocal visa-free programs as of August 10 to make

travel easier for their nationals. Alireza Mahmoudi said the holders of ordinary passports of Iran and Tajikistan can travel to the other country for 30 days without a

visa. In the first phase, the implementation of the visa-free system will be applied only for those using the Dushanbe-Tehran and Tehran-Dushanbe air routes.

Obstacles posed by ...

Second, it reflects a setback for Iranian security apparatus, which failed to protect its guest, one of the most important leaders of resistance in the Islamic world. The perpetrators of this assassination are Israel, which effectively orchestrated this act to incite Iran and the US into a regional conflict. Iran has asserted that it will certainly retaliate; however, whether we desire it or not, the nature of Iran's response will delineate the extent of American intervention. Both Iran and the US do not seek warfare; nevertheless, for Netanyahu, it is a matter of "political life and death." Despite Netanyahu's success in devastating Gaza, resulting in approximately 40,000 fatalities, displacing two million individuals, and assassinating many key leaders of Hamas and Islamic Jihad, he

has failed to conclude the Gaza war and secure the release of prisoners. He faces unprecedented domestic and global opposition, with millions protesting against him in the US and the Western countries, transforming the global perception of Israel from "the victim of the Holocaust" to "the perpetrator of a new Holocaust." Simultaneously, he grapples with substantial legal challenges within Israel. As such, Netanyahu perceives a regional conflict as his sole avenue for salvation, anticipating that it will mobilize the unconditional support of the United States and the Western world for Israel.

Three strategic decisions in history of the Islamic Republic In my view, the most consequential strategic decisions of the Islamic Republic fol-

lowing the 1979 Revolution can be categorized into three pivotal moments. First, the acceptance of Resolution 598 on August 8, 1988, which liberated both Iran and Iraq from the ravages of a devastating war. Second, the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) in 2015, which extricated Iran from Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, removing its designation as a nation posing a threat to global peace and security, and terminating six United Nations Security Council resolutions. Third, the present moment that we are at a juncture for the third strategic decision. Tehran faces one of its most intricate predicaments, needing to make decisions based on the following eight key factors. The assassination of Haniyeh is a matter of global Islamic concern, condemned by not only Iran and Palestine but also the entirety of the Muslim world, who call

for punishment of those responsible. Therefore, Iran must consider the broader implication of its response within the Muslim world. The response needs to be sufficiently decisive, substantial, and strong to be an appropriate reaction to the assassination of Haniyeh and numerous other Iranian military commanders and leaders from Hezbollah and Hamas who have been targeted by Israel over the last three months. The deterrent power of the response must be high enough to dissuade Israel from continuing such assassinations and prevent any erosion of Iran's national sovereignty. Simultaneously, the action should not lead to the primary goal of Netanyahu, which is military confrontation between the US and Iran. Iran's action must not result in a large-scale regional military conflict, where one side consists of NATO and Israel, and the other includes Iran and the resistance front in countries like Lebanon, Iraq, and Yemen. In such a scenario, neither Russia nor China

and US-aligned Arab nations would become involved, leading to losses for both sides and further instability in the region. Moreover, Iran's actions must not cripple Pezeshkian's government. He is expected to introduce his cabinet to Parliament in the coming days. It is evident that a war would hinder the success of a new cabinet whose primary mission and priority is improving Iran's economic situation and foreign relations. With the victory of Pezeshkian, there is a renewed hope for improving the economic situation and enhancing Iran's foreign relations. Naturally, Netanyahu's intention behind the assassination of Haniyeh in Tehran was to eliminate that opportunity entirely. Iran's actions should not affect the electoral dynamics in the US over the next two to three months. It is clear that Netanyahu has a unique and special relationship with Trump, which is why he was able to persuade him to withdraw from the JCPOA, designate the Islamic Revo-

lutionary Guard Corps as a terrorist organization, and recognize the occupied al-Quds as Israel's capital. It is also no secret that the most severe friction between Obama and Netanyahu occurred over the JCPOA, and even around 100 Democratic members of Congress boycotted Netanyahu's recent speech before the Capitol. One of Netanyahu's goals in assassinating Haniyeh in Tehran is to create a new crisis in the Middle East that could shift the electoral landscape in favor of Trump. Therefore, Iran's actions should not have an impact on the internal political dynamics of the US. Lastly, Iran's actions should not change the negative global opinion against Israel or the current international isolation of Israel, particularly in light of the International Court of Justice's ruling. The court has deemed Israel's actions in Gaza as genocidal and has called for Israel to evacuate the occupied Palestinian territories and to cease the massacre of innocent Palestinian people.

Tender invitation Invitation to public tender for: White Mineral Oil-Food Grade // 2,100,000 KG Tabriz petrochemical company intends to procure its plant required quantity of White Mineral Oil-Food Grade from reputable & reliable producer and supplier of said product. Interested suppliers should submit their request to below email in order to get tender documents until 7 days after the second print (until August 10, 2024). Email: M.zekri@tpco.ir Phone No.: +98-41-34282571

Tender	No	Quantity
White Mineral Oil - Food Grade	PVS-0340103	2,100,000 KG

Public Relation of Tabriz Petrochemical Company (Public Stock)  
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