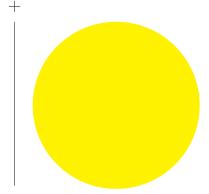
Iran's share in world oil output increased in Q3:

Oil Ministry





Iran Daily

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Iran will not react rashly



In a brazen move, the Israeli regime launched a predawn attack on Saturday with dozens of fighter jets, in coordination with US forces in the region, targeting several military sites in Iran. According to Iranian

military officials, Israeli aircraft did not cross into Iranian airspace, and the country's air defense systems successfully countered the strikes, minimizing the damage. The question on everyone's mind now is how Iran will hit back at to the Israeli aggression and whether it will retaliate immediately. Will tensions between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Israeli regime escalate or reduce?

Based on official stances in the Islamic Republic of Iran, particularly the Leader's remarks, Iran will not react impulsively or hastily. Moreover, Iran's Armed Forces will conduct a thorough assessment of the recent Israeli attacks to identify their weaknesses and strengths, as well as those of their adversary. Therefore, it appears that the Islamic Republic of Iran will not respond

immediately to Israel's aggression, although it will remain on high alert to counter potential future threats.



U23 Wrestling World Championships:

Iran lifts historic freestyle trophy, completes team title double



Israel's 3-week siege, attacks claim 1,000 lives in northern Gaza



6>



Iranian artworks go on display at Cosmoscow



Claim on Iranian isles serve to avert focus from Israeli crimes



An Iranian parliamentarian believes that the motive behind the resurfacing of unsubstantiated claims re-

garding the three Iranian islands in the Persian Gulf is to distract public attention from Israeli crimes in Gaza and Lebanon. In an interview with Iran Daily, Ali Yazdan-Khah asserted that raising these issues is a deliberate ploy to divert attention, orchestrated by the Zionist regime's supporters and carried out by their regional proxies, with the ultimate goal of deflecting scrutiny away from the plight of Gaza and Lebanon, at a time when the international community, including the Muslim world, remains fixated on the Zionist regime's atrocities in these regions.

The European Union and the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) issued a joint statement during their first summit in Brussels on October 16, repeating allegations about Iran's sovereignty over the three Persian Gulf islands -- Greater Tunb, Lesser Tunb, and Abu Musa. The Persian Gulf islands have historically been part of Iran, proof of which can be found and corroborated by countless his-

torical, legal, and geographical documents in Iran and other parts of the world. However, the United Arab Emirates has repeatedly laid claim to the islands.

Domestic

China seeking to fortify commercial ties with Iran:

Ambassador

China is willing to strengthen its trade exchanges with Iran in all fields, said the Chinese ambassador in Tehran on Monday.

In a meeting with the head of the Trade Promotion Organization (TPO), Cong Peiwu emphasized the need to accelerate the trade cooperation between the two countries, IRNA reported.

In the meeting, the two countries' willingness in the development of business cooperation based on the expansion of relations and new strategies was emphasized.

TPO Head Mohammadali Dehgan Dehnavi said for his part that Iran's membership in BRICS and Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) will facilitate commercial cooperation between Tehran and Beijing. The official also emphasized the expansion of bilateral cooperation through holding international exhibitions, technology transfer and business development in industrial and mining fields.

Mohammad Aqajanlou, the head of the Iranian Mines and Mining Industries Development and Renovation Organization (IMIDRO), was also present at the meeting and shared his insights on developing joint cooperation between Iran and China in the mining and mineral industries.

He emphasized the importance of transferring modern technologies from China to Iran, noting that advanced know-how would enhance productivity in mining and enable the processing of mineral products with higher added value.

Moreover, he pointed out that sharing knowledge and experiences between mining experts and engineers from both countries could help improve skills and standards in the industry. Iran and China, two countries that are in structural conflicts with the current world order, have signed a "Comprehensive Strategic Partnership Agreement" which is centered on geo-economic goals.

The document heralds opportunities for Iran's economic diplomacy, but the road to its implementation is riddled with challenges. The economic opportunities include the potential to facilitate communication and information infrastructure, expand trade and investment as well as financial and banking cooperation, allow Iran to participate in the Belt and Road Initiative and reduce

sanctions pressure. A glance at Iran's trade relations shows China is Iran's first economic partner, with a distant 30% share of the country's foreign trade compared to other countries.

Iran's share in world oil output increased in Q3: Oil Ministry

Economy Desk

The Ministry of Oil announced on Monday that Iran's crude oil and gas condensate production in the third quarter of 2024 increased by more than eight percent compared to the same period last year. The report of the US Energy Information Administration (EIA) shows that in July-September of 2024, Iran produced 4.42 million barrels of crude oil and gas condensate per day, as the corresponding figure for 2023 stood at 3.99 mbd which indicates 8.8% of growth, IRNA reported.

Iran's oil industry has always faced the most severe sanctions in recent decades. These sanctions began by restricting the presence of international companies and continued during the presidency of Donald Trump in the United States with the aim of reducing Iran's oil exports to zero.

But Iran's oil exports never same period last year.

The Organization of Pemonth.

Based on the OPEC data, the increase in Iran's oil production comes as the

reached zero, and even US officials underlined the ineffectiveness of sanctions against Iran's oil industry. EIA figures indicated that global oil production reached 102.5 mbd in the third quarter of 2024, which was 101.8 million barrels per day in the

troleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in its latest report said Iran produced 3.316 million barrels per day (bpd) of crude oil in September, registering a 21,000-bpd increase compared to the previous



total production by the members of the organization decreased 604,000

bpd in the said month. Iran has maintained its place as OPEC's third-big-

gest oil producer after Saudi Arabia and Iraq. Based on secondary sourc-

es, Iran produced 3.295 million bpd of crude oil in August, the report said.

Burkina Faso ready to host Iran's extraterritorial agro projects: Envoy

Economy Desk

Iran enjoys great experiences in the field of extraterritorial cultivation which could be extended to Burkina Faso lands, said the ambassador of Burkina Faso in Tehran, adding that Iranian investors have also shown their interest in investing in this sector.

Speaking in a meeting with senior officials of the Agriculture Ministry of Iran, Mohammadi Kaboureh also stated that his country has nine million hectares of land ready for cultivation, IRNA reported.

"We hope to increase production in the agricultural sector and achieve self-sufficiency in the production of products by transferring needed technologies to Burkina Faso by Iran," the official said. Speaking for his part at the meeting, Reza Fotuhi, the manager of the Extraterritorial Cultivation Project of the Ministry Agriculture said Tehran has very good relations



with African countries, as the Iranian authorities place a premium on increasing these ties.

He stated that Iran is ready for investment in Burkina Faso as the private sector can invest in the African country and engage in agricultural projects, including extraterritorial agriculture.

The meeting was at the initiative of private sector investors in Iran as they are keen on boosting the relations in the agricultural sector.

The Agriculture Ministry has put its focus in extraterritorial cultivation on basic foodstuffs such as wheat, barley, oilseeds and the products required for the livestock industry. Abolfazl Raoufi, the head

of the Environment Department of the ministry, announced the above on October in a ceremony held in Tehran to mark World Food Day, ISNA reported.

During the last Iranian year (ended March 19), Iran had 400.000 hectares of extraterritorial cultivation in seven countries. which according to the Seventh Development Plan, should reach two million hectares, he not-

The development of extraterritorial cultivation is one of the main achievements of the Ministry of Agriculture, Moradi said, adding that Iranian investors can work with the ministry in extraterritorial cultivation projects.

Agricultural exports up by 28% in seven months: IRICA

Iran's exports of agricultural products increased by nearly a third year on year in the seven months to late October, according to figures by the country's customs office (IRI-

The figures showed that Iran had exported some \$2.2 billion worth of agricultural products in the seven months to October 21, up 28% compared to the same period last year, according to Press TV.

The figures showed that shipments had risen by 16% in volume terms to reach 3.8 million metric tons (mt) over April-October.

Pistachio topped the list of Iranian agricultural products exports in the seven months to late October with \$614 million worth of shipments, up by 192% from the same period last year, the data showed.

IRICA said that Iranian exports of various varieties of tomato had amounted to \$226 million in April-Octo-



ber while watermelon shipments had reached \$139 million over the same period.

Apple exports rose significantly, by around 46%, year on year in the seven months to late October to \$124 million while dates exports reached 123 million, it said.

Pepper shipments showed the highest year on year rise in exports with a 490% increase over the seven-month period, said the customs office, adding that shipments of saffron, a main staple of Iranian agricultural exports, had dropped by 51% over the period. Iran has seen a significant increase in its agriculture exports in recent years thanks to a more generous support by the government for the sector and the difference between prices of crops in local and regional markets.

Higher exports have led to increased activity and more jobs in Iran's agriculture sector while it has also led to better development for the country's rural regions. Government figures show that Iran's agriculture output reached 131 million mt by the end of the calendar year to March 20, up from 110 million mt reported in the previous vear.

Claim on Iranian...

The islands fell under British control in 1921 but Page 1 > on November 30.

1971, a day after British forces left the region and just two days before the UAE was to become an official federation, Iran's sovereignty over the islands was restored.

Referring to historical documents, the MP added, "Historical records dating back thousands of years confirm that the three islands have always belonged to Iran, and the repeated claims of ownership are made with ulterior motives. They themselves know that no one has the right to claim ownership of these islands except Iran."

Yazdi-Khah emphasized that the United Nations and British documents confirm Iran's ownership of the trio Islands. "The maps and documents clearly show that the islands have always been part of Iran. The issue of ownership was settled long ago, and there is no need to revisit it."

He said, "There is no doubt that the three islands belong to Iran, and this is while we do not make any claims about other islands in the Persian Gulf that have also been under Iranian ownership and guardianship. However, if anyone is to make claims, it should be Iran that asserts its ownership of these other islands."

"However, the Islamic Republic of Iran respects international and regional rules and agreements, and does not pursue these matters. On the other hand, it is not acceptable for cases to be fabricated against Iran and for such claims to be made," he added.

Kamran Poladi, a member of the Iranian parliament's Internal Affairs and Councils Committee, also commented on the issue, saying, "Our neighboring country, the UAE, is influenced by Western powers and occasionally raises such claims. However, these claims are baseless, and the three Islands are an inseparable part of Iran."

Malek Fazeli, a former member of Parliament, also weighed in on the issue. "The UAE is not behind these claims; rather, it is the Western powers that are trying to stoke

tension in the region."

He added, "These provocations are carried out with the political objectives and intentions of Western countries. Colonial powers such as Britain, which have played a role in the political divisions of many regions of the world in the past, have created defects and flaws in the political borders of countries, leaving behind issues that they can use to create tension and conflict between countries whenever they want, and pursue their own interests through these tensions."

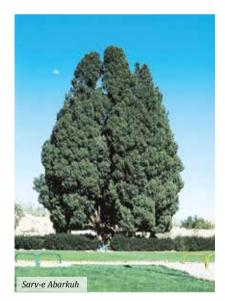


Situated at an altitude of 1,510 meters above sea level, Abarkuh is an ancient desert town located in the central province of Yazd. Geographically nestled between the major cities of Yazd, Shiraz, and Isfahan, Abarkuh has historically been part of Kerman and, at one time, Fars Province.

The town displays architectural characteristics typical of desert settlements, with closely built houses featuring vaulted roofs constructed primarily of sundried bricks. Given the area's scarcity of trees and the presence of abundant underground water sources, this choice of material was practical. The town benefits from a kariz system, an underground aqueduct system that provides ample green patches of cultivated land and gardens.

While many travelers passing through Iran may not linger in Aharkuh, its limited accommodations and tourist facilities often prevent it from being a preferred stopping point. Nevertheless, a quick stop here is highly recommended to experience daily life and glimpse the historical monuments that continue to attract visitors from Iran and bevond.





Iran Daily Tuesday, Oct. 29, 2024

According to various historical sources, during the Abbasid and Buyid dynasties, Abarkuh experienced prosperity and population growth, largely due to its strategic location along key caravan routes connecting major cities. The town was fortified with strong walls and a citadel, attracting local rulers from numerous region-

Abarkuh continued to thrive under the Seljuks and retained its economic importance during the Ilkhanid period. In the 17th century, the Safavid dynasty took special interest in Abarkuh, Biabanak, Yazd, and other towns in central Iran. However, significant damage occurred during the Afghan invasion in the late 18th century. As the Qajar dynasty rose to power and conflicts intensified with the last Zand ruler, Abarkuh became a focal point for military activity, resulting in chaotic conditions during the late Qajar period.

Today, Abarkuh's infrastructure remains underdeveloped, and its facilities have not expanded to meet contemporary needs, leading to a decline in its former prominence. Despite this, visitors are encouraged to observe daily life in the town and appreciate its surviving monuments, which continue to attract travelers from within Iran and beyond.

Key Attractions

Gonbad-e Ali: This tomb tower, dating back to the 11th century and the Dailamite period, is the oldest structure in Abarkuh. Perched on a hill on the outskirts, it is one of the earliest tomb towers in Iran. Jaame Mosque: Built in

the 14th century under the Ilkhanid dynasty, parts of this mosque suggest earlier construction during the Seljuk period. The mosque has undergone extensive restoration and is adorned with mud and straw on its exterior.

Aghazadeh House: This exquisitely preserved Qajar-era home, about 200 years old, is located in Abarkuh. After meticulous renovations, it now welcomes both Iranian and international guests. Its colorful glass windows, intricate molding, and tall arches exemplify traditional Persian architecture.

Ancient Cypress Tree: Known as Sarv-e Abarkuh, this remarkable tree is the third oldest in the world and symbolizes life and beauty. Estimated to be around 4,500 years old, it stands approximately 28 meters tall and 11.5 meters wide at the trunk. Protected by the municipality, it remains a significant attraction alongside the Aghazadeh House and its esteemed wind catchers.

Hajikhan Castle: Located

36 kilometers from Abarkuh. this castle, among several others, dates back to various periods, including the Sassanid, Zand, Afsharid, and Qajar eras.

Robat Castle: The castle, dating back to the Safavid period, is situated on the western edge of Abarkuh and was once a residential building. Its design features cross, square, and ellipse-shaped motifs.

Qal'eh Noe: The residential castle, near Abarkuh, was constructed for protection against intrusions and theft. A defensive wall surrounds the castle, designating it as Qal'eh Noe (meaning New Castle).

Explore ancient structures, modern tourism opportunities of Malayer

Iranica Desk

The city of Malayer, akin to other cities in the province, has been significantly overlooked in terms of tourism development. In contrast, provinces such as Fars and Isfahan have made remarkable strides in advancing their tourism sectors, yet Hamedan Province's tourism has not achieved its potential, said Ahmad Arvaie Nejad, the representative of Malayer in Parliament.

He added that new archaeological investigations should be

conducted in the ancient handcarved structure of Malayer, chtn.ir wrote.

The underground structure known as Samen, located just 15 kilometers from Malayer, emerged from the earth in 2005 and serves as a testament to the grandeur and ancient legacy of Hamedan Province.

Experts suggest that this pristine and untouched site, which has undergone six phases of excavation, possesses the capacity to attract a substantial number of both Iranian and international tourists, thereby boosting the region's economy.

The structure, which spans an area of three to five hectares, is constructed from granite stone and lies beneath the city's pathways, homes, and administrative buildings.

Arvaie Neiad highlighted that Nushijan Hill, one of the oldest mudbrick structures in the world, as well as a unique park known as Mini World, both of which stand out as notable attractions in Malayer.

Nushijan Hill, an ancient fire

Nushiian Hill

visitiran.ir

temple and fortress located 15 kilometers northwest of Malayer, has revealed three significant levels during archaeological excavations: the first associated with the Medes, the second with the Achaemenids, and the third with the Sassanids.

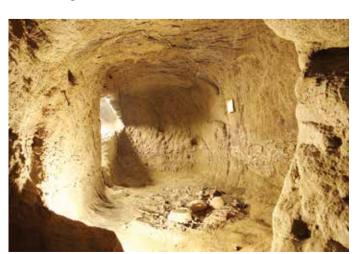
Mini World Park, s the northern part of the city, is a remarkable destination. This expansive 48-hectare miniature park is not only the first thematic park in Malayer but also the very first miniature tourism complex in the Middle

East and the fourth of its kind in the world. It offers visitors a unique opportunity to witness 138 historical, national, and global monuments represented on a reduced scale.

Additionally, he noted that the hand-woven Azandarian carpet represents one of the city's renowned handicrafts. These carpets are characterized by their high quality, thickness, and intricate designs crafted from natural wool fibers, with vibrant colors that enhance home decor and provide a pleasant, calming atmosphere.

The MP emphasized that Malayer holds considerable potential for health tourism and stressed the necessity of adopting a new perspective to foster prosperity in the area. Unlike investments in industrial sectors, which often lead to environmental pollution. tourism presents an opportunity that sidesteps such issues.

In conclusion, he reiterated that for tourism development in Malayer to flourish, it requires adequate funding and financial resources.









Mini World Park

Shades of Iran's gas supremacy over Qatar

ANALYSIS

For several years, Iran has been and if ahead of Qatar in extracting Iran n gas from the South Pars field.

However, experts believe that Qatar's recent decision to take certain actions in this field may reduce Iran's opportunities, and if this issue is overlooked, Iran may lose its advantage. The South Pars gas field, known as the South Pars/North Dome Gas-Condensate field in Qatar, is one of the largest natural gas reserves in the world, shared between Iran and Qatar. This vast gas field is located in the Persian Gulf, at a great depth, and holds a significant portion of the world's gas reserves. The South Pars gas field covers an area of 9,700 square kilometers, with 3,700 square kilometers in Iranian waters and 6,000 square kilometers in Qatari territory. Gas extraction from this field is crucial for both countries, as each relies on it to meet their domestic energy needs and export to global markets. Until a few years ago, Iran lagged behind Qatar in

gas extraction from this field. Qatar had been able to exploit the field more extensively due to its access to more modern technologies and significant investments in the oil and gas industry.



lines to neighboring countries, Iran aims to develop its LNG capacities to export to more distant markets. Alongside natural gas, the extraction of gas condensate from South Pars is a significant source of revenue for Iran. These condensates, which are used in refining and petrochemical industries, are exported to global markets as valuable products. The development and exploitation of the South Pars gas field have faced numerous challenges, including economic sanctions, financial and technological limitations, and competition with Qatar. However, Iran has relied on domestic companies in the drilling, refining, and manufacturing of equipment related to the oil and gas industry, enabling it to partially meet its needs and achieve relative self-sufficiency in this sector.

Pressure enhancement, a significant challenge

With the continued development of new phases and investment in technological infrastructure, Iran has the ability to maintain and even strengthen its position in the South Pars gas field. However, the issue of pressure enhancement in this field is a fundamental challenge. According to estimates, Iran's gas production from South Pars will decrease by about 28 million cubic meters each year starting from 2025.

If pressure enhancement projects are not implemented, by 2031, daily gas production from this field will decline by 200 million cubic meters, which means a reduction of current production to one-third. This decline in production and the uncertainty surrounding the \$20 billion financing for pressure enhancement projects pose a serious threat to the country's energy security, especially as Qatar, with a \$45 billion investment and the presence of seven major oil companies, has initiated two projects to increase LNG production by 48 million tons. The pressure enhancement platforms have a capacity of 2 billion cubic feet and can increase pressure by 90 times. Iran aims to build the pressure enhancement platform in its coastal yards, but since the platform will weigh around 20,000 tons and Iran lacks experience in designing, building, and installing platforms with weights over 7,000 tons, the existing infrastructure needs to be upgraded.

It is predicted that Qatar's gas production will increase by 60% by 2030 with the implementation of these projects. According to the National Iranian Oil Company, feasibility studies and conceptual design of the offshore and onshore pressure enhancement facilities have been completed, and a contract for basic engineering design has been signed with domestic and international consultants. This contract, worth \$20 billion, aims to generate \$900 billion in revenue for the country.

Based on the plans, the pressure enhancement facilities in Iran will be designed in four hubs with a total capacity of 340 million cubic meters per day. The construction of the first hub will begin next year after completing the studies and tender documents. Meanwhile, Qatar is also developing two projects in the eastern and southern parts of the North Dome field (South Pars). Out of the 48 million tons of LNG produced, 21 million tons have been pre-purchased, and unlike Iran, Qatar exports most of this gas instead of consuming it domestically.

Competition in coming years

Recently, Qatar announced that it will begin developing the northeastern part of the North Dome field and plans to add 16 million tons to its LNG production by 2030. This development could pose a significant challenge to Iran's competition in the coming years.

The exploitation of the South Pars gas field is of great strategic importance to both Iran and Qatar. In recent years, Iran has managed to catch up with Qatar and even surpass it in some cases by developing new phases and investing heavily. This progress means an increase in Iran's power to supply domestic energy and export to global markets, which can lead to economic growth and strengthen Iran's regional and international position. However, experts emphasize that Iran must continue to invest in technology and develop its gas industry infrastructure to maintain this position in the future.

The full article was first published by the Persian-language Iranian Students' News Agency (ISNA).

Cutting gas supply to industries not to make a difference

Economy Desk

No sooner had the summer's heatwave and power outages subsided than news broke that we might be facing a gas shortage this winter. Iranian First Vice-President Mohammad Reza Aref has recently announced that it's clear we'll be facing a gas shortage this winter. Regardless of weather forecasts, the warning of a cold winter comes at a time when our country, with 26 trillion cubic meters of natural gas, ranks second in the world in terms of resources and third in production after the US and Russia, and above China.

Reports from 2021 show that gas consumption, excluding waste and lost gas, has increased over the past two decades to 230 billion cubic meters. This upward trend has continued, with gas production, minus flare and refinery fuel, reaching around 730 million cubic meters per day last year. Of this amount, 685 million cubic meters were supplied daily, with 47% allocated to household and commercial use. This consumption increases on cold days, and demand outstrips supply. Even in an ideal scenario, if production remains constant, the cold winter will create a significant gap between supply and demand.

A worrying issue in the National Development Fund's report is the rapid decline in gas production, which is reflected in the downward trend. The report states that if the current production and consumption trend continues, gas supply will decline from next year.

Currently, gas supply in Iran is carried out through 39,000 kilometers of pipelines, covering 98% of the urban population and 86% of the rural population.

Today, 75% of the gas for this population and the commercial and industrial sectors is supplied by the South Pars gas field, which has been in need of renovation and updating for years, resulting in a drop in pressure. Frightening predictions suggest that if this trend continues, by 2041, the pressure drop in the South Pars reservoirs and increased consumption will lead to a shortage of around 1 billion cubic meters per day.

We know that gas is one of the most important energy carriers in the world, playing a significant role in both societal welfare and the economy. Despite being the second-largest country in terms of gas resources, we were ranked 25th in gas exports until a few years ago, and it's said that only 5% of the country's gas production is currently exported.

The gas shortage in Iran is attributed to two primary factors: inadequate investment in the sector and undeveloped gas fields, which are exacerbated by high consumption rates. These factors have resulted in Iran missing out on gas-related revenue and failing to meet domestic demand. According to the recent statements of the head of the Plan and Budget Organization, more than 230 billion cubic meters of gas are produced, but only 5% of it is exported. The country's consumption is equivalent to that of 25 European countries and China's total consumption, despite China having a much larger population and econ-

The Parliament Research Center has reported that the gas shortage in 2022 was around 123 million cubic meters per day, and estimates suggest that this number will increase in the coming years due to growing consumption and declining production.

The consequences of this gas short-



age are twofold: on the one hand, it leads to public dissatisfaction, and on the other hand, it affects the economy, as the government is forced to reduce the gas supply to industries, particularly petrochemicals, during the winter months to avoid cutting off people's heating, resulting in reduced production and lower revenues.

According to the Iran Chamber of Commerce reports, the petrochemical industry's share of natural gas consumption reached 72 million cubic meters per day last year, and the government's losses from selling natural gas to households and commercial sectors instead of supplying it to the petrochemical industry are estimated to be between \$410 million and \$574 million.

The Iran Chamber of Commerce's report also states that by imposing restrictions on gas supply, the country loses around \$172 million to \$241 million in petrochemical profits or added value.

OPEC has announced that annual investment in oil and gas projects worldwide must reach \$738 billion by 2030 to meet global hydrocarbon demand and prevent an energy supply crisis.

Although governments try to address the gas shortage by shutting off gas supply to industries and petrochemicals during the cold winter months, forecasts warn that this temporary solution will no longer

be effective in the near future, and we need to think about a long-term solution to address the shortage.

In this context, and aside from the discussion on consumption management, which is a separate and complex issue, the most effective solution is to invest in the gas sector. We know that in a situation where the government is forced to tap into the National Development Fund to cover current expenses, it is unrealistic to expect large-scale and costly investments in the gas sector. Moreover, due to controlled prices and export restrictions, this sector is not attractive to the private sector either. This situation in Iran is in contrast to OPEC's announcement that annual investment in oil and gas projects worldwide must reach \$738 billion by 2030 to meet global hydrocarbon demand and prevent an energy supply crisis. However, efforts have been made in Iran to invest in and develop gas fields, with 68 trillion tomans invested in this sector over the past three years. According to the CEO of the Central Oil Company, 15 new gas fields will be launched to compensate for part of the shortage, producing 120 million cubic meters of gas per day.

However, a significant transformation is needed to attract foreign investment, which requires addressing the obstacles and challenges facing foreign relations and interactions The gas
shortage in Iran
is attributed
to two primary
factors:
inadequate
investment in
the sector and
undeveloped
gas fields,
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exacerbated
by high
consumption
rates.



SportsAthletics

U23 Wrestling World Championships:

Iran lifts historic freestyle trophy, completes team title double

Sports Desk

A haul of seven medals, including three golds, saw Iran clinch a first freestyle title at the U23 Wrestling World Championships in Tirana, Albania.

Pejman Dorostkar's 10-man squad collected 158 points to stand atop the table with 158 points – 56 clear of runner-up Japan – with Azerbaijan finishing third with 100 points.

The freestyle triumph meant Iran made a clean sweep of titles in Tirana – following last week's Greco-Roman crown – taking the country's tally to a remarkable 15 age-group team trophies in five years.

Mahdi Yousefi, who won a world under-20 bronze in September, rounded off his campaign in Tirana in style by grabbing the 79kg gold on Sunday.

Stepping into the final showpiece on the back of four superiority wins, Yousefi continued his dominance against China's Feng Lu, marching to a 12-5 victory. Mahdi Hajiloueian, meanwhile, enjoyed an impressive run to reach the 97kg final but had to settle for a silver after a 11-6 loss to high-profile Rizabek Ait-

mukhan of Kazakhstan. There was little to separate the two wrestlers in the opening stages, with Aitmukhan holding a criteria advantage (2-2) at the break before he pulled away in the second period to add the under-23 glory to his world senior title in 2023, while the Iranian took a second world medal fol-



lowing his 2021 junior silver. Elsewhere on the final day of the competitions, Ali Mo'meni and Abbas Ebrahimzadeh added a couple of bronze medals to Iran's medal count.

Mo'meni recovered from a lastfour 4-3 defeat against Kyrgyzstan's Abdumalik Karachov to outmuscle American Maxwell Gallagher 8-0 for a third-place finish in the 57kg event – alongside Iunus Iavbatirov, who was part of the individual neutral athletes' team.

India's Chirag Chikkara defeated

Karachov 4-2 in the final. In the 65kg weight class, Ebrahimzadeh – beaten 11-7 in the semifinals by Japanese Kaiji Ogino – had an easy job in the thirdplace bout against Turkey's Abdullah Toprak, winning 15-4. Bilol Sharip Uulu of Kyrgyzstan

took the other bronze, while Russian Ibragim Ibragimov made a quick work of Ogino (14-2) to defend his title.

Sunday's results came after Iran had won three freestyle medals on the preceding night at the Feti Borova Sports Hall.



Mahdi Yousefi (R) celebrates with the Iranian flag after winning the freestyle 79kg title at the U23 Wrestling World Championships in Tirana, Albania, on October 27, 2024.

Amirreza Ma'soumi didn't concede a single point in his four wins by superiority, including the final showdown against European under-23 champion Alen Khubulov of Bulgaria, to walk away with the ultimate prize of the 125kg contests – a sixth world age-group gold for the superheavyweight prodigy in two years.

A former world cadet and junior champion, Amirhossein Firouzpour claimed his second under-23 title in emphatic fashion, defeating American Jacob Cardenas 11-4 in the 92kg final.

Ebrahim Khari left Tirana with a consolation bronze, thanks to a 4-3 win against Armenia's Levik Mikayelyan in the 61kg event. Last Wednesday, the Iranian Greco-Roman squad had lifted a

Last Wednesday, the Iranian Greco-Roman squad had lifted a third team trophy in five years, courtesy of seven medals. Ali Ahmadi Vafa (55kg), Moham-

mad Naqousi (82kg), and Fardin Hedayati (130kg) notched up three golds, while Danial Sohrabi (72kg), Shayan Habib-Zare' (97kg), Erfan Jarkani (63kg), and Ali Oskou (77kg) finished with a bronze, as Iran topped the standing with 149 points, followed by Georgia (121pts) and Armenia (93pts).



Iran heads into U17 Asian Cup finals

Sports Desk

Iran came from behind to beat Jordan 4-2 on the final day of the AFC U17 Asian Cup qualifiers and book a place in next April's finals in Saudi Arabia.

Iran still had Hong Kong to thank for beating Syria 2-1 to help Abbas Chamanian's boys finish second to North Korea in Group A and progress as one the five best runners-up.

Iran started on the front foot in Zarqa's Prince Mohammed Stadium and took the lead through host captain Karzg Shadi Alqasem's 15th-minute own goal.

Already eliminated after suffering three defeats, Jordan fought back to draw level through defender Nour Aldeen Amro in the 37th minute with forward Mohammad Mustafa Aburomeh putting the home side ahead three minutes later.

Iran, however, managed to turn things around late in the game, with defender Abolfazl Kazemi netting the equalizer in the 71st minute.

Salman Ghaffari restored Iran's lead six minutes later before Mehrdad Aqa Mohammadi's spot-kick deep into stoppage time confirmed the points for Chamanian's side.

Later in the day, Abdulrahman Dinawai put Syria in front in the 64th minute, only to see his strike canceled out by Hui Siu Chung a minute later.

Midfielder Jeffery Chin struck the decisive winner in the 88th minute. Iran began its qualification campaign with a 7-1 rout of Hong Kong but fell to a shock loss to North Korea, which went on to win the group with a clean sweep of four wins.

Chamanian's boys bounced back to beat West Asian champion Syria 1-0 before Sunday's triumph to conclude the qualifiers with nine points.

Quality Salah the difference-maker for Liverpool, Slot says

REUTERS - Quality players like Mohamed Salah are crucial in big games, Liverpool manager Arne Slot said after the Egypt international's late strike secured a 2-2 draw against Arsenal in the Premier League on Sunday.

Salah, who said last month he was poised to leave Liverpool after this season, also scored in last weekend's 2-1 win over Chelsea, after netting the winning goal from the penalty spot at Wolverhampton Wanderers.

"I think that's one of the things that top players have, that they are always available and they show up in the big games," Slot told reporters.

"That's also what you need if you are a big club, like we are and like Arsenal is, then you need these quality players because if you don't have them, it's going to be quite difficult to get your results.

Salah, who is tied with Robbie Fowler as Liverpool's eighth-highest goalscorer of all time with 163 strikes, has scored six goals in the league this season. Salah was on the scoresheet in five of Liverpool's seven league wins.

"It's something you need to have as a club, to have these players that can make the difference for you, and Mo was that today offensively," Slot added.

Liverpool, who have 22 points from nine matches, are one point behind leaders Manchester City. Slot's team play Brighton & Hove Albion twice this week, away in the League Cup on Wednesday followed by a home league game on Saturday.



Mohamed Salah celebrates after scoring Liverpool's second equalizer during a 2-2 draw against Arsenal in the Premier League at the Emirates Stadium, London, Britain, on Oct. 27, 2024.



Funerals held for servicemen martyred in Israeli aggression

Pezeshkian vows 'appropriate response' to strikes IRGC chief: 'Bitter, unimaginable consequences' await Israel

International Desk

Iran bid farewell to four Iran Army's servicemen who were killed in a recent Israel's strike as the country's officials vowed "appropriate response" to the regime's aggression in the early hours of Saturday.

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian told a cabinet meeting on Sunday that, "We do not seek war, but we will defend the rights of our nation and country," and will "give an appropriate response" to the Israel's attack.

Before dawn on Saturday, Israeli warplanes used the space available to the US military in Iraq to fire long-range air-toair missiles at Iran's Tehran, Khuzestan, and Ilam provinces in flagrant violation of international law and the UN Charter. The Israeli aggression was a response to Iran's missile attack on the regime's military sites on October 1, itself a retaliation for the assassination of the leaders of Hamas and Hezbollah resistance groups and an Iranian commander.

Four members of the Iranian

Army's Air Defense Force and one civilian were killed in the

Funeral processions

On Monday, thousands of Iranians attended mass funeral processions for the victims of Israel's offensive, which were held in the provinces of Kermanshah, Khuzestan, and Lorestan.

Iran's Foreign Ministry's spokesman Esmaeil Baghaei said on Monday that Iran is firmly determined to respond to the Israeli act of aggression and will not abandon its right in this regard.

Israel's attack on Iran was met with widespread condemnations from many countries, especially the regional ones.

Some countries like the United States and the UK also urged Iran not to respond the Israel's attack.

However, Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi in a phone conversation with his British counterpart David Lammy said that Iran will not hesitate to exercise its inherent and legal right to defend its territorial integrity and national sovereignty against potential acts of aggression.

He referred to Iranian authorities' promise of retaliation. saving Iran's potential response would fit within the accepted principles of the international law and the United Nations

'Unimaginable

Meanwhile, the chief commander of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Major General Hossein Salami in his first reaction to the attack warned that the attack will have "bitter,

unimaginable consequences"

for the Israeli regime.

"The illegitimate and illegal action of the child-killing Zionist regime, which failed to achieve its ominous goals because of the readiness of the country's air defense, shows miscalculation and frustration of this regime on the battlefield" against resistance fighters in Gaza and Lebanon, Salami added.

Damage repaired

Iran says its air defense sys-



tems successfully intercepted and countered the attack which only caused "limited damage" to its radar sites.

Iran's Defense Minister Brigadier General Aziz Nasirzadeh said on Monday that the damage inflicted on the sites have been immediately repaired and replaced. Iran has yet to give exact details of the dam-

Remarks by the country's officials came after Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei on Sunday said Israel needs to understand the power and determination of Iranian nation.

Iranian Parliament Speaker Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf also said that the Islamic Republic's



Army soldiers carry the coffin of Saijad Mansouri, a member of the Iranian Army's Air Defense Force, during a funeral procession in the western city of Kermanshah on October 28, 2024. Mansouri was killed in Israeli attacks on

response to the aggression will be "definite and calculated."

Israel's 3-week siege, attacks claim 1,000 lives in northern Gaza



International Desk

The Israeli occupation army has killed more than 1,000 Palestinians in northern Gaza, forcing half of the population to flee and leaving the othwater or food for nearly tinian Civil Defense announced on Sunday. Mahmoud Bassal, a

spokesman for Palestinian Civil Defense, said in a video shared on social media that the Israeli military has killed er half trapped without over 1,000 Palestinians during its three-weekthree weeks, the Pales- long offensives in north-



Palestinians pray over bodies of relatives, killed in an Israeli airstrike, in Beit Lahia in the northern Gaza Strip on October

ern Gaza, which are still

ongoing. "More than 100,000 Palestinians in the areas of Jabalia, Beit Hanoun, and Beit Lahia are suffering from an Israeli siege and bombardment, while the other half of the population, which numbered around 200,000, has been forcibly displaced towards Gaza City, the closest governorate to the north," Bassal told

People have been confirmed dead at northern Gaza hospitals, as well as on the streets and under the rubble, Bassal said.

"The Israeli army is killing anyone who tries to provide aid to the Palestinians trapped in the northern Gaza Strip, who are suffering from a lack of water, medicine, and food," he said.

"The Israeli occupation is practicing a policy of ethnic cleansing in northern Gaza amid international silence," Bassal lamented. He urged international and humanitarian organizations "to work immediately and urgently to save the Palestinians in northern Gaza."

Since early October, Israel's military has launched new ground operation in northern Gaza to stop what it calls Hamas regrouping there.

Israel's strikes on Gaza, which began in October 2023, have claimed the lives of more than 43,000 people, mostly women and children.

The Israeli onslaught has also displaced almost the territory's entire population amid an ongoing blockade that has led to severe shortages of food, clean water, and medi-

Israel faces a genocide case at the International Court of Justice for its actions in Gaza

Iranian, Saudi FMs discuss 'repercussions of regional escalation'



International Desk

The Iranian and Saudi foreign ministers discussed the "importance of avoiding anything that may destabilize the region's security."

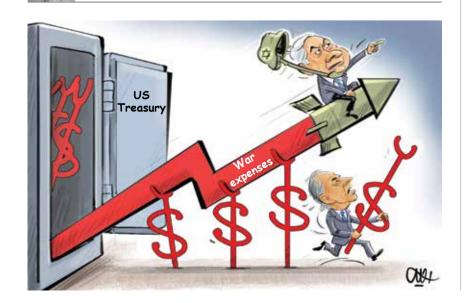
Saudi Foreign Minister Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud and his Iranian counterpart Abbas Araghchi discussed the issue on Monday evening, the Saudi Foreign Ministry



said in a post on X. The ministry said the officials also discussed "the repercussions of the regional escalation."

The talks came as Israel continues its genocidal wars in the Gaza Strip and Lebanon. The regime also launched a strike on Iran, which has grown concerns among the regional countries about the spread of the conflict in the West Asia region.





Iraq lodges UN complaint over Israel using own airspace to attack Iran **International Desk**

Iraq condemned Israel's use of its airspace to attack neighboring Iran in a protest letter sent to United Nations chief Antonio Guterres and the UN Secu-

rity Council, Baghdad said

Monday. A statement from government spokesman Bassim Alawadi said the letter condemns "the Zionist entity's blatant violation of Iraq's airspace and sovereignty by using Iraqi airspace to carry out an attack on the Islamic Republic of Iran on

Alawadi said the Iraqi Foreign Ministry would also

October 26."

bring up "this violation" in talks with the United States, Israel's close ally and top arms provider.

Israel on Saturday launched air strikes on military sites in Iran, risking further regional escalation more than a year into the Gaza war and a month into the its war on southern Lebanon. The Iranian military said that some Israeli aircraft had fired a "small number of long-range missiles... from a distance" inside the US-patrolled airspace of Iraq.

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmaeil Baghaei said on Monday that Tehran was "sure that no neighboring country has given this permission to the Zionist regime" to use its airspace.

"We certainly hope that our friends in Iraq will announce the necessary reactions, including by registering their protest with the United Nations, and will not allow such incidents to happen again," Baghaei added. Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said on Sunday that the US complicity in Israel's act of aggression against Iran is "quite clear" as it has provided the regime with military equipment and airspace to conduct the raid.

Abbas Araghchi made the



remarks on Sunday, a day after US officials claimed that Washington was not directly involved with the Israeli assault that targeted military installations and claimed the lives of four Iranian Army forces.

"The least they (the Americans) did was to provide a space corridor for the Zionist regime, as well as the equipment they already supplied [to Israel] somehow for participation in this operation."

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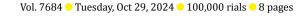
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Iran Cultural & Press Institute









Iranian artworks go on display at Cosmoscow

Arts & Culture Desk

In a significant move to enter the Russian market. Iranian artists showcased their works at the 12th Cosmoscow International Contemporary Art Fair in Moscow.

The three-day event, which ran until October 27, featured a special section dedicated to Iranian art, titled "Persian Section", which highlighted the best of contemporary Iranian art, IRNA reported. The fair, which has been held annually in Russia since 2014, saw the participation of four Iranian galleries, marking the first time Iranian galleries have taken part in the event. The galleries, including Artibition Gallery and Club Gallery, showcased a total of 59 paintings and 9 art pieces in five booths.

According to the organizers, the event aims to create a platform to showcase contemporary art, support emerging artists and galleries, and nurture a new generation of talents. This year's edition of the fair featured over 150 contemporary art pieces from 91 galleries from around the world.



The Iranian section of the fair was well-received, with visitors showing great interest in the unique blend of traditional and modern styles of Iranian art. The artworks on display included pieces by notable Iranian artists such as Maryam Abedi, Kamran Youssefzadeh,

and Reza Derakhshani. Masoud Ahmadvand, the cultural attaché of the Iranian Embassy in Russia, highlighted the diversity of styles and the combination of traditional and modern elements in the artworks on display.

He noted that Iranian artists have gained national and international recognition by drawing on their rich cultural heritage and contemporary trends.

The fair was organized in collaboration with the Iranian Cultural Center in Moscow and a Russian company, which aims to promote cultural dialogue between Russia and Iran

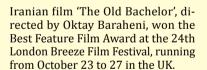
The Cosmoscow International Contemporary Art Fair has become a significant platform for Iranian artists to showcase their talents and enter the Russian market. The success of this event is expected to pave the way for future collaborations between Iranian and Russian artists, galleries, and cultural institutions.

Prior to this event, Iranian artists had showcased their works at the Sergei Andriyaka Watercolor and Fine Arts Academy in Moscow as part of the 'Patterns of Friendship', which was organized by the Iranian Cultural Center.

The exhibition will also travel to St. Petersburg, Sochi, and Iranian cities such as Shiraz, Tehran, and Isfahan.

Iran's 'The Old Bachelor' wins Best Film Award in London







The film, starring Leila Hatami and Hamed Behdad, was recognized for its outstanding achievement in the festival's narrative film category, ISNA reported.

According to reports, the London Breeze Film Festival is held annually in the last week of October in London and has been running for 24 years. The 190-minute film is Baraheni's second feature film, produced by Babak Hamidian and Hanif Sorouri, and co-produced by Arsalan Baraheni and Amirhossein Abdollahi.

Previously, the film won the Best Film Award at the 53rd International Film Festival Rotterdam and received accolades for its performances at the Transilvania Film Festival in Roma-

'The Old Bachelor' also won the Best Film Award in the "World Cinema" section of the Galway Film Festival in Ireland.

Afghan artist's works bridge Middle East, Far East

An exhibition of paintings by Afghan artist Bahramshah Mahmoodi, titled 'From the Middle East to the Far East,' is set to open at the Mellat Cinema Gallery in Tehran.

The exhibition, featuring 35 works created using oil and acrylic techniques on canvas, will be inaugurated on November 1 and will run until November 15, ISNA reported.

Mahmoodi, who specializes in abstract expressionist painting, has used various symbols and patterns inspired by ancient stones to reflect on the thoughts and perspectives of people from the Middle East to the Far East. He also emphasizes the importance of preserving cultural commonalities among countries in these regions.



Celebrating legacy of Cyrus the Great

October 28 marks the day when Cyrus the Great, the ancient king of Persia, conquered the Babylonian Empire without a fight in 539 BC. This day is celebrated as "Cyrus Day" and is a tribute to the king who brought an end to the era of tyranny in the ancient world. Cyrus the Great was a just and fair ruler who issued a decree of freedom and equality to the people of Babylon. This decree, known as the Cyrus Cylinder, is considered the first human rights charter in the world and was recognized as such by the United Nations in 1971.

The Cyrus Cylinder is a clay tablet that was discovered in 1879 and is now housed at the United Nations headprinciples of freedom, equality, and justice, and is a testament to the rich cultural heritage of ancient Persia. Cyrus's legacy extends far beyond his military conquests. He is remembered as a wise and just ruler who allowed people to practice their own religions and cultures. His empire was a melting pot of different cultures, and his tolerance and understanding of different peoples paved the way for a more peaceful and harmonious world.

As we celebrate Cyrus Day, we remember the values of freedom, equality, and justice that he embodied. His legacy continues to inspire people around the world to strive for a more just and peaceful society.

quarters in New York. It outlines the



Iranian-Armenian voice actor Ghokasian dies at 80



Arshak Ghokasian, first Iranian-Arme-The late dubber had been suffering

nian dubbing artist, died on October 27, at the age of 80, in Canada.

from advanced Alzheimer's disease and had retired from the dubbing industry several years ago, ILNA report-

Born on September 28, 1944, in Tehran, Ghokasian began his dubbing career in 1960. He was known for his unique voice, which was particularly suited for young characters. One of his most memorable roles was dubbing for Saeed Kangarani in the iconic TV series 'My Uncle Napoleon' and the film 'Along the Night' directed by Parviz Sayyad. Ghokasian also dubbed for Mark Lester

in the film 'The Prince and the Pauper'. He worked on numerous other projects, lending his voice to many actors in Iranian and foreign films and TV series. Ghokasian migrated to Canada in 1982 and worked as a goldsmith until 2009. He had worked on many significant projects, including the film 'Muhammad, the Messenger of God', where he voiced the character of Ammar.

A documentary about his life, 'The Story of Arshak', was produced in 2015, exploring his career, his move to Canada, and his return to Iran.

Iran will not...

Responding to Israel's attacks is Iran's right, but Tehran will exercise this right based on its thorough evaluations and within the framework of its national interests and regional considerations. Therefore, we will not witness an emotional or

hasty reaction from Iran. The situation demands that resistance groups exercise greater prudence in countering Israel. It seems that Israel is planning to launch a ground invasion into southern Lebanon, so the Resistance Front and Iran should closely monitor all Israeli and US movements in the region and brace themselves to face any eventuality.

Currently, the United States is not in a position to welcome a large-scale war in the region. Following the presidential election, they may outline new policies for West Asia. Therefore, until the US presidential election, the Biden administration will likely try to ease tensions and may not permit Israel to embark on new adventures against Iran. However, if Donald Trump wins the election, regional tensions may further build up, given his and the Republicans' close ties with Israeli hardliners and Prime Minister

Renjamin Netanyahu

It is predictable that tensions between Iran and Israel will ease in the short term. If peace talks and a cease-fire yield tangible results, they will also have a positive impact on reducing tensions. However this does not mean that Iran and the Resistance Axis will let their guard down against Israel's destructive actions and potential adventures. There is no doubt about Netanyahu's warmongering and his efforts to expand the scope of conflict, but neither the United States nor regional countries currently welcome such an idea.