

Iran's non-oil exports up 6.5% y/y in H1 amid trade deficit



Iran's non-oil exports continued to rise in the first half of the current calendar year, according to figures by the country's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO). TPO's head Mohammad Ali Dehghan said on Sunday that the value of exports from Iran had reached a total of \$25.8 billion in the six months to September 21, up 6.5% from the same period last year, Press TV reported. Dehghan said the volume of export shipments had also increased by 3.4% year on year in April-September to reach 70 million metric tons. The official said imports into Iran were worth \$32.5 billion in first half of the current calendar year that started in late March, up 2.8% from the same period in 2023. The UAE, China, Turkey, Germany and India were the top five exporters to Iran over the period as they were responsible for 75% of the shipments supplied to the country, said the TPO chief. The figures mean Iran had a trade deficit of \$6.7 billion over the six months to late September which experts attribute to continued decline in the global prices of some commodities as well as a decrease in the Iranian natural gas exports.

CBI chief: Iran, China, Russia 'very interested' to dump dollar in trade

Iran to become BRICS bank shareholder

Economy Desk

Iran, China, and Russia are "very interested" in ditching the US dollar in their trade dealings with other countries, opting instead to use local currencies, Governor of the Central Bank of Iran Mohammadreza Farzin said on Monday. "We are moving forward with conducting transactions in local currencies and phasing out the US dollar from international trade," Farzin told Russian broadcaster Russia Today (RT) on the sidelines of the second meeting of BRICS finance ministers and central bank governors in Moscow. Initially comprising five emerging economies – Brazil, Russia, India,

China, and South Africa – BRICS was set up in 2009 at Russia's behest. The group has since expanded to include Iran, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt and Ethiopia, with Saudi Arabia on the cusp of joining. Around 40 other countries have expressed interest in joining the forum. Farzin also hinted that BRICS member states were looking to create an alternative to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank. "The global financial system is largely built around the IMF, the World Bank, and Western countries and unfortunately, due to political dealings with those countries, the world is now looking for alternative arrangements," he said.

His comments echoed those of Russian Finance Minister Anton Siluanov, who had recently called on Moscow's partners to establish an alternative to the IMF to "counter political pressure from Western nations." Farzin also said that Iran intended to join the BRICS New Development Bank (NDB) as a shareholder and expressed hope that the institution would be able to "pursue many of the development goals of BRICS member states, as the World Bank currently operates within the framework of US and Western goals." The BRICS bloc launched the NDB in 2015 and initiated formal talks with potential new members in 2020. Since its inception,



the Shanghai-based lender has signed off dozens of multibillion-dollar proj-

ects in its member countries, stretching across sectors from transport,

water and sanitation to clean energy or digital and social infrastructure.

Thermal electricity serves as Iran's top power resource

Economy Desk

Thermal power plants (TPPs) are the main contributors to Iran's electricity grid despite their low efficiency and amid a growing power deficit, a senior manager at the country's largest thermal power producer said on Monday. Ismael Namazi, the head of the production technical office of the state-owned Thermal Power Plants Holding Co. (TPPHC) said TPPs churned out a record high

of 193mn megawatt hours (MWh) in the first half of the current Persian calendar year (March 20 - September 21), IRNA reported. According to Ismael Namazi, the figure represents a 2% increase compared to the same period a year earlier. With nearly 210 power plants in 29 provinces, the TPPHC is responsible for operating and developing the stations and facilitating private sector participation in thermal electricity

production. Namazi pointed out that TPPs generated 50,000 MW of power per day during the peak summer months. He stopped short of providing any further information about the total daily power output. However, Energy Ministry officials already stated that this summer's scorching temperatures pushed electricity consumption to an all-time high of 80,000 MW per day.

The above-mentioned figures indicate that TPPs remain the largest suppliers of electricity with a contribution of around 63%. Namazi also noted that daily thermal power output hit a high of 1.19mn MWh on August 24 amid an unprecedented heat-wave. The mismatch between power generation and consumption peaked at 18,000 MW this summer on the hottest days, which is expected to surge to 26,000 MW



per day next summer. Experts estimate that at least \$20bn is needed in investment to rein in the shortfall.

Netanyahu's antics threatening ...

A man out of alignment

Page 1 > The divergence of interests between Netanyahu and the United States, especially with the Democrats, is not a new development. For over a year, Netanyahu has clashed with the Biden administration over expanding the conflict in Gaza and areas controlled by Hezbollah, repeatedly resisting Washington's calls for de-escalation. What was once a strong strategic alliance has now become a fragile partnership, tainted by mistrust and frustration. Netanyahu's willingness to act unilaterally, sometimes against the direct wishes of his closest allies, has not only isolated him from the Biden administration but has also alienated a growing faction of military and intelligence officials within the Zionist entity itself. But Netanyahu's actions are not driven by shortsightedness alone. His insistence on maintaining an aggressive stance stems from a deeper motivation: securing the unwavering support of the Zionist lobby in the United States, a powerful force in shaping American foreign policy. This support has emboldened Netanyahu to disregard American concerns, act independently, and orchestrate high-risk

political moves like the assassination of martyr Nasrallah. Yet, in a rapidly shifting geopolitical landscape, this once-solid pillar of support could crumble at any moment.

Iranian missiles chart Israel-US ties

The assassination of martyr Nasrallah ignited a firestorm of violence. In the aftermath, Iran launched missiles at Tel Aviv, causing a level of destruction that the Zionist entity has desperately tried to conceal. Perhaps the most shocking development was the strike on the Navatim Air Base, a critical military hub. Reports of the destruction of F-35 hangars and the damage inflicted by Iranian missiles have shaken the Zionist entity's military foundations. Despite efforts by the Israeli regime to downplay the damage, top-secret images were soon leaked, courtesy of Maxar Technologies and Planet Labs. These satellite images, revealing the destruction of 27 F-35 hangars, were not only a severe breach of security for the occupation entity but also an implicit rebuke from the United States. Such sensitive imagery could not have surfaced without the tacit approval of American

authorities—namely the Pentagon and the National Reconnaissance Office. This leak sends a chilling message to Netanyahu: the U.S. will not remain passive while he continues dragging the Zionist entity, and by extension, American interests, into further chaos. These images are more than just a security breach; they mark a turning point in U.S.-Israel relations under Netanyahu. Washington's discontent has now been made clear in a way that cannot be ignored, by exposing the Zionist entity's vulnerabilities and proving the failure of Netanyahu's attempt to control the narrative surrounding its security.

Biden's calculated silence

After the attack on Tel Aviv, Netanyahu sought immediate support from President Biden, hoping to secure American backing or at least a gesture of solidarity. What he received, however, was cold silence. Biden's refusal to return Netanyahu's call—an unprecedented snub between two leaders who once referred to each other as allies—speaks volumes. Biden's silence is not just a rejection of Netanyahu's overtures; it signals a strategic distancing of the U.S. from Netanyahu's increasingly isolated regime. Behind the scenes, Netanyahu has reportedly tried to channel his frustration through back channels, insisting he was not acting in collusion with former President Donald Trump—a claim aimed at calming Democratic concerns about his loyalty. He framed the assassination as a national security imperative, citing martyr Nasrallah's meeting with a senior IRGC official as justification. But these explanations have fallen on deaf ears in Washington, where the Biden administration is focused on maintaining regional stability—stability Netanyahu's actions have continually jeopardized. In response to the Iranian strikes, Biden's reaction was predictably restrained. He condemned Iran and promised more sanctions but notably stopped short of threatening military retaliation. This restraint is more than just caution; it's a deliberate refusal to escalate tensions to satisfy Netanyahu's belligerent ambitions. Washington's message is clear: the Zionist entity's war with Iran, provoked by Netanyahu's reckless provocations, is not America's war.

High price for Zionist regime's future
Netanyahu's gamble in assassinating Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah has spiraled into a much larger crisis, one that could determine his political fate. Whispers of Netanyahu's possible resignation have grown louder, as pressure mounts from both inside the Zionist entity and its closest ally, the United States. American patience is running thin, and Netanyahu's ability to justify his aggressive tactics both domestically and internationally is rapidly crumbling. The damage to the Zionist entity's military infrastructure, combined with growing opposition within Netanyahu's own government, has left him in a precarious position. The public, exhausted by years of conflict, is losing faith in Netanyahu's leadership. His decision-making is now being openly questioned, and the once-unchallenged image of him as the occupation entity's ultimate defender is falling apart. Even more concerning is Netanyahu's increasingly shortsighted approach to diplomacy, which is isolating the Zionist entity on the world stage. As Biden distances the U.S. from its reckless military cam-

High price for Zionist regime's future

paings and the international community calls for a ceasefire, Netanyahu's days of acting with impunity appear numbered. His failure to align the occupation entity's strategic interests with those of its most important allies, while relying on the waning influence of Zionist lobby groups to shield him from repercussions, has put the regime in a vulnerable position. It now faces real and significant threats from multiple actors, including Hezbollah, Hamas, Iran, Yemen, and Iraq.

Political implications
As the U.S. presidential election approaches, the consequences of Netanyahu's actions will extend far beyond the Zionist entity's borders. The assassination of martyr Nasrallah and the ensuing chaos could influence American voters, especially as Democratic candidates emphasize Netanyahu's defiance of U.S. policy and his destabilizing role in the Middle East. For the Biden administration, distancing itself from Netanyahu could prove politically advantageous, as it seeks to position itself as a stabilizing force on the global stage, in sharp contrast to the chaotic legacy of the Trump-Netanyahu

era. Meanwhile, Netanyahu's domestic adversaries in the Zionist entity are gaining momentum. Calls for his resignation are growing louder, and revelations of the damage to the Navatim Air Base have only heightened the sense of failure and helplessness surrounding his leadership. With the public growing increasingly weary of endless conflict and uncertainty about the future, they may soon decide that Netanyahu's gamble was a costly mistake.

End of Netanyahu?

In the end, Netanyahu's decision to assassinate Martyr Hassan Nasrallah may go down in history as a catastrophic miscalculation—one that precipitated the very collapse he sought to avoid. His disregard for American interests, reckless military strategies, and failure to secure peace at home or abroad have left the Zionist entity more vulnerable than ever before. With the United States pulling away and Netanyahu's enemies closing in, his political future—and perhaps the entire security of the occupation entity—now hangs in the balance, battered by threats from multiple military and political fronts.