

NEWS IN BRIEF

Tehran,
Belgrade
stress
expansion
of economic
cooperation

Economy Desk

In a meeting between Serbia's ambassador to Iran and the Iranian minister of economy, the two sides emphasized the importance of expanding economic cooperation between Tehran and Belgrade.

Serbian Ambassador Demir Kovačević and Abdolnaser Hemmati, discussing bilateral ties, highlighted the necessity of strengthening economic relations in line with the political will of their respective countries' leaders, IRNA reported.

Kovačević underscored Belgrade's readiness to invite Iran's president and Parliament speaker to visit Serbia. He reiterated his government's strong political commitment to enhancing economic collaboration with Iran.

During the meeting, Hemmati pointed to Iran's significant investment potential, including vast mineral and energy resources as well as a skilled and educated workforce.

He described Iran as an attractive destination for Serbian investors and emphasized that during the tenure of the sitting administration, there are no obstacles to fostering bilateral ties between the two nations.

Major
projects
set for trio
Persian Gulf
islands

A senior Iranian official announced that the country has major development programs for its southern Bu Musa Island as well as the other two in the Persian Gulf.

Head of the Plan and Budget Organization (PBO) Hamid Pourmohammadi said on Tuesday that the body aims to expand its cooperation with the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) Navy and the governor of Hormuzgan Province as part of projects to develop Bu Musa, Greater Tunb, and Lesser Tunb islands in the Persian Gulf, IRNA reported.

Pourmohammadi made the remarks while visiting Bu Musa along with Brigadier General Alireza Tangsiri, commander of the IRGC Navy.

He emphasized that the development of Iran's southern islands is a key priority for the current administrative government. The official added that, by cooperating with the IRGC Navy and the governor's office of Hormuzgan Province, the PBO can more effectively contribute to development plans for the trio islands.

Gas refineries fully prepared for
stable production: **NIGC**

The director of coordination and production supervision at the National Iranian Gas Company (NIGC) announced that the country's gas refineries are fully prepared as temperatures drop nationwide and an intense cold front is expected to hit next week.

On Tuesday, Mohammadreza Julaei, speaking in a videoconference with managers of the country's gas refineries held at the South Pars Gas Complex, said, "With the arrival of the cold wave, gas refineries across the country are on full alert to ensure stable gas production," Shana reported.

He stressed the importance of maintaining optimal conditions during the remaining months of the [Iranian] year, saying, "Managers, specialists, and staff at refineries nationwide must work with precision and high capacity to ensure well-being for citizens and support the country's economic growth."

Julaei noted that on Monday, gas production commitments across the refineries were set at 845 million cubic meters, but more than 865 million cubic meters were injected into the national gas grid during the same period. "Yesterday, over 600 million cubic meters of gas were con-

A South Pars gas refinery
● SHANA

sumed in the residential and commercial sectors, as this figure is expected to rise further starting today," he added.

Processing in full swing

Gholamabbas Hosseini, the CEO of the South Pars Gas Complex,

also addressed the meeting, stating that the complex's 13 refineries are currently processing gas at maximum capacity under safe and stable conditions.

"All operational units in South Pars, both offshore and onshore,

are working tirelessly and with great dedication at one of the world's largest gas extraction and processing centers to ensure the welfare, dignity, and prosperity of the Iranian people," Hosseini said.

He highlighted the reliance on

domestic expertise and capabilities, adding, "Nearly 580 million cubic meters of gas are processed daily across the refineries of this complex. The 13 refineries are in excellent condition to meet the country's gas needs."

Iran, Russia to finalize initiative
to establish anti-sanctions union

A member of Iran-Russia Parliamentary Friendship Group announced that Iran's initiative to form an international alliance with Moscow against US sanctions is nearing completion.

Abbas Goudarzi made the remarks on the sidelines of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) hosted by Mos-

cow, in a meeting with Anatoly Vyborny, the chairman of the Expert Advisory Council under the Council of the Parliamentary Assembly of the CSTO, IRNA reported on Tuesday.

Goudarzi highlighted the importance of Iran and Russia ties for various reasons, including good neighborliness, the importance of the strategy of looking to the East and confront-

ing the unilateralism of the United States in the international arena, he added.

He described Iran and Russia's cooperation as growing and said that deepening and continuing comprehensive relations between the two countries is imperative based on mutual interests as both countries are under the cruel sanctions by the West.

Referring to the establishment of the International Union Against US Sanctions, Goudarzi said this initiative aims to neutralize the oppressive sanctions of the US, to form a new economic world without the US, and to conduct economic relations and trade without relying on the dollar.

Energy minister says 60% of
electricity lost during transmission

Economy Desk

The Iranian energy minister announced that the country ranks first globally in energy consumption intensity, with 60 percent of energy lost during transmission.

On Tuesday, Abbas Aliabadi stated that due to potential fuel shortages, 5,000 megawatts of power plants were taken offline the previous day, noting that the remaining plants are ready to generate electricity, IRNA reported.

Aliabadi emphasized that while power plants are fully prepared to produce electricity, they are facing challenges in fuel supply. He urged the public to cooperate in overcoming the hardships of the winter season.

The minister further highlighted that one of his ministry's key initiatives is creating a more



attractive business environment in the electricity production market, including paying off all debts to energy sector contractors. Aliabadi noted that combined-cycle power plants have achieved a 60 percent efficiency rate, and efficiency in other plants remains lower, necessitating efforts to improve their performance.

Renewables capacity
to hit 30,000 MW

Meanwhile on Tuesday,

the head of Iran's Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Organization (SATBA) announced plans to increase the country's renewable energy capacity to approximately 30,000 megawatts before the end of the sitting administration.

Mohsen Tarzatalab said 25,000 megawatts of this capacity would come from solar power plants, while the remaining 5,000 megawatts would be generated via wind farms.

Iran, Kyrgyzstan agree on joint logistics center in southern ports

Iran and Kyrgyzstan agreed to develop a joint logistics center in Iran's southern ports to enhance Eurasian trade.

A high-level economic delegation from Kyrgyzstan, led by the country's Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Temirbek Erkinov, met with the head of Iran's Ports and Maritime Organization Ali Akbar Safaei, IRNA reported.

During the meeting, Erki-

nov highlighted Kyrgyzstan's need for access to open seas, noting that Iranian commercial ports are vital for the landlocked nation's economic and transit cooperation with Iran.

He emphasized that talks between the two countries regarding the development of Iran's Shahid Rajaei Port for transit and investment have been ongoing for some time.

The senior Kyrgyz diplomat confirmed his country's readiness to collaborate with Iran on establishing a logistics zone at the port, which will facilitate exports, imports, and transit operations.

Speaking at the meeting, Safaei expressed strong support for any investment in Iranian ports, particularly in special economic and free trade zones.

"With the investment of the Kyrgyz private sector in the northern and southern ports of Iran, the country's traders and transit goods will enjoy appropriate discounts and facilities," he said. The delegation from Kyrgyzstan, which included senior officials from the transport, economy, and justice sectors, visited Iran for discussions on investing in logistics infrastructure to strength-



en Kyrgyzstan's position as a key partner in the region's transportation

and logistics networks and further enhance ties between the two nations.