

President in Cairo to attend D-8 summit



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D-8 summit in Cairo:
Forging alliances, economic ties on Iran's agenda

PERSPECTIVE

International Desk

The upcoming D-8 summit in Cairo is set to kick off on December 19, with a focus on bolstering economic, political, and security cooperation among developing Islamic countries. This meeting presents a crucial opportunity for Iran to expand regional relations, develop trade partnerships, and create mechanisms to navigate the challenges posed by sanctions and the threats from the Israeli regime.

Cairo will host the D-8 Economic Cooperation Organization summit, which, beyond the economic agreements among its eight member states, may serve as a platform for various consultations and coordination of activities aimed at countering Israeli occupation and enhancing bilateral and multilateral relations. In light of recent regional developments—especially the ongoing situation in Syria—new collaborative efforts and coordination are essential. These changes in West Asia's political landscape underscore the necessity for dialogue among influential regional countries.

The participation of Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian and Iranian officials including Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf and Abbas Araghchi in the summit is expected to turn Thursday's meeting into a bridge for deepening cooperation, enhancing relations, and highlighting Iran's role in the Islamic world and West Asia. The Cairo summit could also serve as a significant step towards uniting Islamic powers

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against the aggression and atrocities committed by Israel.

UN Pushes for Iran's Nuclear Talks, Says 'Time of the Essence'

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Notice of tender for export sale No. Z/1403/21
Golgohar Mining and Industrial Company

Hereby Golgohar Mining & Industrial Co. announces selling and export 140,000 metric tons of Iron Ore Concentrate (%Fe:66.5) on basis of F.O.B at Rajaei Jetty Bandar Abbas - Iran. Interested bidders should find tender documents at Golgohar website: www.geg.ir. All bids on conformity to tender instructions must be submitted no later than 09:00 A.M. on 24. Dec. 2024 to Golgohar complex in sirjan (50 km in shiraz road). Bidders are invited to the transactions commission department of the seller with an introduction letter of interested buyer and personal identification of the representative. Tender results shall be announced at 09:00 A.M. on 24. Dec. 2024 at the office of the Seller.

Analysis %		
Fe%	66.50	Ave.
FeO%	24	Min
P%	0.05	Max
S%	1	Max
SiO2%	3.0	Max
Al2O3%	0.7	Max
CaO%	0.9	Max
MgO%	3.0	Max
Moisture%	6.0	Max
Size ave.		
80% < 0.45 mm		98% < 3 mm

GOLGOHAR MINING & INDUSTRIAL CO.

Notice of tender for export sale No Z/1403/22
Golgohar Mining and Industrial Company

Hereby Golgohar Mining & Industrial Co. announces selling and export 70,000 metric tons of Pellet (%Fe:65.00) on basis of F.O.B at Barco Jetty Bandar Abbas - Iran. Interested bidders should find tender documents at Golgohar website: www.geg.ir. All bids on conformity to tender instructions must be submitted no later than 09:00 A.M. on 24. Dec. 2024 to Golgohar complex in sirjan (50 km in shiraz road). Bidders are invited to the transactions commission department of the seller with an introduction letter of interested buyer and personal identification of the representative. Tender results shall be announced at 09:00 A.M. on 24. Dec. 2024 at the office of the Seller.

Analysis %		
Fe	65.00	Min
FeO	1.0	Ave
P	0.05	Max
S	0.01	Max
SiO2	3.5	Max
Al2O3	0.7	Max
CaO	0.9	Max
MgO	2.5	Max
CCS (kg/p)		Ave 250
8-16 mm%		Min 90
-6 mm%		Ave 5
A.I%		Max 3.8
T.I%		Min 95
Prosioty%		19-24
Reducibility%		Min 90

GOLGOHAR MINING & INDUSTRIAL CO.

Petrochemicals; a pioneering industry in Iran's non-oil economy

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Paknejad dismisses alleged challenges in oil sales

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Northern Syria serving as hub of new developments

By Sadeq Dehqan
Staff writer

PERSPECTIVE

Following a lightning military operation in Syria and the overthrow of Bashar al-Assad's government by the opposition, the Arab country is poised to face new and intense weeks and months ahead. The situation in Syria is such that at any moment, a new event in a corner of this country could upset the power balance to the benefit or detriment of one side, thus affecting the political landscape in the country. Prior to the overthrow of Assad's government, a relatively calm situation had prevailed in Syria for several years. The Syrian government, after years of devastating war, managed to end the activities of the Daesh terrorist group in the coun-

try with the help of its supporters and resistance forces, gaining control over most areas of Syria, except for parts in the northwest, including Idlib.

Idlib, the last stronghold of the opposition against Assad's government in Syria, ultimately became the Achilles' heel of his state. The Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS), supported by Turkey, has quietly and steadily bolstered its military infrastructure in the region and, through a swift and unexpected military operation, succeeded in setting the stage for the fall of the Damascus government in just two weeks.

After the forces of Muhammad al-Julani took control of Syria, only certain areas in northeastern Syria and east of the Euphrates River, which separate this part from the rest of the country, are currently under the control of the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF). Page 7 >

Iran to hire top int'l aides for Makoran development: Pezeshkian

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian announced that necessary coordination has been made to enlist top international consultants for the development roadmap of the Makoran region.

Speaking at a Wednesday cabinet meeting about the development of the Makoran coastline, Pezeshkian acknowledged the valid concerns raised by several government members, reported president.ir.

He noted that while all the points raised were precise, the critical issue remains that, unfortunately, there has not yet been a comprehensive plan or roadmap for the development of Makoran.

Pezeshkian went on to say that different government bodies have taken action based on their respective responsibilities.

The president emphasized that over the past several months, there have been nearly weekly meetings focused on developing a maritime-based strategy and establishing a roadmap for the Makoran region.

"I have always believed that if we want to achieve a leading position in the region as outlined in the national vision document, the quality of development in these coastal areas must not fall short of the efforts made by neighboring countries."

Pezeshkian added that the Makoran coastline is the most important platform for Iran's sustainable and long-term development and, in a sense, the future of Iran depends on the development of this area.

The president stated that once the comprehensive plan is completed, based on thorough studies and evaluations of the region's capacities and opportunities, the responsibilities of each body will be clearly defined, and coordinated actions will proceed in a unified and synergistic manner.

Paknejad dismisses alleged challenges in oil sales

Iranian Oil Minister Mohsen Paknejad addressed rumors about problems with oil sales, dismissing them as baseless and part of psychological operations by adversaries. "We currently have no issues with selling oil," he said, adding, "Measures have been taken to ensure we face minimal challenges in the future."

Speaking on Wednesday on the sidelines of a cabinet meeting, the minister noted that significant contracts to boost gas production would soon be finalized, Shana reported. Paknejad also reported a 35 to 40 million cubic meter reduction in household gas consumption in recent days, attributing the decrease to public cooperation.

"Thankfully, the public's cooperation has been excellent, leading to reduced consumption in residential and commercial sectors. While we anticipated

household consumption to reach up to 670 million cubic meters per day, public efforts have helped cut daily consumption by 35 to 40 million cubic meters," he explained.

The minister emphasized that measures are being planned for next year to manage winter challenges more effectively.

"This year, some initiatives were delayed for various reasons. Next year, if I remain in office, I assure you that the oil industry will work diligently to prevent further shortcomings. I also commend the president's rare act of apologizing to the public and, as Oil Minister, I apologize to the people for any shortcomings from any party," he said.

Regarding the rise in petroleum product production, Paknejad announced a daily increase of over 10 million liters of diesel over the past two months. This was achieved through

process adjustments at oil refineries and increased feedstock. "We've seen similar progress with gasoline production," he said. He added that power plants have diversified their fuel mix, which helped mitigate gas supply concerns during peak demand.

Paknejad highlighted successful energy diplomacy initiatives with neighboring countries, including potential agreements on gas swaps or imports.

"We're currently negotiating with Turkmenistan to swap gas with two neighboring countries. This will help prevent potential pressure drops in the northeastern section of our national gas grid," he said.

Commenting on the Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF), Paknejad noted that discussions during the meeting focused on gas trade and policy-making.



"These talks help Iran, as the holder of the world's second-largest gas reserves, achieve its objectives in gas trade," he said. Meanwhile, the governor of the Central Bank of Iran (CBI) stated that rumors suggesting China will re-

duce its purchase of Iranian oil in the future are completely untrue, noting that both oil production and investments are on the rise.

On Tuesday evening, Mohammadreza Farzin in a televised interview

said, "Oil production has not decreased, nor have the country's foreign exchange reserves. Iran is among the top five gold purchasers globally and has one of the highest gold reserves relative to its foreign currency reserves."

Aref: Energy shortages will be resolved with ongoing measures



Iran's First Vice President Mohammadreza Aref said that the imbalance in gas and electricity supply would be addressed through ongoing measures and initiatives.

Speaking at a meeting with the Isfahan Province's parliamentary delegation on Tuesday, he also emphasized that managing water consumption requires se-

rious determination and public awareness, according to fvpresident.ir.

Aref stated that plans to transfer water from the Oman Sea to central Iran are being pursued vigorously to address the region's drinking, health, and agricultural water issues. He added that alongside these infrastructure projects, fostering a culture of

water conservation and gaining the public's trust in the government's management of water consumption are key solutions to the water crisis.

Aref further highlighted that water usage in highly water-rich countries like Germany averages 140 liters per person per day, while in Iran the figure stands at 270 liters per day.

He noted that some large industrial projects were built in central Iran without considering land-use planning, and that water-intensive industries should have been located near seas or areas with abundant water resources. This narrow focus in the past contributed to the current water crisis in the central regions, the top official criticized.

Regarding efforts to meet the province's electricity needs, Aref referred to the private sector's role in launching the second phase of the combined-cycle power plant and the solar power plant at Mobarakeh Steel Company. He noted that the government has extensive plans for generating 30,000 megawatts of solar power.

Approval of oilfield projects

Also, speaking at the ninth session of the Economic Council on Monday, Aref underscored the government's commitment to utilizing the capabilities of technology-based companies.

He said, "Breaking the country's reliance on foreign technologies is only possible through lever-

aging the resources of technology-based companies and academic and research centers. Past experience has shown these entities excel across various fields."

During the session, three major oilfield development projects on Azadegan, Azar, and Masjed Soleyman were also approved. These projects involve a total direct investment of \$12 billion, with funding sources identified.

The long-term contracts are expected to generate approximately \$140 billion in revenue for the country, with significant contributions from domestic and tech-based companies.

The development plan for the shared Azadegan oilfield, the country's largest oil project, aims to enhance recovery, boost

production, and optimize operations. The project, proposed by the Oil Ministry, targets cumulative additional production of approximately 1.765 billion barrels over three years and has received approval from the Economic Council.

Furthermore, another project following the same goal for the Azar joint oilfield was approved. This \$1 billion investment aims to add 177 million barrels of oil to national production capacity over a 20-year contract.

The development and operation of the northern wing of the Masjed Soleyman oilfield, with a \$257 million investment, were also approved. This project targets an additional 21 million barrels of oil over a 20-year period.

VP: Iran ready to initiate AI movement in petchem industry



The vice president for science, technology, and knowledge-based economy said that his office is fully prepared to launch the artificial intelligence (AI) movement in the petrochemical industry by utilizing emerging technologies, particularly AI, to enhance productivity and reduce production costs.

Hossein Afshin made the remarks

on Tuesday, during a press conference for "Petrofan 1403," noting that the event signals a new path for the petrochemical industry. He described the petrochemical sector as a leading industry in the country, contributing not only significantly to foreign currency earnings but also playing a key role in completing downstream value

chains and generating added value. However, the official pointed out that some value chains remain incomplete, which can be attributed to a lack of budgetary resources or the adoption of policies that focus only on short-term profits, neglecting the value chain.

Afshin identified a lack of investment in research and development (R&D) and new technologies as one of the major challenges in the petrochemical industry.

He emphasized that technology is advancing rapidly, and failure to adapt could lead to serious long-term problems. "An industry that doesn't take research and innovation seriously is doomed to fail," he said, adding that the move toward smartification in petrochemicals is a significant step to correct that course.

The official emphasized that his

office is ready to implement the AI-driven movement in the petrochemical sector, leveraging emerging technologies to boost efficiency and lower production costs.

Afshin also highlighted that one of the main features of the Petrofan conference is its recognition of innovative managers, which is not merely symbolic but rather aims to identify and highlight managers who have successfully implemented innovations.

"What matters here is not the value of the award but the credibility and brand that this recognition brings to the innovative managers," he said.

Moreover, Afshin discussed the importance of addressing technological needs in the petrochemical industry and the role of knowledge-based companies in meeting these strategic technological re-

quirements as another key aspect of the conference.

Focusing on the importance of such events, he said, "All major developments in the world stem from these types of conferences and showcases. Today's world is one of exposure and introduction as it is through these platforms that information exchange takes place." The official went on to say, "However, we must be cautious that innovation in the industry does not become mere window dressing. Establishing innovation centers without tangible results will only waste resources."

Afshin also noted that the event serves as a platform for interaction between technology-based companies, researchers, academics, and the petrochemical industry.

"Looking at the past three editions, Petrofan has shown a positive and

successful upward trajectory, and this year, it will continue with even more momentum. I hope the outcomes of this event and the upcoming exhibition will bring about significant transformations in the country's petrochemical industry." At the end of the event, a memorandum of understanding (MOU) was signed between the Science, Technology, and Knowledge-based Economy Vice-Presidency and the Persian Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company.

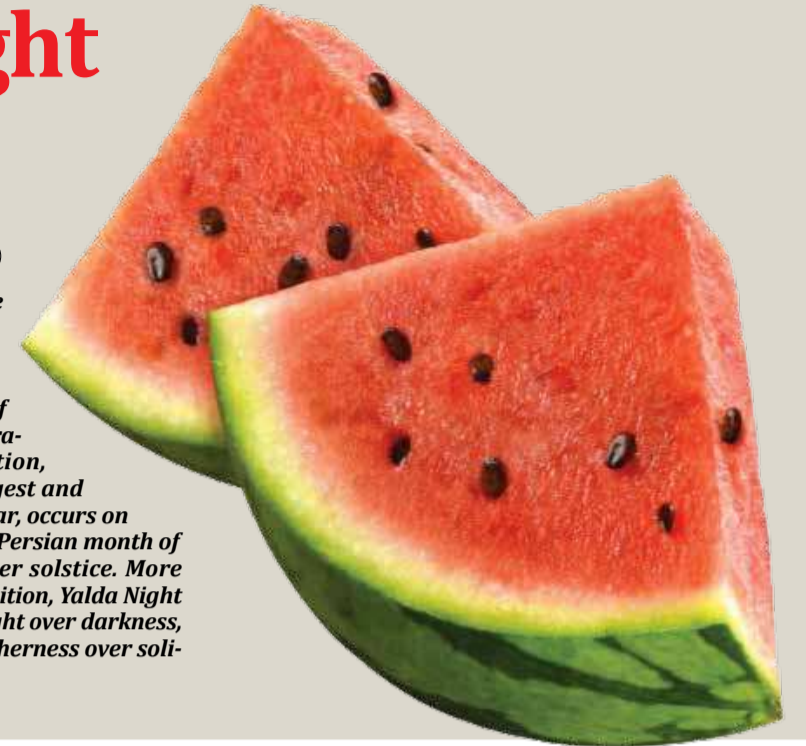
The "Petrofan 1403" conference, under the slogan "Path of Innovation in Petrochemical Industry," will be held from December 22-24 in Tehran, in collaboration with the Persian Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company and the Science, Technology, and Knowledge-based Economy Vice-Presidency.

Triumph of light over darkness on Yalda Night



Iranica Desk

As winter blankets the Northern Hemisphere, Iranians around the globe eagerly prepare for Yalda Night, one of their most cherished traditions. This celebration, recognized as the longest and darkest night of the year, occurs on the final evening of the Persian month of Azar, marking the winter solstice. More than just a seasonal transition, Yalda Night embodies the triumph of light over darkness, warmth over cold, and togetherness over solitude.



Significance of Yalda Night

Celebrated annually on December 20 or 21, Yalda Night (Shab-e Yalda or Shab-e Chelleh in Persian) is an ancient festival rooted in Zoroastrian traditions. It symbolizes unity, poetry, and hope as Iranians welcome the dawn of longer days. Families gather to share stories, recite poetry, and enjoy traditional foods, creating an evening filled with cultural warmth and spiritual renewal. The fruits of the season, particularly pomegranates and watermelons, are enjoyed for their symbolic representation of health and re-

newal, while the act of lighting candles adds to the warmth of the occasion.

This festive observance is not only significant in Iran but also in regions influenced by Persian culture, such as Azerbaijan, Afghanistan, the Kurdistan Region, and Tajikistan. It is also celebrated among diaspora communities in Canada, the United States, and beyond. The essence of Yalda lies in its celebration of light's victory over darkness, heralding a message of hope and renewal.

Origins

Yalda Night has deep historical roots, intertwined with the ancient religion of Zoroastrianism. As the longest night of the year, it holds a unique place in Iranian culture, symbolizing the balance between light and dark, good and evil. Historically, it was believed that evil forces were at their strongest during this time, prompting people to stay awake all night to avoid misfortune until the sunrise signaled the return of goodness. This

ancient festival, which dates back over 7,000 years, reflects the beliefs of ancient civilizations, including the Aryans from India, Iran, and Europe, who recognized that following the first night of winter, the days would gradually lengthen and nights would wane. They celebrated this celestial event as the birth of the Sun (Mehr) and the arrival of a new year, a belief that may have influenced the origins of Christmas.



Customs and celebrations

On Yalda Night, families across Iran come together, often gathering in the home of the eldest family member. The atmosphere is festive, filled with laughter and the sharing of traditional foods, including the essential pomegranates and watermelons, which symbolize life and the glow of the sun.

A central element of the celebration is the recitation of poetry, particularly from the esteemed Persian poet Hafez. Families often consult his Divan of Hafez, a collection of poems believed to offer predictions and guidance for the coming year when opened randomly. To engage in this practice, individuals make a wish or pose a question about their current life or love situation in their hearts, seeking Hafez's wisdom. When the Divan is opened randomly, the poem that appears is interpreted as his answer to the question posed.

For those unfamiliar with the poetry, it is advisable to have a translated version of the book or an Iranian person present who can read and interpret the verses. Traditionally, the eldest family member, such as a grandparent, opens the book for each family member and reads the corresponding poem. This practice is

not only entertaining but also resonates deeply with many, as they find Hafez's responses remarkably accurate and relatable. Thus, if you plan to celebrate Yalda alongside Iranians, having a copy of Hafez's Divan on hand is essential!

The night is further enriched by storytelling, especially from the Shahnameh (the Book of Kings), as elders narrate tales of heroism and ancient wisdom to younger generations. These literary traditions not only entertain but also foster cultural transmission, anchoring the celebration in a rich cultural context and reinforcing communal solidarity.

Staying awake throughout the night is a key aspect of Yalda, symbolizing the triumph over darkness as days begin to lengthen. Many families light candles or small fires to represent this victory, echoing the warmth and vitality of life. In modern times, Yalda Night has expanded to include cultural events such as concerts and plays, both in Iran and in countries with significant Persian communities. This fusion of ancient traditions and contemporary festivities creates a unique and vibrant expression of cultural heritage and familial bonds.

Role of Divan of Hafez

The Divan of Hafez is an integral part of Yalda Night celebrations. This collection of poems by the revered 14th-century Persian poet Hafez is deeply cherished in Iranian culture, often associated with themes of love, spirituality, and wisdom. Many believe that Hafez's poetry provides profound insights into one's life and future. Reading Hafez's verses is a cherished tradition during Yalda, with nearly every Iranian family owning at least one copy of the Divan of Hafez, and many having several editions. The practice of creating a *fal* from this book involves consulting Hafez's poetry for guidance, adding an element of divination to the celebration.

Seasonal significance

Iranians also divide the year into seasons, each denoted by a name that translates to "forty days," known as a *chelleh*. The first *chelleh* occurs in summer, while the others, referred to as the *bozorg* (great) and the *khochak* (small) *chelleh*, occur in winter. The small *chelleh* spans from the tenth to the thirty-first day of Bahman (the second month of winter in the Persian calendar), comprising twenty nights and days



that contribute to the second forty-day period. The big *chelleh* begins on the first day of Dey, the first month of winter in the Persian calendar, and lasts for forty days. The traditional Iranian festival of the winter solstice, Shab-e Yalda, is still observed by Iranians and other nations such as Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Iraqi Kurdistan, Afghanistan, and Turkey. Yalda Night, or Shab-e Chelleh, derives

from Zoroastrianism and, in Syriac, means "birth." It marks the beginning of the gradual lengthening of the day, celebrating the birth of the sun as a sign of light triumphing over evil and good over darkness. In conclusion, Yalda Night is a vibrant tapestry of tradition, culture, and familial love, weaving together the past and present as Iranians celebrate the longest night of the year.

Petrochemicals; a pioneering industry in Iran's non-oil economy

60 countries import Iran's petchem products



Economy Desk

Iran's petrochemical industry has come a long way, producing over 72 million tons of petrochemical products annually, and has become a cornerstone of the country's non-oil economy. With exports to over 60 countries globally, the industry rakes in over \$15 billion in annual revenue, playing a crucial role in reducing the country's reliance on crude oil. Companies like Persian Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company (PGPIC) and Marun Petrochemical Complex are major players in the production and export of these products, holding a special place in international markets.



By producing a diverse range of petrochemical products, Iran's petrochemical industry has turned into a major source of non-oil revenue.

Petrochem industry's role in boosting national wealth

Iran's petrochemical industry, as a cornerstone of the country's economy, has a significant impact on increasing national wealth. According to reports from the Oil Ministry, this industry directly accounts for around 25% of the country's non-oil exports. In 2022, Iran produced over 72 million tons of petrochemical products, including methanol, polyethylene, polypropylene, and various chemical fertilizers. This production volume has not only met domestic needs but also generated substantial revenue for the country. Moreover, the production of petrochemical products has reduced dependence on crude oil exports, enabling Iran to export a greater volume of high-value-added products to global markets. This industry also plays a vital role in creating direct and indirect jobs in the country. According to statistics from the Labor Ministry, the petrochemical industry has created over 143,000 direct jobs. Many of these jobs

have been created in southern regions of the country, such as Bushehr and Khuzestan provinces and have significantly contributed to the economic development of these areas. In this regard, major petrochemical companies like the PGPIC and Marun Petrochemical Complex have provided job opportunities for thousands of people by expanding their operations. In addition to creating employment, Iran's petrochemical industry also serves as an economic driver for downstream industries. For instance, by producing chemical and plastic products domestically, industries such as automotive, home appliances, and textiles can access the raw materials they need and reduce their reliance on imports. This directly contributes to increasing domestic production and reducing dependence on imports, ultimately leading to economic growth.

Economic propellant

In recent years, Iran's petrochemical industry has emerged as a major economic propellant, playing a pivotal role in propelling the country's econ-

omy forward. According to reports from the Iran Trade Promotion Organization, in 2022, Iran raked in over \$15 billion in revenue from the export of petrochemical products. This revenue, largely generated from the export of chemical products, methanol, and polyethylene to various countries, has contributed significantly to increasing the country's value-added output. This, in turn, has had a direct impact on reducing the country's reliance on crude oil exports and boosting domestic production capacity. Iran has solidified its position in global markets by producing over 72 million tons of petrochemical products annually. According to statistics from the Iranian Customs Administration, Iran's petrochemical products are exported to over 60 countries, and these products are in high demand in global markets, particularly in Asia and Europe. Furthermore, these exports generate substantial value-added revenue for the country, as they involve the sale of products with more complex processing, which leaves a larger share of the revenue in the

country rather than just selling crude oil.

In addition to boosting export revenues, the petrochemical industry also plays a crucial role in promoting job creation. The Ministry of Labor estimates that the industry has directly created over 300,000 jobs, primarily in technical and engineering fields, production and transportation, and supporting downstream petrochemical industries. The expansion of this industry, particularly in southern regions of the country such as Bushehr and Khuzestan provinces, has led to economic growth and improved living standards in these areas.

Knowledge-based companies' role in petrochemicals

Knowledge-based companies have leveraged cutting-edge technologies and optimized production processes to boost the performance of the petrochemical industry. According to statistics from the Ministry of Science, Research, and Technology, the number of knowledge-based companies operating in Iran's petrochemical

industry has been on the rise in recent years. These companies have particularly excelled in the production of catalysts, innovative technologies, and process optimization, which has helped reduce production costs and enhance the quality of petrochemical products. Examples of such companies include Pouyakimia and Behsan Petrochemical Engineering companies, which specialize in the production of catalysts and other chemical materials.

These companies have also introduced new technologies in petrochemical production, thereby increasing Iran's competitiveness in global markets. According to reports from the Planning and Budget Organization, the export of technology-intensive products manufactured by Iranian knowledge-based companies reached over \$200 million in 2022, which underscores the significant impact of these companies on the country's economy. Furthermore, collaborations between petrochemical companies and Iranian knowledge-based companies have led to a reduction in dependence on imported





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advanced technologies. For instance, in the production of catalysts and special raw materials, which previously relied heavily on imports, domestic production has increased significantly. This has not only helped reduce production costs but also enhanced the country's self-sufficiency in the petrochemical industry.

Position of petrochemicals in exporting oil-derived products

Iran, as one of the largest exporters of petrochemical products in the region, has managed to carve out a significant share of global markets. According to statistics from the Iranian Customs Administration, in 2022, Iran's petrochemical exports reached \$15 billion, accounting for a substantial portion of the country's non-oil exports. These revenues are generated from the export of products such as methanol, polyethylene, polypropylene, and chemical fertilizers to various countries around the world. In this regard, China, India, and Turkey are recognized as the primary destinations for Iran's exports. Iran has solidified its position among the world's largest producers by producing over 70 million tons of petrochemical products. Persian Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company and Marun Petrochemical Com-

plex are among the largest petrochemical companies in Iran, accounting for a significant share of the country's production and successfully exporting high-quality products to global markets. These companies are particularly recognized as major global suppliers of methanol and polyethylene.

The export of petrochemical products not only contributes to increasing the country's foreign exchange earnings but also drives economic growth in various regions. This industry has created employment opportunities and developed industrial infrastructure, particularly in the southern provinces of Bushehr and Khuzestan. Therefore, Iran's petrochemical industry plays a crucial role not only in exports and revenue generation but also in the development of industrial regions and increasing domestic production.

Importance of petrochemicals in preventing sale of crude oil

Iran's petrochemical industry plays a vital role in preventing the sale of crude oil and converting it into higher-value-added products. According to the Oil Ministry, in 2022, Iran produced approximately 3 million barrels of crude oil per day. A significant portion of this crude oil is not exported in its raw form, but is instead converted

into petrochemical products within the country, thereby creating more value-added revenue. This process has taken on special importance in the face of sanctions, as Iran has been able to reduce its dependence on crude oil sales by producing and exporting petrochemical products.

By harnessing its petrochemical capacities, Iran has managed to generate a substantial portion of its foreign exchange earnings from petrochemical products over the past few decades. According to reports from the Iran Trade Promotion Organization, in 2022, Iran earned over \$15 billion from petrochemical exports. This revenue has enabled Iran to enjoy a lower dependence on crude oil exports compared to many other countries with similar oil reserves.

Petrochemicals play a crucial role in converting crude oil into high-value-added petrochemical and chemical products. These industries are able to produce final products such as polyethylene, polypropylene, methanol, and ammonia from primary resources like natural gas and crude oil through complex chemical processes. These products are not only valuable in domestic industries but also in global markets, which in turn prevents the sale of crude oil.

Major petrochemical units

Iran is home to a number of large and advanced petrochemical units that play a significant role in meeting domestic needs and exporting petrochemical products. "Persian Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company" is the largest and most important petrochemical company in Iran, located in the province of Bushehr, and is involved in the production of various products, including methanol, polyethylene, and propylene. With an annual production capacity of over 10 million tons, this company plays a key role in supplying petrochemical products to both domestic and foreign markets. According to the annual reports of Persian Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company, the company was able to export over 6 million tons of petrochemical products to various countries in 2022.

Another major petrochemical unit in Iran is "Marun Petrochemical Complex", located in Khuzestan Province, which is recognized as one of the largest producers of polypropylene and ammonia in the country. With an annual production capacity of over 4 million tons, this company is considered one of the leading companies in the Iranian petrochemical industry and the region. According to reports from the Iran Trade Promotion Organiza-

tion, this company was able to secure a significant share of Iran's petrochemical exports in 2022.

Other major petrochemical units in Iran include "Bandar Imam Petrochemical Company", which is involved in the production of methanol, ammonia, and other chemical products. This company, with an annual production capacity of over 5 million tons, is also one of the largest petrochemical units in Iran. Bandar Imam Petrochemical Company plays a significant role in supplying petrochemical products to both domestic and international markets and contributes to the export of chemical products.

In light of the above, the "Iranian petrochemical industry" has not only become a leading industry in terms of production but also in terms of exports and value-added creation. With the continuation of the growth and development of this industry, Iran will be able to secure a larger share of global markets and take effective steps towards reducing its dependence on oil resources. Continued investment in domestic projects and cooperation with international companies can contribute significantly to the sustainability and growth of the Iranian petrochemical industry.

The story was first provided by the Persian language news agency ISNA.



Iran's petrochemical industry plays a vital role in creating direct and indirect jobs in the country, creating over 143,000 direct jobs. Many of these jobs have been created in southern regions of the country, such as Bushehr and Khuzestan provinces and have significantly contributed to the economic development of these areas.



2025 Volleyball Nations League:

Iran to embark on new era
against Brazil, USA

Sports Desk

A new chapter will begin for Iranian volleyball when the men's national team takes on Brazil in their 2025 Volleyball Nations League opener on June 11 next year.

The annual tournament will be the first event for Italian head coach Roberto Piazza on Iran's bench, who signed a four-year contract in September to take over from Brazilian Mauricio Paes.

Paes was sacked midway through the VNL campaign in the summer after only seven games in charge, with his number two Payman Akbari serving as the interim coach for the remainder of the preliminary round as Iran finished second from bottom in the 16-team table.

A second outing for Iran in Rio de Janeiro will come against USA, followed by games against Slovenia – VNL semifinalist in June – and Ukraine in Week 1 of the preliminaries.

Iran will head to Belgrade, Serbia, for Week 2 of the competition, starting with an encounter against the host on June 25.

Piazza's side will then play Argentina and Germany before the Italian reunites with his former team, the Netherlands, in the Serbian capital on June 29.



The third and the final week of the preliminary phase in Gdańsk, Poland, will see Iran square off against European

powerhouses Poland (July 16) and France (July 19), who met in the Olympic final in August, either side of an all-Asian battle

against China. Iran will hope to be in contention for a place in the VNL Finals when going head-to-head with

Bulgaria in their final Week 3 game on July 20. The top eight teams of the preliminary-round table will prog-

ress to the VNL Finals – starting with the quarterfinals on July 30 – with the host city yet to be announced by the FIVB, the international governing body of the sport.

When Piazza was appointed to the role, the Italian said his primary objective would be “a constant place among the top eight teams in the world” for Iran, with his ultimate goal being “a successful run at the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics.”

Sitting 15th in the latest FIVB World Ranking, Iran spent the best part of the 2023 season in the top 10, with the previous stint in the top eight coming during the 2022 World Championship, where then-coach Behrouz Ataei's men made it to the last 16 before being knocked out by Brazil.

Iranian fans will hope the Italian will put a lid on the country's dire run of results over the past two years, including dreadful campaigns in back-to-back Nations League events, failure to secure an Olympic quota, and a comprehensive defeat against Japan on home soil in last year's Asian Championship final.

A second major event for Piazza will be September's World Championship in the Philippines, where Iran is drawn in Pool A – also featuring the host nation, Egypt, and Tunisia.

Azadi Stadium to reopen
on Dec. 29, sports minister confirms

Sports Desk

The Azadi Stadium in Tehran will reopen with a friendly game featuring retired Iranian footballers on December 29, the country's sports minister, Ahmad Donyamali, confirmed on Wednesday.

The iconic stadium has been under renovation since June 20, when the venue last hosted the domestic cup final between Sepahan and Mes Rafsanjan.

“The first phase of the renovation project has concluded and the stadium's mechanical infrastructure and lighting system will be assessed and tested during a friendly game be-

tween the retired players on December 29,” the Iranian top official told reporters.

A first competitive game in 197 days on the Azadi pitch will be staged on January 3, with Esteghlal hosting Sepahan in the Persian Gulf Pro League, added the sports minister.

The news comes as a boost for Tehran archrivals Persepolis and Esteghlal, who have been forced to play their domestic and Asian home games in the 8,000-capacity Shahr-e Qods Stadium – on the outskirts of the Iranian capital – or other neutral venues since the start of the season in August.

The two sides will be looking to ben-

efit from a massive home support in what is already deemed as must-win home fixtures in the last two rounds of the AFC Champions League Elite group phase in February.

Sitting eighth in the west zone's 12-team table, Esteghlal will welcome bottom-side Al Shorta of Iraq on February 3, before visiting Qatar's Al Rayyan on Feb. 18.

Six-placed Persepolis, meanwhile, will return to Asian action with a visit to Riyadh on Feb. 4 to take on Al Hilal, and will then host Cristiano Ronaldo's Al Nassr on Feb. 17.

The top eight of the table will progress to the knockout stage.

Vinicius Jr named FIFA player of 2024,
Bonmati takes women's award again

REUTERS – Brazil and Real Madrid forward Vinicius Jr was named FIFA men's player of the year in Doha on Tuesday, with Spain and Barcelona midfielder Aitana Bonmati winning the women's award for the second year in a row. Vinicius scored 24 goals in 39 appearances across all competitions to help Real Madrid clinch the LaLiga and Champions League double, and he also netted in their Champions League final win over Borussia Dortmund.

The Brazilian won the award ahead of Spain and Manchester City midfielder Rodri and his teammate at Real, England's Jude Bellingham. The 24-year-old, who narrowly missed out on the Ballon d'Or to Rodri in October, was in Doha to collect the award, with Real in Qatar for Wednesday's FIFA Intercontinental Cup final against Mexico's Pachuca.

“It seemed impossible when I played bare-

foot in the streets of Sao Goncalo and now I'm here,” Vinicius said.

Bonmati retained the FIFA women's player of the year award ahead of Zambia's Barbra Banda and Norway's Caroline Graham Hansen, having also won the women's Ballon d'Or for the second consecutive year in October.

The 26-year-old helped her club to a domestic treble last season in a campaign in which Barca also retained the Champions League, and Bonmati scored in the semi-final and final when Spain won the Nations League in February.

“I'm very grateful for this award, but I always say that this is a team effort, with a Barca that won everything and the national team,” Bonmati said.

Real Madrid's Carlo Ancelotti won the best men's coach award, after the Italian led his club to the league and Champions League double last season.

“I want to share this with the club, with my president and with my players, those of the best club in the world,” Ancelotti said.

Emma Hayes won the best women's coach award, after taking the U.S. to the gold medal at this year's Olympic Games having taken Chelsea to the WSL title last season, her fifth successive league win with the club.

Alejandro Garnacho won the Puskas Award, for best goal of the year for the Argentine winger's strike for Manchester United against Everton in the Premier League in November last year. Brazil's Marta won the inaugural Marta Award, for the best goal in women's football, taking the prize named in her honour for her goal against Jamaica in June of this year.

The best women's goalkeeper award went to American Alyssa Naeyer of the Chicago Red Stars while Emiliano Martinez of Argentina and Aston Villa took the men's award.

UN pushes for Iran's nuclear talks, says 'time of the essence'

A top UN official on Tuesday pushed world powers and Iran to urgently work to restore a 2015 deal that lifted sanctions on Tehran in return for restrictions on its nuclear program, warning that its "success or failure matters to all of us." Iran's 2015 deal with Britain, Germany, France, the United States, Russia and China is known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). The US quit the agreement in 2018, during Donald Trump's first term as president, and Iran began moving away from its nuclear-related commitments under the deal, Reuters reported. "Time is of the essence," UN political affairs chief Rosemary

DiCarlo told the Security Council, which enshrined the deal in a 2015 resolution. "While the onus is on the JCPOA participants and the US, their success or failure matters to all of us. The region cannot afford further instability." Deputy US Ambassador Robert Wood told the council that, "Though diplomacy is the best option, the United States has also been clear that a nuclear Iran can never be an option. We are prepared to use all elements of national power to ensure that outcome." Iran and the so-called E3 grouping of the UK, France and Germany agreed in November to continue holding talks in the near future in an attempt

to find a way out of an impasse over Tehran's nuclear program. However, Britain, the three European countries in a letter earlier this month told the Security Council that they are ready - if needed - to trigger a so-called "snapback" of all international sanctions on Iran to prevent the country from what they called acquiring a nuclear weapon. It came after the UN nuclear watchdog - the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) - said this month that Iran is accelerating enrichment of uranium to up to 60% purity. The European countries will lose the ability to take such action on October 18 next year when the 2015 UN resolution



Members of the UN Security Council listen as Geir Pedersen, the UN special envoy for Syria, speaks during a meeting in New York City on December 17, 2024.

● MICHAEL M. SANTIAGO/AFP

on the deal expires. "We will take every diplomatic step to prevent Iran from requiring a nuclear weapon, including the triggering of snapback, if necessary," Britain's deputy UN Ambassador James Kariuki told the council on Tuesday. Iran's UN Ambassador Amir Saeid Iravani told the council that invoking the "snapback" of sanctions on Tehran would be "unlawful and counterproductive."



"The so-called snapback is not a tool in your hand to be abused for threatening Iran. Iran has made it very clear that such a provocative move will be reciprocated with a firm and proportionate response," he said.

President in Cairo to attend D-8 summit



International Desk

Iranian president left Tehran for Cairo on Wednesday to take part in the summit of the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation, which he called it an opportunity to bring the Islamic countries closer to each other. Masoud Pezeshkian made the remarks before leaving Tehran. Pezeshkian said meetings at this level are very effective for active diplomacy that can bring Islamic countries closer together economically, politically, culturally and socially. Referring to his "good negotiations" with his Egyptian counterpart Abdel Fattah el-Sisi on the sidelines of the BRICS summit in Russia in November, the Iranian president described Egypt as a country with a great civilization and an influential country in the Islamic world.

"The deeper and more intimate we make our relations with Islamic countries, the more conspiracies against our country and other Islamic countries will be neutralized," the Iranian president said. The D-8 organization consists of eight developing countries, namely Iran, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Turkey and Egypt. The D-8 was established in 1997 to improve cooperation between countries stretching from South-east Asia to Africa. Pezeshkian's visit to Egypt is the first by an Iranian president to the African country in more than a decade. Relations between Egypt and Iran have generally been fraught in recent decades but the two countries have stepped up high-level diplomatic contacts since the eruption of the Gaza crisis last year as Egypt tried to play a mediating role.

Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist



Senior diplomat warns of Syria's disintegration, spread of insecurity to Iraq

A high-ranking Iranian diplomat said destruction of Syria and rendering it weak in the face of the Israeli regime's aggression have always formed part of the United States and the regime's agenda, warning that the Arab country could fall apart amid the conflicting foreign interests that have come to affect it. Kamal Kharrazi, head of the Islamic Republic's Strategic Council on Foreign Relations, made the remarks in

Tehran on Wednesday, in a meeting with Mohamed al-Hassan, the United Nations special representative for Iraq and head of the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI), Press TV reported. Kharrazi cited remarks made by former US president Barack Obama during his tenure, in which he said, "Assad must go" as an example of Washington's destructive ambitions towards Syria. Kharrazi expressed concern about the

Israeli regime's efforts at availing itself of the power vacuum in the Arab country as well as Tel Aviv's violation of the country's sovereignty through extensive strikes in the country. The official also warned about Syria's disintegration on the back of the opposing interests of the foreign parties that have thrown their support behind the militants. He also said insecurity in Syria could, meanwhile, spread to neighboring Iraq.

Iran urges IAEA's impartiality by addressing noncompliance with JCPOA

The head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) urged the United Nations nuclear agency's Director General Rafael Grossi to maintain the body's impartiality by taking into account other parties' non-commitment to their obligations towards the Islamic Republic. "This international institution has to preserve its impartiality and adopt a professional behavior," Mohammad Eslami said in Tehran on Wednesday following a weekly meeting of the Iranian cabinet, referring to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Press TV

reported. "It is not acceptable for an international institution to address just one aspect of the issue, in a provocative manner at that, and refuse to point to the main aspect, which is the obligated parties' non-commitment," he said. The remarks came after Grossi told the Italian news agency ANSA that Iran had "developed much stronger capabilities" regarding various aspects of its nuclear energy program, alleging, "It (the Islamic Republic) has uranium at 60% — 90% is military grade."

He went as far as to claim that the Islamic Republic "is thus practically at the same level as nuclear-armed states." Back in 2018, the Islamic Republic resorted to a number of legitimately retaliatory measures in line with its entitlement under its 2015 nuclear agreement with world powers. The steps came in response to the United States' unilateral and illegal withdrawal from the deal and its Western allies' refusal to restore the deal to its former glory by bringing Washington back into the accord.

Northern Syria serving ...

This group, which is a military coalition centered around Syrian Kurds, is supported by the United States; however, Ankara considers it a threat to its national security and views it as an offshoot of the PKK, which has been armed against the Turkish government for over three decades in southeastern Turkey. Reports from news agencies indicate that new military movements are currently taking place in northern Syria. Turkey and its allied militia forces are reinforcing their troops along the border with Syria, and it appears that these military groups are preparing for a large-scale assault on areas controlled by Syrian Kurds. According to reports, armed individuals affiliated with Turkey have brought significant mili-

tary equipment close to the border city of Ain al-Arab (Kobani). This is not the first time that Kobani has been subjected to military attacks by Turkey-backed armed forces. In 2019, Kobani was also attacked; that year, the United States initially opposed Turkey's military assault on the Kurds, but later Turkey and the United States reached an agreement behind political negotiations on the matter. Ultimately, in 2019, after Turkish-affiliated military forces captured parts of the region, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan announced the establishment of a safe zone in these areas for the relocation of Syrian refugees, extending 444 kilometers in length and 32 kilometers deep into Syrian territory. Erdogan fears Kurdish in-

dependence and it is clear that, under the guise of this military operation, he aims to weaken the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) in Syria. However, it is uncertain whether the forces aligned with and influenced by his government will remain as quiet this time or if they are nurturing other objectives. Another question is whether the United States will be willing to compromise again on Ankara's demands, and will the Kurds once more become the victims of US political games in Syria? What is evident is that the United States, particularly over the past decade, has consistently relied on Kurdish forces to achieve its objectives in Syria. Via their support, Washington has managed to gain control over the country's oil resources and maintain its

military bases in Syria. A few days ago, Julani, the leader of the ruling military group in Syria, stated, "All armed groups in this country will be disbanded, and weapons will only be in the hands of government forces." This raises the question of whether the military assault on the Kurds could be part of a shared scenario between Hayat Tahrir al-Sham and Turkey, or if each player is pursuing different goals. These are just some of the speculations surrounding the issues that could shape the landscape of potential changes in northern Syria. We must wait and see what unfolds in the coming days in the arena of military conflicts in the region and what impact each of the opponents and internal and external players in Syria will have.

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Iran expresses readiness to host BRICS trade tourism events



Arts & Culture Desk

Iran's cultural attaché in Russia at its embassy in Russia highlighted the country's rich historical and cultural heritage and declared Iran's readiness to host trade tourism events for BRICS member countries. On Monday, Massoud Ahmadvand, the Iranian Cultural Counselor, made these remarks during the opening ceremony of the Global Commercial Tourism Development Congress. The event, attended by representatives from 18 countries, including Iran,

took place in Moscow, IRNA wrote. Speaking at the congress, Ahmadvand emphasized that culture plays a pivotal role in ensuring the reciprocal flow of trade tourists between Iran, BRICS countries, and the Global South. He noted that investing in enhancing cultural exchanges would help Iran solidify its position as a key destination for business tourists while expanding its economic ties with these countries. Ahmadvand pointed to Iran's extensive capacities as a nation with millen-

nia-old civilization and a wealth of cultural traditions. He argued that these strengths position Iran to become a prominent player in the Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions (MICE) industry. Referring to Iran's competitive advantage in history and culture, he cited 27 UNESCO World Heritage Sites in the country, such as Persepolis, Naqsh-e Rostam, and Persian Gardens. These iconic locations offer ideal settings for hosting trade tourism events, he added. Ahmadvand also under-

scored Iran's existing infrastructure for hosting international events, suggesting the effective use of influencers to promote the country's tourism potential. Iran has previously hosted several international events, including exhibitions on Persian carpets, saffron, petrochemical industries, and health tourism. These events, he stated, showcase how Iran's rich culture can captivate global audiences. He further advocated for strengthening cultural diplomacy among BRICS nations and other Global

South countries through educational institutions, academic collaboration, and student exchange programs. Such initiatives, he said, would foster mutual understanding and counter negative Western media narratives against independent nations like Iran and Russia. Ahmadvand proposed joint art exhibitions and multinational scientific events under the BRICS framework as avenues to exchange ideas and technologies. In addition, he suggested that BRICS countries create a unified brand for business

tourism by emphasizing their shared cultural traits. This shared brand, he argued, would enhance these nations' status as premier business tourism destinations. The International Commercial Tourism Congress, focusing on BRICS countries, concludes on Tuesday, December 17. According to organizers, the event has attracted over 129 foreign representatives from 17 countries, including BRICS members, alongside 750 specialists from Moscow and across Russia. Participants include repre-

sentatives from public and private tourism sectors in countries such as Iran, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Brazil, China, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Kazakhstan, Oman, Qatar, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, the UAE, and Uzbekistan. This event takes place as Russia aims to more than double its tourism sector growth by 2030. Earlier, Moscow hosted the first BRICS Tourism Forum during Russia's BRICS presidency. That meeting, attended by delegates from nine member nations, including Iran, approved the BRICS Tourism Roadmap.

COMSTECH, Iran's Pardis Tech Park sign cooperation agreement

Social Desk

The Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (COMSTECH) and Iran's Pardis Technology Park inked a cooperation agreement aimed at establishing a science and technology academy. The signing ceremony, which took place in a cordial atmosphere, was attended by COMSTECH Coordinator General Muhammad Iqbal Choudhary and Mehdi Safarinia, the head of Pardis Technology Park, IRNA reported. According to the agreement, the primary goal of the new academy is to train

a skilled workforce capable of managing science and technology parks across the member states of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). This initiative underscores a shared commitment to advancing science and technology within the Islamic world. "This collaboration marks a significant step towards fostering innovation and technological advancement in our member states," said Choudhary during the signing ceremony. "By pooling our resources and expertise, we can ensure that the next generation of scientists and technologists is well-equipped to tackle the challenges of the 21st century."

Safarinia echoed Choudhary's sentiments, emphasizing Iran's dedication to contributing to the OIC's scientific and technological landscape. "We are excited to partner with COMSTECH and look forward to the positive impact this academy will have on our region," he stated. The partnership is not without precedent. Last year, COMSTECH signed a similar agreement with the Pasteur Institute of Iran, focusing on joint educational programs, research, technology, and innovation. This latest agreement further solidifies the relationship between COMSTECH and Iranian institutions. Iran's Minister of Science,

Hossein Simaee Sarraf, met with Choudhary to discuss the broader implications of the agreement. Sarraf highlighted Tehran's commitment to strengthening three COMSTECH-related secretariats hosted by Iran, which include networks for nanotechnology and science parks. He also called for mutual efforts to overcome challenges, particularly those posed by international sanctions, and to improve educational opportunities for Palestinian youth. "The challenges we face are significant, but through collaboration and dedication, we can create a brighter future for our youth and our region," Sarraf noted.

Forging alliances, economic ...

The summit will build on a roadmap designed during the previous D-8 ministerial meeting held in Istanbul in May. It will emphasize strategies to strengthen intra-group trade and economic integration among member states. Countries are anticipated to discuss initiatives aimed at realizing the long-term vision of the organization, which includes increasing trade volume among members to \$500 billion by 2030.

Key objectives of the summit include empowering youth by proposing initiatives that create more opportunities for young entrepreneurs and professionals in member countries to actively participate in the economy, supporting small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) by developing policies and collaborations to enhance their growth and competitiveness, promoting technology and innovation, addressing sustainable development issues such as food security, energy efficiency, and climate change, and expanding trade by reducing trade barriers and increasing cooperation among D-8 countries for economic prosperity. Egypt's hosting and chairing of the 2024 summit is seen as a pivotal moment for strengthening regional cooperation, particularly given its strategic position as a bridge connecting Africa, the Middle East, and Asia.

The outcomes of this summit are likely to shape the economic and developmental agendas of the D-8 countries for the coming decade, reinforcing collective unity and resilience in a changing global economy.

Beyond economic and developmental goals, Iran's participation in the D-8 meeting reflects broader geopolitical and diplomatic ambitions. Strengthening political and diplomatic relations will be a key focus for Iranian officials, who aim to use the summit to enhance mutual understanding and solidarity, especially amid regional conflicts and economic sanctions that impact Iran's global standing.

As nearly 300 days have passed since the Israeli regime's brutal war against the people of Gaza began, and with Lebanon and Syria also experiencing Israeli aggression, Iranian officials have the opportunity to leverage this summit to coordinate positions and actions against Israel. This would also allow Iran to showcase its role in promoting stability



in the Middle East, while addressing collective solutions to issues like regional terrorism, instability, and conflicts. Diplomatic and security cooperation with other D-8 member states will be an essential item on the agenda. Moreover, diversifying trade and circumventing sanctions will be another goal that Iran pursues during the summit. Given the oppressive sanctions and economic pressures from the West, the D-8 summit could serve as a crucial opportunity for enhanced collaboration in trade and investment, aiming to bypass restrictions imposed by Western countries.

If there is serious commitment from its members, the D-8 could establish a new framework for promoting barter trade, alternative payment systems, or joint investments, facilitating access to new target markets and technologies for both Iran and other member states.

As a major energy producer in the region, Iran can utilize this platform to strengthen energy cooperation. The country is poised to propose initiatives for energy collaboration, particularly in oil, gas, and renewable energy sectors, leveraging its expertise in this domain to aid energy-needy countries within the D-8.

Iran has also made remarkable advancements in technology, space research, and industrial development. This summit presents an opportunity for Iran to enhance technological collaborations, share its expertise with fellow member countries, and benefit from knowledge exchange and innovation.

In a nutshell, the objectives Iran can emphasize at the D-8 summit are multifaceted, encompassing economic relations, trade diversification, and increased political and security cooperation within the bloc of developing Islamic countries. This meeting will serve as a significant platform for Iran to assert its position in a shifting global order and strengthen its strategic alliances within the D-8 framework.

First Announcement

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

TENDER NO.: 08-38-0140010

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

Items	Material Description	Quantity
3	HYDRAULIC VALVE 4-3/4 IN. OD., 2-1/4 IN. ID., 3-1/2 IN. , 29 FOOT-10 IN. OVERALL LENGTH	30NO

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 10,559/61 EURO or 5,604,309,103 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.

ONLY ACCEPTABLE DELIVERY TERM IS D.D.P., NISOC'S WAREHOUSE, AGHAJARI, IRAN PAYMENT TERM IS C.O.D., SUBSEQUENT TO NISOC'S MATERIAL APPROVAL.

NOTE: Based on enactment issued by Nisoc's Tender committee, foreign companies must submit a Bid Bond Guarantee amounting to aforementioned (paragraph 1)Euro amount. Otherwise, their quotations will not be considered.

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