

## NIOPDC: Gasoline consumption soars by 7.4%



### Economy Desk

Iran's gasoline consumption averaged 124.5 million liters per day from the start of the [Iranian] year (March 20) through November 2, representing a 7.4% increase compared to the same period last year, when the average was 116 million liters per day, according to the managing director of the National Iranian Oil Products Distribution Company (NIOPDC).

Speaking in a press conference in Tehran on Monday, Keramat Veys-Karami also said Iran mainly imports gasoline through swap deals, with the country importing an average of 8.5 million liters of gasoline per day in the first six months of the current year (March 20-September 21), Shana reported.

Gasoline imports reached 9 million liters per day during the month to September 21, with the quality of imported gasoline meeting the national standard index and Euro 4 standard, added the deputy oil minister.

In late-August, Iranian power stations' diesel storage levels decreased by 43% as mazut storing decreased by 23% compared to the same period last year, according to Veys-Karami. He also said that deliveries of diesel to power plants increased by 32% in the month to September 21 and raised 27.5% during the month to October 21, compared to the same months last year.

To address the challenges, the official noted that weekly meetings were held by the Oil Ministry's production, transportation, and storage departments, adding, "At these meetings, ways to increase the capacity of product production and improve the volume and speed of transportation for the winter fuel supply will be discussed and decided upon."

He said on October 16 that our estimate is to deliver 10 billion liters of liquid fuel to the country's power stations by the end of the current Iranian year (March 20, 2025). Veys-Karami noted that 70% of Iran's gasoline is produced in the south of the country, while about 75% of consumption is in the northern part of the country, which imposes a heavy and intensive volume of operations on his company.

# Pezeshkian says Iran facing all-out economic war

Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian said that the country is currently facing an all-out economic war, emphasizing the need for making every effort to foil enemies' plots to create economic problems for the Islamic Republic.

"Today's war is an economic one, not a war of bombs and missiles. We have missiles so that they dare not attack us. We do not have missiles to attack anyone", the president said on Monday at a ceremony to honor people contributing to a plan aimed at jumping production on rainfed land, IRNA reported.

Pezeshkian also has emphasized the need for accelerating the completion of unfinished projects launched on joint foreign investment with foreign companies, especially the projects in the energy sector.

The president on Sunday evening chaired a meeting that assessed the latest status of joint foreign investment projects that have not been completed yet.

He said that all capacities, including those in neighboring countries, should be used to complete those projects. Ministers of oil and energy were among the participants at the meeting.

Meanwhile, Iran's first vice president said on Monday that state-run bodies, especially the Supreme Economic Coordination Council and the Market Regulation Headquarters, are tasked with making decisions to improve the people's living conditions and economic growth and prosperity, while also closely monitoring, coordinating and cooperating to ensure price stability and reduce



inflation. Mohammadreza Aref emphasized in the meeting

of the Supreme Economic Coordination Council that the approval of the action

plan for energy saving with the participation of the private sector will

contribute to addressing the energy and electricity shortages in the country.

## Tehran 'ready' to start AI cooperation with Havana: *Minister*

Iran's Minister of Information and Communications Technology Sattar Hashemi says the country is ready to initiate "good cooperation" with Cuba in the field of artificial intelligence among others.

"We are ready to share our knowledge and experience with you and start good cooperation in various fields, especially artificial intelligence," Hashemi said in a meeting with Cuba's Deputy Prime Minister Eduardo Martinez Diaz, IRNA reported.

He said there are many capacities for cooperation between Tehran and Havana, expressing hope that the agreements reached during his visit will be implemented soon.

For his part, Martinez Diaz highlighted Iran's remarkable progress in science and technology, calling for the expansion of bilateral cooperation in the fields of telecommunications, postal services, and artificial intelligence.

The visit of Iran's minister of ICT to Havana will help a lot in the further development of relations between Iran and Cuba, he added.

Hashemi said in September that Iranian private companies are ready to



exchange experiences with Cuba. Hashemi made the remarks at an online meeting on September 16 with his Cuban counterpart Mayra Arevich Marin.

During the talks, the Iranian minister said that Iran and Cuba are expanding their cooperation in various fields of communications and information technology.

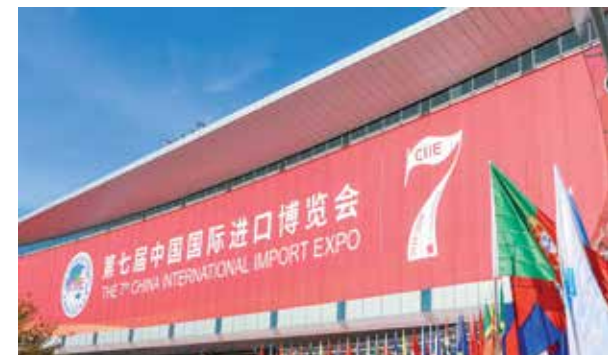
He called for reviewing of previous MoUs signed between the two countries in the field of communication and information technology. The minister also announced the readiness of Iranian companies to partake in the 40th Havana Exhibition, saying that attending this exhibition can provide joint cooperation in other fields between the two countries.

## Iran to attend China trade exhibition to develop exports

### Economy Desk

Iran will maintain a significant presence at the China International Import Expo (CIIE) with two national pavilions covering a total area of 140 square meters and a commercial pavilion covering approximately 1,700 square meters, aiming to develop exports of Iranian-made goods and services.

Invited by the Chinese Minister of Commerce, Mohammadali Dehqan Dehnavi, the head of the Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) will visit the exhibition which will be held during November 5-10 to discuss trade and investment opportunities with China, IRNA reported. Dehqan Dehnavi is also expected to meet with Chinese officials and companies to discuss the obstacles Iranian companies face in exporting to China, and explore ways to overcome them. The CIIE is a trade fair that



has annually been held in Shanghai, China, since 2018. The event is the first expo in the world at the national level with the sub-joint of imports.

Various exhibitors from different businesses and countries participate in the expo. The formation of the China International Import Expo was personally proposed, promoted and directed by the current Chinese President Xi Jinping.

The exhibition is jointly organized by the Ministry of Commerce of China and the Shanghai Municipal

People's Government. The partners of the CIIE include the World Trade Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization. The purpose of the CIIE is to introduce China's domestic market to foreign companies and strengthen domestic consumption. The exhibition has provided a platform for the cooperation of rich and poor countries as well as small and large economies in the form of win-win cooperation.

## Iranian islands being ...

The most important objective of the plan was to create two independent countries, with Iran being the most significant opponent. As Iran seriously opposed it, the UAE became more hostile toward Iran. However, it was significant that the UAE was able to gain support from China and Russia for its claims just after April 14, 2024 – when Iran launched missiles and drones in its first direct attack on Israel – but this was the first time it received support from the EU. It seems that because the EU was disappointed with

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the cessation of military conflict against Israel by Iran, it decided to design a new scenario. Since the world witnessed huge support for the Palestinian people in the streets of Europe, creating a new psychological conflict for Iran by raising illusory questions in the minds of the masses became the focus of the mission. The goal was clear: they tried to send the message to the world that despite confronting the occupying regime of Israel in Palestine, Iran itself is an occupying country and behaves with hypocrisy and double standards in international relations.

The scenario has another key element that is Benjamin Netanyahu. The Israeli prime minister has changed his strategy from gaining the support of nations to gaining the support of governments. It seems that Netanyahu's attempts for a direct military conflict with Iran require the withdrawal of the Europeans from the scene where the level of support for Israel has greatly decreased and has even led to criticism of its performance in the one-year war in the Gaza Strip. In order to prove that they are still with Israel and

not with Netanyahu, the Europeans have opened a new front against Israel's archenemy, Iran. This plan has supporters even within the Biden administration. For further explanation, here is Michael Doran's opinion from the Hudson Institute panel. "It's really quite striking what we haven't seen from the administration, which is a global attempt to hold Iran accountable in any way for this multi-theater war that it has orchestrated, or to isolate Iran in any way. But there is an effort by the administration going on to isolate the Israel-

li right, which we see in a number of different ways, including the sanctions that they're putting on the Israeli right, but also just the public messaging. They're doing with this policy, they would say, 'We are preserving the two-state solution. The war is endangering the possibility of a two-state solution.'"

In summation, Iran leads the axis of resistance in the region against a two-state solution to the Palestinian issue. Consequently, the dangerous situation in the region created a good opportunity for the UAE to raise its territorial griev-

ances with Iran to higher levels and to attract more support from international powers.

However, while the EU positions itself as a key actor in the Middle East's geopolitical landscape, it is looking for a loophole to prevent further support for Israel due to the condemnation of the masses in its own nation. While Netanyahu is trying to expand the military conflict in the region, on the other hand, the EU is creating of a new political front with Iran as a solution to control the support demands made by Netanyahu.