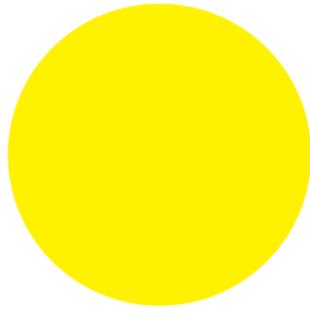


Iran's gas output jumped by 30 mcm in 100 days: **NIOC**



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Zionism 'gravest threat' to dignity of Jewish people: **Zarif**

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US Advised to Adopt 'Maximum Rationality' Rather Than 'Maximum Pressure': **Araghchi**

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi (r) and his Syrian counterpart Bassam al-Sabbagh hold a joint press conference in Tehran, Iran, on November 19, 2024. **FARS**



Pure truths in Zarif's message

By Homayoun Sameh Yah
Iranian Jewish MP

OPINION EXCLUSIVE

In a video message to the world's Jewish community, Mohammad Javad Zarif, Iran's former foreign minister and current vice president, has hit the nail on the head by emphasizing that there is a stark distinction between Zionism and Judaism. Zarif has also pointed out that the actions taken by the Israeli regime against the Palestinian people over the past seven decades under Zionism have no bearing on the teachings of Judaism, particularly the Ten Commandments of Moses. The Iranian Jewish community has consistently taken a similar stance. In the past, the late founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran Ayatollah Khomeini also drew a line between Zionism and Judaism, and the current leader of the Islamic Republic Ayatollah Khamenei holds the same view. It is a harsh reality that the Israeli regime has been exploiting Jewish teachings to further its own political interests. The slaughter of innocent people in the Gaza Strip and Lebanon over the past year, which has been a thorn in the side of freedom-loving individuals worldwide, has no connection to the teachings of Judaism, which is a religion of peace.

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Decreasing age of onset for heart disease raises concerns

Although heart disease usually strikes women 10 years later than men, its onset is becoming increasingly common at a younger age in this country, said Head of the 8th International Iranian Heart Failure in Iran, Babak Sharif-Kashani, a cardiologist and faculty member at Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences.

EXCLUSIVE

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Gov't measures on oil, macroeconomics

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Roster revolution: Iran basketball coach Manolopoulos eyes fresh blood

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Germany, US on collision course in Trumpian era

By Abed Akbari
International affairs expert

OPINION EXCLUSIVE

Trump's victory signifies increased defense spending and security pressures for Europe. Simultaneously, it will also impose greater economic strain on Germany. Germany's situation is expected to deteriorate more sharply compared to France under a Trump presidency. As Europe's economic powerhouse post-Brexit, Germany faces significant challenges against Trump, the "tariff man." Even if US consumers bear the brunt of tariffs—a tax imposed on foreign goods upon entry—and German-European goods continue to sell in the US, the mere existence of tariffs constricts markets. Meanwhile, Germany's economy, heavily reliant on exports, holds a substantial trade surplus with the US. In 2023, Germany recorded a €63.3 billion trade surplus with the US, with a tenth of its exports valued at €157.9 billion going to America. The economic impact of Trump's tariffs on Germany is projected to amount to 1% of its GDP, negatively affecting future growth as well.

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Energy Ministry seeking to diversify Iran's energy portfolio

Economy Desk

Over 4 billion cubic meters less natural gas were allocated to Iranian power plants compared to last year, according to the spokesperson for the electricity industry, who outlined the Ministry of Energy's initiatives to diversify the country's energy portfolio, ILNA reported.

Mostafa Rajabi-Mashhadi noted that 90 percent of the country's electricity is generated by thermal power plants as diesel has been used as an alternative fuel for gas, ILNA reported. He added that using mazut at plants such as Shazand, Shahid Montazeri, and Montazer Ghaem—each with about 37 percent efficiency—has led to serious environmental problems, demanding a gas-only fuel supply for these facilities.

"What can help the power industry is prioritizing fuel supply for power plants, particularly natural gas. Additionally, we hope that consumers will save 10 percent in gas and electricity usage to get through this period well," he added. Rajabi-Mashhadi emphasized that while mazut accounts for 7 percent of all pollution, most emissions come from the transportation sector. He said the Energy Ministry can make "dynamic decisions" about using gas or fuel oil based on environmental and fuel availability conditions.

"The electricity generation mix should be diversified," he said, highlighting accelerated plans to expand renewable energy. "In the Seventh Development Plan, the renewable energy target is set at 12,000 megawatts."

Talking on power plants for industries with the capacity of over one megawatt, he pointed out that energy-intensive industries should build at least 10,000 megawatts of power capacity. He assured that electricity generated by these plants will be supplied to them by the Ministry of Energy.

The official went on to say that if industries establish power plants, Tavanir and the Energy Ministry will ensure the delivery of that electricity, exempting them from load management programs proportional. Rajabi-Mashhadi also noted that effective coordination exists between the government and the Ministry of Energy. "A taskforce comprising representatives from the Ministries of Oil, Energy, Mines and Mining Industries Development and Renovation Organization (IMIDRO), the Department of Environment, and other related bodies has been formed and meets regularly to address or mitigate energy challenges."

Iran's gas output jumped by 30 mcm in 100 days: **NIOC**

Economy Desk

The managing director of the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) announced that gas production in Iran has increased by approximately 30 million cubic meters since the start of President Masoud Pezeshkian's administration (July 30).

According to Shana, Hamid Bovard highlighted the complexity of gas production processes and stated, "NIOC is responsible for upstream gas production, and through our measures, we've managed to boost gas output."

"By bringing new wells online since the beginning of the 14th administration, we have added about 30 million cubic meters to the country's gas production," he said.

The official also pointed

to the early onset of cold weather this fall, explaining that "each one-degree drop in temperature adds nearly 25 million cubic meters to gas consumption, highlighting inefficient gas usage."

Bovard assured that all maintenance plans have been completed, and NIOC is committed to maximizing gas production. "We have no concerns about maintaining maximum gas production through the end of the year. However, we ask the public to conserve gas. In previous years, high consumption caused supply issues in some northern and north-eastern cities," he said.

He added that if people reduce gas consumption by just 10 percent, Iran can better manage the cold season and ensure adequate supply for industries



and power plants. The NIOC head concluded by emphasizing the high

level of gas production in Iran, which exceeds one billion cubic meters

per day. "Although we are among the world's top three gas producers, exces-

sive consumption continues to create supply challenges in some sectors."

Tehran-Caracas history facilitated finalization of nearly 300 deals: **Venezuela FM**

The Venezuelan foreign minister highlighted the historical ties between his country and Iran, stressing that this cooperation has paved the way for the Latin American state to finalize 298 agreements.

Yvan Gil Pinto made the remarks in a social media post on Tuesday while referring to the 10th Venezuela-Iran Intergovernmental Committee meeting in the capital Caracas, IRNA reported. He stated that he attended the committee meeting on behalf of Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro with the participation of Iran's Ambassador to Caracas Hojatollah Soltani.

In his remarks, the Venezuelan foreign minister said the aim of holding the 10th joint committee was the strengthening of friendship and cooperation between the two nations which are united in their fight against the



West's coercive measures.

The 1979 Islamic Revolution in Iran and the 1999 Bolivarian Revolution in Venezuela have solidified the ties between the two sides.

Venezuela and Iran continue development of cooperation during the 10th commission meeting, Gil noted.

He emphasized that during the past two years, Venezuela and Iran signed 80 agreements on cooperation; and the presidents of the two countries travelled to the respective states in 2022 and 2023.

Venezuela is proud to

have a partner, friend, and brother like Iran, he stressed.

The 10th Venezuela-Iran Intergovernmental Committee meeting was held in Caracas on Monday to review promotion of strategic relations.

The two countries have already signed several documents on bilateral cooperation in the fields of culture, trade, technology, science, gas, petrochemicals, oil and agriculture.

During Maduro's visit to Iran in June, 2022, Tehran and Caracas signed a document on a 20-year strategic cooperation agreement.

Hemmati: Internet-based businesses beset by huge losses due to filtering

Economy Desk

Abdolnaser Hemmati, the Iranian economy minister, elaborated on his reasons for supporting the lifting of Internet filtering in a post on the social media platform X (formerly Twitter), saying that Internet-based businesses suffer enormous losses due to filtering.

He wrote that 80 percent of Iranian people use virtual private networks (VPNs), and the restrictions have caused tens of thousands of billions of tomans in loss to online businesses, ILNA reported on Tuesday.

He wrote in a Persian-language post on X, "Why do I, as the Minister of Economy, advocate for lifting the restrictions on Internet access?"

He added, "There is no doubt that cyberspace in the country needs to be managed wisely, but censorship is by no means a



prudent way to manage it."

Asking as to why censorship is not wise, Hemmati responded in the post that 80 percent of our people use VPNs, creating a massive black market in the national economy under the label of VPN sales, which, according to some reports, rivals the country's official communications economy.

The damage inflicted on online businesses amounts to tens of thousands of billions

of tomans, affecting the livelihoods, incomes, and services of significant groups of people who rely on social media platforms, he noted.

Stressing that filtering poses a serious threat to the security of the digital economy, endangering the country's Internet infrastructure, Hemmati said, "Restricting people's legitimate freedoms negatively impacts the country's progress and development. Thus, censorship acts as a barrier to national advancement."

Germany, US on ...

The German economy is simultaneously grappling with domestic political instability caused by the collapse of the coalition government and anticipated early elections in 2025, alongside the economic repercussions of the Ukraine war. The upcoming elections imply prolonged coalition negotiations and increased public expenditure. Additionally, the end of access to cheap Russian oil and a decline in exports to China have disrupted Germany's economic model, plunging the nation into its second consecutive year of recession. Amidst these multifaceted pressures, Germany is no longer capable of decisively leading Europe in today's chaotic global

security landscape.

On the domestic security front, Germany faces internal terror and chaos. Border controls within the Schengen Zone have become increasingly challenging, and Germany's internal security is deteriorating amid the growing influence of populist and anti-European parties opposed to immigration and support for Ukraine. These factors make forming stable regional security alliances or partnerships increasingly difficult.

The state of Germany's domestic politics reflects a clear picture of the severe decline of European democracies. A single event, such as the Ukraine war, has imposed both economic and political costs on Germany. The collapse of the

traffic light coalition has been a disillusionment for those who believed in a progressive alliance between market advocates, green energy proponents, and social justice supporters. Half of Germany's internal political disputes have revolved around disagreements on its role or approach in the Ukraine war.

At the European level, under the shadow of the Ukraine war, Germany faces a fractured and alarmed bloc. Trump's victory would further amplify illiberal stances akin to those of Hungary's Viktor Orbán. In the recent European leaders' summit in Budapest, discussions on the Ukraine war, migration, and Trump's second-term plans took center stage. Not only did

Orbán, by hosting the meeting, hold sway over forty European leaders, but the discussions also seemed to favor his and Trump's divisive agenda for Europe. According to Orbán, "The world is changing faster than we imagined... It's evident that the number of peace supporters (those advocating for concessions to Russia in the Ukraine war) is growing, and with the US elections, the peace camp will multiply."

Orbán, who abstained from providing military aid to Ukraine during the war, is inclined toward a resolution similar to Russia's terms—a scenario disastrous for both Europe and Hungary itself. Ukraine's exclusion from NATO would mean a lack of security guarantees, sig-

nificantly increasing Europe's future risks. A swift peace settlement proposed by Russia would not only undermine Ukraine's sovereignty and independence but also devastate Europe's autonomy and security.

Germany, amid its domestic challenges, failed to perform effectively during the European Political Community Summit at Puskás Arena, further demonstrating its lost leadership role in Europe. Germany's relations with the US have historically been rooted in economic ties. However, under Trump's restrictive economic policies, it will take years—and a significant change in leadership styles—to restore German-American relations to their former state.



Elevating pomegranates as a cultural icon

Iranica Desk

Iran is the birthplace of the pomegranate, and each year, dozens of festivals and exhibitions coincide with the pomegranate harvest in the country's production regions. One notable event is the Third Festival of Pomegranates Production and Export, which recently celebrated a week of festivities in Saveh, Iran's pomegranate hub.

Given Iran's significant production capacity and its status as the origin of this valuable fruit, there is a strong potential for the country to dominate the global pomegranate market and its products. To capitalize on this opportunity, international events and festivals should be organized in Iran, positioning the country as a gateway for pomegranates and related products, including food, medicinal, cosmetic, and hygiene items, to enter global markets, ISNA wrote.

Saeed Beigzadeh, the deputy head of the Arak Chamber of Commerce, Industries, and Mines for international and executive affairs, emphasized the need to accurately showcase the potential of Markazi Province in industry, mining, and agriculture — an area that has not been sufficiently addressed and often overlooked.

He pointed out that while the province's industrial and mining capabilities have been discussed extensively, agriculture has not received the attention it deserves.

Beigzadeh noted that pomegranates are cultivated in cities



like Saveh, Mahalat, Delijan, and Tafresh, asserting that the taste and quality of Saveh pomegranates are unmatched, earning global recognition.

However, he raised the important question of how much effort has been made to promote pomegranates as a flagship product of Saveh. Notably, many foreign ambassadors are not unaware that Saveh is the birthplace of the pomegranate, highlighting a significant shortcoming in promoting the region's agricultural assets and capabilities.

He emphasized the importance of utilizing all media and informational tools to promote Saveh pomegranates as a symbol of the region, stating that if this unique, high-quality product is effectively introduced and branded, other countries will not be able to claim this identity.

Regarding the pomegranate festival, Beigzadeh pointed out that the National Pomegranate Festival has been held in Saveh



for three consecutive years. However, he expressed concern that there are inadequate infrastructures for hosting this national event, and proper expert planning is lacking to ensure its success.

Beigzadeh said that in the past three years, meetings have been organized to establish various committees and define their responsibilities as the festival approaches, with coordination efforts made about a month



Last year, trade delegations from countries such as Serbia, Ghana, Somalia, and Turkey visited Markazi Province, and we are currently negotiating with Oman for a visit to the province to explore its existing capacities. Therefore, sanctions do not pose an obstacle to the private sector. If we start envisioning next year's festival now and take a program-oriented approach, we will be successful in organizing any event at any level; otherwise, bringing up issues like sanctions is merely an excuse."

He mentioned that Saveh pomegranates are currently exported to countries including Germany, the Persian Gulf states, Russia, Japan, the European Union, South Korea, Turkey, Iraq, Armenia, Italy, Oman, the UAE, Qatar, Pakistan, Kuwait, Kazakhstan, and others.

"Given that the market for Saveh pomegranates is clearly defined, we should strengthen our connections with these countries right now and lever-

age the resources of the Arak Chamber of Commerce to create the groundwork for hosting an international festival. The Chamber of Commerce can actively engage in these matters, and there are no obstacles to doing so, but the potential of this private sector is not being utilized," he said.

Seyyed Mostafa Fatemi, director general of Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicraft Ministry's Domestic Tourism Department, said that international festivals have great potential for attracting foreign tourists, especially if they focus on food, agricultural products, and culture. From this perspective, the importance of hosting an international festival for a prominent product like the pomegranate can be highlighted.

He noted that the pomegranate has been valued in Iranian culture and history for centuries, with representations of this significance found in the bas-reliefs of Persepolis and in artifacts from the Median, Parthian, Sassanid, and Islamic periods.

Fatemi mentioned that along the Silk Road, the pomegranate was regarded as an important fruit, although its primary origin is the Zagros Mountain regions of Iran. He added that this heavenly fruit has been produced in the fringes of the Zagros Mountains and throughout history, the best quality pomegranates have been cultivated in Iran and exported to various parts of the world, where they have always been highly regarded.

[tabnakir](#)

beforehand. Unfortunately, the results have not been impactful, and the organizers tend to focus solely on holding the festival. It is essential to not only aim for quality but also to set specific objectives and define achievements for a national event. "Sanctions cannot prevent the holding of an international festival because there are no barriers for the private sector.

Evolution of Qajar Palace from royal residence to prison, museum



During the Qajar period, a significant building known as Qasr-e Qajar (Qajar Palace) was constructed in Tehran. As one of the oldest palaces from this era, it has a fascinating history. Under the reign of Reza Shah Pahlavi, the palace fell into disrepair and was converted

into a prison. Today, this former palace and prison has been transformed into the Qasr Garden Museum.

A notable part of the Qasr Garden Museum is Markov's Prison, established following the 1920 coup. Reza Khan commissioned Russian architect Nico-



lai Markov to assess the conditions and select a suitable site for a new prison, ultimately choosing the Qajar palace. Qasr Prison was officially established in 1929.

Three decades after the victory of Islamic Revolution, Qasr Prison ceased

operations as a prison. In 2012, it was repurposed into the Qasr Museum Garden, which features various sections. One notable area is the political museum, where visitors can explore the history of the Islamic Revolution.

[visitiran.ir](#)

Exhibits and facilities

The Markov Museum, another section of the Qasr Museum, includes a center for historical documents, photographs, artifacts, a gallery café, a conference hall, and an exhibition gallery. The Farrokhi Yazdi Conference Hall hosts various events, including conferences, music performances, and theater productions.

Niayeshgah is another intriguing part of the museum, showcasing some of the courts held during the early days of the Islamic Revolution. Additional attractions include the monitoring tower, Sarvestan (cedar field), and a Persian garden.

To enhance the visitor experience, Qasr Museum offers audio features that provide recorded sounds reminiscent of the prison atmosphere of that time. The museum's installations facilitate a deeper understanding of its historical significance.



Rise in crude production

Iran's crude oil production in September was 3.327 million barrels per day (bpd), a 28,000 bpd increase over August production levels, according to data released by OPEC. The country's crude oil output for August was 3.299 million bpd.



Iran oil prices up in global markets

Iranian Heavy Crude Oil price in September

\$73.53

Iranian Heavy Crude Oil price in October

\$74.06

Rise in crude exports

Iran's oil sales reached an average of 2.2 million bpd in September, setting a record high since the second round of sanctions was imposed. The daily oil exports of the country average around 1.5 million barrels in 2024.

2.2m bpd

Hike in crude exports

Expansion of Shazand Refinery's capacity
Shazand Refinery's refining capacity increased from 170,000 bpd to 250,000 bpd in 100 days.

170,000

250,000

Increased residential, industrial gas supply

The volume of gas supplied for residential and small industrial sectors in Iran has increased from 374 million cubic meters per day in November of last year to 439 mcm per day in recent days.

374mcm

439mcm

Key measures taken by Oil Ministry in first 100 days of new gov't



By Beza
Alesh Ahmadlou
Staff writer

The new Oil Minister of Iran, Mohsen Paknejad, has outlined a number of plans

for the country's oil sector. Among the plans, he has stated that the ministry will focus on increasing oil production and exports, as well as promoting investments in the oil and gas industry. He has also promised to reform the subsidy plan for gasoline and diesel. The minister has emphasized the need to attract foreign investment, and has stated that the ministry will work to create a more favorable investment climate for international companies.



Reduced discount on exported oil to China

From \$6 per barrel to \$4.5

Higher gasoline production in refineries

From August 22 to November 5, the country witnessed an increase in the production of gasoline in its refineries as the daily production of gasoline increased from 112 million liters in the last days of the previous administration to 125 million liters per day. The daily production of gasoline in Persian Gulf Star Refinery increased by 4 million liters, Tehran Refinery by 2 million liters, Isfahan Refinery by 2 million liters, and Tabriz Refinery by 500,000 liters per day.

112 million liters

125

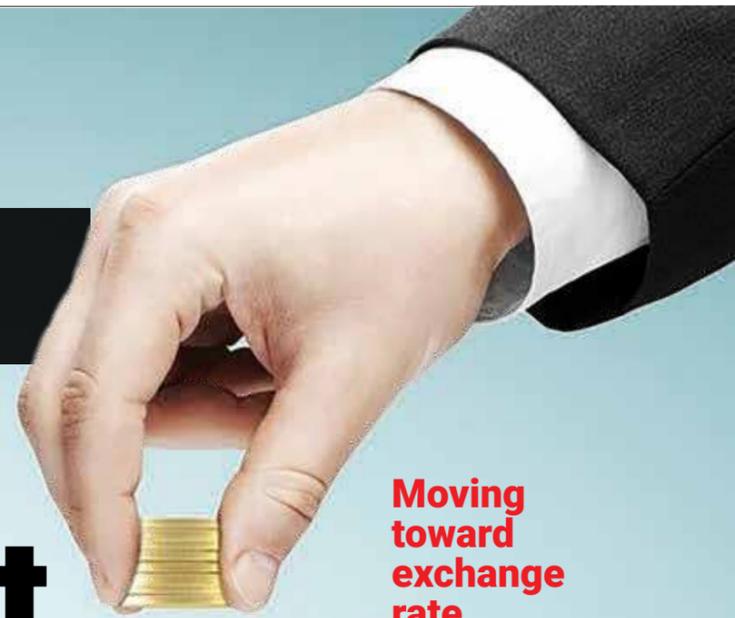
 million liters

Surge in gasoline distribution

The average daily distribution of gasoline in Iran has reached 126 million liters since October 22, while the corresponding figure for the last year was 116 million liters.



Main macroeconomics measures by Pezeshkian gov't



Moving toward exchange rate unification:

The government's plan is to narrow the gap between the official exchange rate and the free market rate of the US dollar in order to reduce inflation, boost exports and curb smuggling.

Economy Desk Drafting the budget bill for next Iranian year of 1404 is a turning point that, if approved by the Parliament and implemented, can create a solid foundation for sustainable economic development.



\$3 billion

Payment of 2 quadrillion rials (\$3 billion) to Social Security Organization: This amount is allocated to stabilize the resources of the Social Security Organization Fund as well as eliminate financial imbalances in the fund.



Doubling tax exemption ceiling for business owners and salaried employees



28-39%

Proposed 28-39% jump in pensions and salaries to workers and retirees in budget bill

Non-inflationary financing through the issuance of certified bonds for making productive worth 1 quadrillion rials (\$1.5 billion) and LCs with a total value of 8 quadrillion rials (\$12 billion)

\$3 billion

Payment of 2 quadrillion rials (\$3 billion) to banks: This payment is intended to alleviate the financial woes of banks and improve their capital status.

5%

5% reduction in taxes for TSE-listed manufacturing companies



Continuation of allocation of subsidized forex for imports of basic goods, medicine, and medical equipment with a budget of \$12 billion

\$12.8 billion

Adjustment of payments to retirees of the Social Security Organization: Implementation of the first phase of the adjustment with a budget of 87 quadrillion rials (\$12.8 billion) from November of this year.

Support for small enterprises through increasing the tax exemption which can reduce the financial burden on small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)

More supports on meeting basic needs: This measure helps to ensure that the basic needs of the people are met and prevents price increases

Production stimulation: Reducing taxes can help manufacturing companies reduce their costs, enabling them to enhance production



Roster revolution: Iran basketball coach Manolopoulos eyes fresh blood

Sports Desk

Sotiris Manolopoulos, the new head coach of Iran basketball national team, says he will be looking to implement a "change of generation" with roster selection as he prepares his side for the upcoming FIBA Asia Cup qualifiers.

Appointed to the role in August, the Greek coach will be in charge of a first game on Iran bench against Kazakhstan in Tehran.

Iran will then visit Doha to square off against Qatar on Monday in the second window of the qualifiers in Group E.

Asked about his approach to team selection in a press conference, the 54-year-old said: "I think we all know what we have to do. There are no players like Hamed Haddadi in the Iranian team anymore, but we have young talents who could build the future of the team."

"We have to play with a different philosophy, and the same kind of mindset that saw Iranian basketball succeed a decade ago. We need to adopt a team-oriented approach, just like European teams do, rather than being over-reliant on individuals," added Manolopoulos, who also worked as a head coach and assistant with the national team in his home country two years ago. "From my previous experience in the [qualification] windows with the Greek national team, I decide [which player to pick] at the last moment, because I want to give everybody a chance to prove himself. At the end of the day, the selection has to do with the ability, but also with chemistry. Chemistry is a very important part when you are trying to make a team, as individual characteristics [of the players] must match with each other."

Speaking of his coaching style,

Manolopoulos said: "Basically, I'm a defensive coach. I rely a lot on defense and this is where I try to push my players on. I'm a defensive coach who likes the talented offensive players to put their talent on the court according to team rules."

"Regarding our short-term goals in the upcoming two games, and maybe the next window in February, we will try to rely mostly on defense, because my philosophy is that you win big games with good defending. That is how the players' attitude will have to be towards the games ahead of us."

Manolopoulos said he did not have much to do with the team selection for the first training camp in August as it started only three days after he signed his contract with the Iranian Basketball Federation.

"Of course, I had my opinion because I watched Iran's games in [last year's] World Championship and the Asian Games in China, but the technical committee had to help me [with selecting the squad] and based on the fact that we wanted to start a change of generation, we called up some young players for our first camp in August. I watched a lot of league games for the current training camp. There are two important factors for selecting a player: First of all, you have to be 100% healthy and then you have to be on a game rhythm, because it might be a problem if you haven't played for long or you don't get much game time with your club."

On the Iranian team's weak spot in recent major tournaments, the Greek said: "When I started watching Iran's games, the first thing I noticed was the high number of turnovers. Turnovers and transition defense are big parts of the game that we must improve. I believe that's about



FIBA

the way these players have learned to play the game. From the very first day, I tried to make them understand that a turnover is probably the worst thing you can do in basketball."

"I tell the players: 'Don't watch NBA', because the NBA is a completely different league with completely different players, and I tell them not to watch the league because 'you cannot be like them.' You cannot find the players with the size of those in NBA – in terms of how big and athletic they are – and the conditions [in which] they learn the game anywhere else in the

world. So, try to learn a game that is closer to what you can do. In the NBA, you have 100 offenses in every game, so maybe one turnover is not a big deal. But the way we play, in Europe and most of the other countries, where we don't have this high number of offenses, one turnover is very important. The first thing the players will have to understand is that turning the ball over is very serious. I might put a lot of pressure on them and they will be afraid of passing the ball to avoid a turnover, but it's a process."

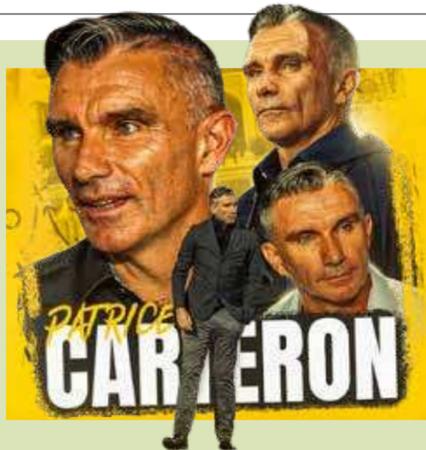
"We also have to correct the

spacing and passing [in the Iranian team]. I have been watching some under-16 tournaments, and the Iranian B team, which includes younger players. We can find tall guys, athletic guys, we can find guys that can really shoot the ball, and dribble. What we are missing, specially in the young ages, are good creators, and good passers with good decision-making."

"The young generation watch LeBron James and want to dunk the ball like him, but most likely they won't become like him. They watch Steph Curry and how he shoots the ball, and ev-

erybody wants to be like him. What you can learn from Steph Curry is how to move without the ball to find space for shooting. I tell the players to watch the San Antonio Spurs as they probably have the best passing game in the world, and that is how we need to play. We need to make it a more team-oriented game."

Iran sits atop Group E of the Asia Cup qualifiers with two wins in two, and another two victories against Kazakhstan and Qatar will secure a place for the three-time champion in next August's showcase in Saudi Arabia.



Sepahan names Frenchman Carteron as new manager

Sports Desk

French coach Patrice Carteron was appointed as the new manager of Sepahan, the Persian Gulf Pro League leader announced. The Frenchman, 54, replaces Portuguese Jose Morais, who stepped down from his role after a 1-0 victory over Irilco in the

Iranian top flight on November 3.

Morais's number two Hugo Almeida took the interim role after his fellow-Portuguese's departure and led Sepahan to a 3-1 victory over Sharjah FC in the AFC Champions League Two, before a 1-1 home draw against Nassaji Mazandaran in the domes-

tic league.

A former head coach of Saudi outfits Al Nassr, Al Taawoun, and Al Ettifaq, Carteron was last in charge of Umm Salal in the Qatar Stars League, leading the team to a seventh-place finish in the 12-team table last season, before parting ways with the club following a 3-0 loss to Al Wakrah

SC – a fourth defeat in nine games in the current campaign – earlier in the month.

Carteron was also the head coach of TP Mazembe when the Congolese club lifted the CAF Champions League in 2015.

An Egyptian Premier League winner with Zamalek in 2021, Carteron

steered Mali to the third place in the 2012 Africa Cup of Nations, courtesy of a 2-0 win against Ghana.

The Frenchman's first game on Sepahan bench will come against Pars Jonoubi Jam in the Iranian domestic cup on Friday – followed by an ACL Two encounter with Al Wehdah of Jordan on Tuesday.

Federer pens tribute to retiring Nadal

REUTERS – Roger Federer paid tribute to his retiring rival Rafa Nadal on Tuesday, telling the Spaniard he challenged him like no other player and that he had made the tennis world proud during a glittering career lasting over two decades. Nadal is part of the Spain side that began their Davis Cup campaign against the Netherlands later on Tuesday, with the injury-plagued 22-times Grand Slam champion set to call time on his career after the team competition in Malaga. Federer, who was part of the "Big Three" of men's tennis

alongside Nadal and Novak Djokovic, posted a letter, opens new tab on X looking back at his rivalry with the 38-year-old.

"Let's start with the obvious: you beat me – a lot. More than I managed to beat you. You challenged me in ways no one else could," Federer said of Nadal, who edged their rivalry 24-16. "On clay, it felt like I was stepping into your backyard, and you made me work harder than I ever thought I could just to hold my ground."

"You made me re-imagine my game – even going so far as to

change the size of my racket head, hoping for any edge."

Federer, who won 20 Grand Slam titles before retiring in 2022, also poked fun at Nadal's court-side quirks.

"I'm not a very superstitious person, but you took it to the next level," Federer added. "All those rituals. Assembling your water bottles like toy soldiers in formation, fixing your hair, adjusting your underwear ... all of it with the highest intensity."

"Secretly, I kind of loved the whole thing. Because it was so unique – it was so you. And you

know what, Rafa, you made me enjoy the game even more."

Nadal was by Federer's side in the Swiss great's final event when they played doubles for Team Europe at the Laver Cup in 2022, with images of the pair crying together going viral on social media.

"It meant everything to me that you were there by my side – not as my rival but as my doubles partner," Federer added.

"Sharing the court with you that night, and sharing those tears, will forever be one of the most special moments of my career."



REUTERS

US advised to adopt 'maximum rationality' rather than 'maximum pressure': Araghchi



Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi (R) welcomes his Syrian counterpart Bassam al-Sabbagh ahead of a meeting in Tehran, Iran on November 19, 2024. ● AFP

sure against Iran after he announced the withdrawal of the US from the 2015 Iran nuclear agreement in 2018. The campaign was aimed at pressuring Iran to renegotiate the nuclear deal, adding more restrictions on Iran's nuclear program and expanding the scope of the agreement to cover Iran's ballistic missiles as well as other regional activities. People familiar with Trump's thinking have recently said that his administration would try to "bankrupt" Iran to force the Islamic Republic into talks.

Response to Israel's strike

The top Iranian diplomat in a separate meeting on Tuesday, reiterated that

Iran has not foregone its right to respond to the Israeli regime's most recent act of aggression, emphasizing that Tehran will decide when to carry out the retaliatory operation.

"We have not renounced our right to react [to Israel] and will show a reaction in due time and in a manner, we deem appropriate," Araghchi said.

Araghchi said that the Foreign Ministry would never take knee-jerk decisions, saying Iran has already given a response after considering the overall conditions as well as probabilities and plots that may have been hatched against Iran, so that it could prevent the spillover of war.

In the early hours of October 26, Israeli warplanes used US-controlled airspace over Iraq to fire projectiles at military installations in Iran's Tehran, Khuzestan, and Ilam provinces in flagrant breach of the country's national sovereignty.



Zionism 'gravest threat' to dignity of Jewish people: Zarif

International Desk

Iran's Vice President for Strategic Affairs Mohammad Javad Zarif said Zionism [being practiced by the Israeli regime] is the "gravest threat" to the dignity and security of the Jewish people.

"Aggressive Zionism is nothing but an expansionist secular movement, deceitfully using Judaism to advance its colonial and racist agenda. It abuses the memories and blood of Jewish victims of the Holocaust who perished during World War II, while Zionism itself is nothing but racism, chauvinism, militarism, terrorism, expansionism, apartheid, and hatred against other nations and religions", Zarif said in a rare video message directed at Jewish people across the world.

He said that the Zionism "uses the name of the Lord in vain to justify genocide, adding that the Jewish people are the victims of Zionist assault on their faith and identity. Referring to Israel's ongoing genocidal wars against Palestinians and Lebanese, the Iranian official said Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu along with his Western supporters, "have unleashed the machinery of death and destruction in the region, causing carnage and crimes against humanity in a genocidal campaign that has murdered over 50,000 civilians, including over 10,000 children."

Zarif also accused Netanyahu of killing the 2015 Iran nuclear deal which he said could have been the foundation of a new era of peace, tranquility and regional cooperation.

International Desk
Iran's foreign minister advised the US to adopt the policy of "maximum rationality" instead of "maximum pressure" as the new government in Washington will take office in January. "As they admitted before,

we have defeated the maximum pressure," Abbas Araghchi said during a joint press conference with visiting Syrian counterpart Bassam al-Sabbagh. "Whenever, they have adopted a policy of maximum pressure, we have also adopted a policy of maximum

resistance," Araghchi added. "We advise them to adopt the policy of maximum rationality instead of maximum pressure. So, they will probably get a different result." US President-elect Donald Trump adopted the strategy of the maximum pres-

'Progress' made in cease-fire efforts in Lebanon: Officials

International Desk
Officials mediating between Israel and Lebanon's Hezbollah movement on Tuesday hinted at progress in diplomatic efforts to secure a cease-fire in Lebanon. US special envoy Amos Hochstein said during a visit to Beirut on Tuesday that an end to the Israel-Hezbollah war was "now within our grasp" as he met with officials to discuss a truce plan. The United States and France have spearheaded efforts for a cease-fire in the conflict, which escalated in late September after nearly a year of deadly exchanges of fire between Hezbollah and Israel. Israel's attacks on Lebanon have killed more than 3,500 people. Following a meeting on Tuesday with Lebanese



Parliament speaker Nabih Berri, who has led mediation on behalf of the resistance group, Hochstein told reporters he saw "a real opportunity" to end the fighting. "I'm here in Beirut to facilitate that decision, but it's ultimately the decision of the parties... It is now within our grasp," he added. A Lebanese official said Monday that his government had "a very positive

view" of the truce plan, while another said Lebanon had been waiting for Hochstein "so we can review certain outstanding points with him." Israeli Energy Minister Eli Cohen said on Tuesday that, "There are talks regarding an arrangement with Lebanon" but reiterated that, "Israel would agree only if all its demands were met, including pushing Hezbollah away from the border."

Iran: EU, UK's new sanctions 'systematic human rights violations'

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman said the fresh sanctions imposed by the European Union and the United Kingdom on Iran's shipping lines constitute a clear example of systematic human rights violations. Esmail Baghaei made the comment on Tuesday, just a day after the European Commission, the EU's executive arm, imposed sanctions on the Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Lines (IRISL), its director Mohammad Reza Khiabani, and several other entities and individuals, Press TV reported. Furthermore, Britain also said on Monday that Iran's national airline, Iran Air, and IRISL would face an asset freeze. The EU and the UK's new sanctions are based on claims that Iran Air and IRISL are purportedly being used by the Islamic Republic to supply drones, ballistic missiles and related technologies and components to Russia for use in the war against Ukraine, a claim that Tehran has time and again strongly rejected.



"While Ukraine's president [Volodymyr Zelenskyy] himself has admitted that no Iranian ballistic missiles have been supplied to Russia, the EU and UK's decision to impose sanctions on Iran under this pretext is entirely unjustifiable and lacks legitimacy, legal basis, or logical foundation," Baghaei stressed, once again rejecting such allegations. The sanctions come more than a month after the European bloc levied sanctions on Iran Air over the same claims.

First Announcement

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

TENDER NO.: 08-38-0040007

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

Items	Material Description	Quantity
1	STEEL CEMENTING/CIRCULATING HOSE SOURGAS SERVICE (H2S TRIM) 10000 PSI W.P. COLOR CODE: "GREEN"	6NO
2	JOINT SWIVELS LOOPS CIRCULATING/ CEMENT HOSE	12NO
3	LOOP ASSY. THREADED 2 IN. X 10 FT. FIG 602	18NO
4	CHIKSAN SWIVEL JOINT, THREAD CONNECTIONS HIGH PRESSURE 6000 PSI, CWP, COLOR CODE SILVER SIZE 2 IN. STYLE 40	12NO
5	SIZE 2 IN. STYLE 50 FIRST-7	12NO

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 10,752,000 EURO or 4,686,700,000 RIAL, in favor of NISOC. Tender documents including the materials thorough technical specifications and Qualitative Assessment Forms can be accessed via: www.nisoc.ir-material-procurement-management-tab.

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First Announcement

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NATIONAL IRANIAN SOUTH OILFIELDS COMPANY
AHVAZ-IRAN

TENDER NO.: 08-21-0340003

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

Items	Material Description	Quantity
1	CASING 7 IN., API GRADE L-80, SEAMLESS/VAM, N.VAM, THD. R-3, API 5CT/ISO11960, 29 PPF, DRIFT 6.125 IN.	5,000LE

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Tel. No.: 061 34 12 4644
Fax No.: 061 34 45 74 37

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+98 21 84711226
 208, Khorramshahr Ave., Tehran, Iran
 +98 21 88548892-5
 +98 21 88500601/irandaily@iranagahiha.com
 www.irandaily.ir/newspaperirandaily.ir
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UNICEF, Iran's Book City Institute partner to uphold children's welfare, rights

For the first time in Iran, UNICEF Iran and the Book City Institute have announced a partnership to advance the welfare and well-being of children across the country. The partnership aims to leverage the strengths, networks, and expertise of both organizations to support vulnerable children across the country. As part of this partnership, the two partners will launch a series of advocacy and awareness-raising initiatives to foster a love for reading among children. Key activities will include establishing book clubs and reading groups for vulnerable children, awarding cultural prizes to children's book authors and publishers, and mobilizing financial resources for UNICEF's programs in Iran. unicef.org reported. The City Book Institute and UNICEF Iran will also work together to promote respect for children's rights in the workplace, market, and society. Both

organizations aim to integrate best practices for advancing children's rights into their activities and services, setting an example for others to follow. The three-year cooperation agreement was signed by Monika Oldzka Nielsen, UNICEF's Acting Representative in Iran, and Mehdi Firouzan, CEO and Chairman of the Board of the City Book Institute, at a ceremony held in November 18. Through this partnership, UNICEF will strengthen its engagement with the private sector in Iran, emphasizing companies' commitment to the communities in which they operate. UNICEF will also provide businesses with opportunities to enhance their reputation, build brand trust, and boost employee and stakeholder morale. Firouzan, CEO of the City Book Institute, stated, "Collaborating with UNICEF is a great honor for me, as I have dedicated my life to promoting cultural advancement among Iranian children

and youth. This partnership will strengthen the relationships we have established with universities and cultural centers around the world over the past few years and open new doors for the City Book Institute." He added, "Our goal is to put a smile on the faces of children and youth and guide them towards achieving their dreams through books, cultural products, and activities that promote aesthetics." Monika Oldzka Nielsen noted, "We are excited about the valuable opportunity for cooperation between UNICEF Iran and the City Book Institute. We hope to utilize the City Book Institute's vast capacities and networks to convey our key messages to children and the general public. The private sector in Iran has immense potential in terms of resources, expertise, and innovation, which can contribute to UNICEF's effective results for the most vulnerable children." She emphasized, "To-



UNICEF's Acting Representative in Iran Monika Oldzka Nielsen (R) and CEO and Chairman of the Board of the City Book Institute Mehdi Firouzan (L) sign a three-year cooperation agreement in Tehran on November 18, 2024. IRNA

day, UNICEF and the City Book Institute have joined hands to enable Iranian children to live their dreams and smile."

Firouzan further added that referring to Dr. Nielsen's speech, Book City intends to put a smile on the faces of children and

adolescents and guide them towards their dreams via cultural platforms adopting aesthetic knowledge.

Decreasing age of onset for heart disease raises concerns



By Sadeq Dehqan
Staff writer

Although heart disease usually strikes women 10 years later than men, its onset is becoming increasingly common at a younger age in this country, said Head of the

8th International Iranian Heart Failure in Iran, Babak Sharif-Kashani, a cardiologist and faculty member at Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences. In an exclusive interview with Iran Daily reporter,



Sharif-Kashani explained that women who develop other risk factors, such as diabetes or high blood pressure, are just as likely to develop heart disease at a younger age as men. He added that high blood pressure, diabetes, and heart valve diseases are among the causes of heart failure, and that even some lung, kidney, and liver diseases can contribute to heart disease. The expert stressed that the most important issue in preventing heart failure is identifying and preventing the underlying causes. He noted that the causes of

heart failure vary across different age groups, with children being less likely to develop heart failure, which is often related to heart muscle problems or structural heart defects. In contrast, older adults are more likely to develop heart failure due to factors such as high blood pressure and high cholesterol. Sharif-Kashani also highlighted the significant impact of smoking on the risk of heart failure, warning that all smokers are at risk of developing heart disease. Unfortunately, the age of smoking onset has decreased in the country, and the number of smokers has increased. According to Sharif-Kashani, approximately 27 million people worldwide suffer from heart failure, a number that is expected to rise as

the global population ages. A sedentary lifestyle, high stress levels, and air pollution also contribute to the increasing risk of heart disease. The 8th International Iranian Heart Failure in Iran will be held from December 27 to 29 at Shahid Beheshti University, featuring 90 Iranian experts and 10 international speakers from Italy, France, Germany, the Persian Gulf region, Spain, Turkey, Iraq, and Hungary. They will discuss various topics related to heart failure and cardiovascular diseases. Vahid Eslami, the executive secretary of the congress, discussed the state of heart disease in Iran, stating that heart disease is the leading cause of death in the country, accounting for 40% of all deaths, up from 20% a de-

cade ago. After heart disease, road accidents and cancer are the next leading causes of death in Iran. Eslami noted that one in five Iranians dies from heart disease, with approximately 160,000 deaths per year. He warned that the cardiovascular disease starting age has decreased to 35, making it no longer a rare occurrence at this age. Regarding the decreasing age of first stroke, Eslami cautioned that approximately 40% of Iranian students are overweight or obese, increasing their risk of developing heart disease. He emphasized that this is a warning sign for the future, as these students are at a higher risk of developing heart disease and other cardiovascular conditions.



Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist



Pure truths in ...

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In addition to the Iranian Jewish community, many other Jews in Europe, America, and other parts of the world have consistently spoken out against the Zionist regime's exploitation of Moses' teachings. They even opposed the establishment of the Israeli regime from the onset. Many Jews been vocal in their opposition to the Israeli regime's atrocities in Gaza, taking to the streets in protest alongside people from other walks of life. As a prominent figure in the Islamic world and on the international stage, Zarif's message is a timely and appropriate move that is expected to resonate with peace-loving Jews worldwide. However, despite the clear distinction between Zionism and Judaism, some

officials in the Islamic Republic unfortunately fail to acknowledge this difference, instead attributing stances to Jews that are not accurate. This not only plays into the hands of the enemies of the Islamic Republic of Iran but also causes concern among Iranian Jews. As the representative of the Jewish community in the Islamic Consultative Assembly (Parliament), I would like to thank Mr. Zarif for highlighting the correct and historical facts in his message, recalling the peaceful nature of Judaism and the teachings of Moses, and acknowledging the Iranian people as a tolerant nation that supports the oppressed. He also expressed gratitude to followers of Judaism who, along with believers of other divine religions, have spoken out



against the Israeli regime's atrocities. We, the followers of Moses in Iran and other parts of the world, who do not see any bond between Zionism and Judaism, are hopeful that the Palestinian people will soon attain their rightful and historical claim and live in peace and tranquility in their ancestral land.