

## Residential gas consumption exceeds 600 mcm

The spokesperson for the National Iranian Gas Company announced on Sunday that residential, commercial, and small-scale industrial gas consumption has reached 601 million cubic meters. Hassan Mousavi stated that approximately 850 million cubic meters of sweet gas were injected into the national gas network on Saturday, Shana reported.



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# Iran Decries 'Institutionalized Racism' in Annual Rights Reports on US, UK



Iran's Foreign Ministry building in the capital, Tehran  
IRNA

### International Desk

The Iranian Foreign Ministry released late on Saturday its annual reports on human rights violations by the US and the UK at both domestic and international levels, particularly focusing on women's and migrant rights as well as "institutionalized racism" in the two Western countries.

The reports — compiled in accordance with a resolution passed by Iran's Parliament in 2012 — cover rights violations by the US and the UK for 2024, citing the latest findings by UN-affiliated organizations and other valid available sources.

The report on the US said the country has leveraged human rights issue as a tool for complicity with the Israeli re-

gime in violating the rights of the Palestinian people and committing crimes to preserve apartheid Zionist system.

"The unconditional support from the US and other Western governments for the Zionist regime has turned the West Asian region into one of the most critical areas in terms of rights violations against the Palestinian people, especially women and children, as a result of the Zionist regime's wars," the report said.

"The US, through its extensive and unrestricted support for the Zionist regime, has ignored and mocked all international laws, reports, statements, and positions from human rights organizations, thereby questioning the credibility of all international human rights documents," it added.

Elsewhere in the report, the Iranian

Foreign Ministry said the US had "exponentially" increased its unilateral sanctions against countries such as Iran, Syria, Russia, North Korea, Belarus, Venezuela, Cuba, Zimbabwe, Nicaragua, etc. in recent years.

"America has committed a gross and systematic violation of human rights by unilateralism and by intensifying and accumulating economic sanctions outside the authorization of the United Nations and without legal exemptions with the aim of forcing governments to change their policies," the report added. The report on the UK pointed to continuous criticism at home and abroad over systemic racism in the European country.

"The actions and performance of the British government in terms of rights

abuses, at local and international levels, continue to be criticized by the UN human rights organizations, the Council of Europe, and human rights advocates," the report said.

"This includes criticism of systemic racial discrimination in the UK, which is one of the most frequent human rights violations in the country."

The report also said the most blatant case of rights violations by the UK is related to Palestine, adding that the country has played a direct and indirect role in committing war crimes against the Palestinian people through its military, technological and financial support for the Israeli regime.

The report cited the British government's issuing "more than 100 arms export licenses" to the Israeli regime

since October 7, 2023, when Tel Aviv launched the war that has so far claimed the lives of more than 44,900 Palestinians, mostly women and children.

The ministry considered London to be an "accomplice" in the Israeli atrocities in light of the military support, saying the support came despite the catastrophic situation in Gaza and the International Court of Justice's recent call on the regime to "immediately halt its military offensive."

It also highlighted the British mission to the United Nations' vetoing the resolutions that had been tabled at the world body's Security Council towards mandating a ceasefire in Gaza as well as London's suspending its aid to UNRWA, the UN agency for Palestinian refugees.

## Iran's gov't focuses on removing FATF blacklist status: Report

The 14th Iranian administration has renewed efforts to remove the country from the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) blacklist, according to a report by IRNA. In recent weeks, several officials have commented on the issue, signaling its importance. President Masoud Pezeshkian has also weighed in, demonstrating the administration's commitment to resolving the matter. Minister of Economy Abdolnaser Hemmati, has also highlighted the benefits of such cooperation. Opponents of Iran's accession to the FATF argue that the organization's leading members—such as the

US, the EU, and the UK—are themselves major hubs of money laundering. They claim the FATF's broader objectives go beyond addressing financial crimes and are instead designed to exert additional financial pressure on developing nations and emerging economies, potentially leading to political and social destabilization. In response, President Pezeshkian recently addressed concerns about the FATF raised by a student, saying, "Let's implement the FATF domestically. The US already knows how we manage our finances and where our shipments go. But because we lack a

domestic FATF framework, we fail to track our own shipments." He added, "Those opposing the FATF must explain their reasoning and identify the specific problems. It's unreasonable to reject something without understanding its essence." Pezeshkian also questioned the impact of noncompliance on the business community, stating, "Ask traders and merchants what the absence of FATF has done to them." Hemmati echoed these sentiments in a recent tweet, emphasizing the administration's focus on the issue as he outlined

the advantages of normalizing Iran's status with the FATF, stating that it would:

- Lift monetary and financial restrictions imposed by 200 countries and international entities on Iranian individuals and organizations.
- Counteract US-led efforts to isolate Iran's financial system.
- Normalize banking relations for Iranians, including students, traders, and economic actors worldwide.
- Increase the costs for the US in coercing countries and organizations to enforce sanctions against Iran.



Hemmati's remarks underscore the government's intent to address this critical issue as part of its broader economic strategy.