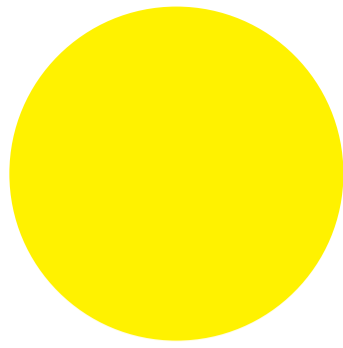


Iran's non-oil trade with neighbors up by 21% last year: **IRICA**

Tehran-Riyadh commerce registered historic 6,483% leap



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## Iran, US conclude talks in 'constructive atmosphere'

Both sides agree to reconvene next week **2 >**



Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi (2nd L) speaks with members of the Iranian delegation during a visit to Muscat, Oman where he held "indirect" talks with US Mideast envoy Steve Witkoff on April 12, 2025. **ENTEKHAB**

### Breakthrough deal could breathe new life into Iran's economy



By **Mostafa Shirmohammadi**  
Editor-in-chief

#### OPINION

The first round of talks between Iran and the United States wrapped up in Muscat, Oman, in what Tehran described as a "constructive atmosphere based on mutual respect." The two sides agreed to pick up negotiations again next week. The Iranian economy was quick to respond as the rial gained significantly against the US dollar.

Iran's economic recovery seems partly tied to lifting the US cruel sanctions that were reimposed after President Donald Trump walked away from the 2015 nuclear deal, known as the JCPOA, in 2018 and have since been retched up. Tehran's number-one priority in the ongoing negotiations is to break the nuclear stalemate and, eventually, get sanctions lifted. Trump, in justifying his withdrawal, once said at the time that the US was not benefiting economically from the JCPOA, unlike other signatories such as France that secured major deals with Iran including in its auto industry. Now doubt, economic gain for the US could now shore up a new agreement. **Page 2 >**

### A new horizon for FDI?

#### OPINION EXCLUSIVE

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) holds the key to Iran's strategic advancement, addressing economic challenges and bridging technological gaps, while creating job opportunities for its young population. FDI is not just about bringing in money; it is about injecting advanced technology and opening doors to global markets, acting as a catalyst for economic growth and international competitiveness. Attracting investment, especially from developed nations, can strengthen Iran's geopolitical position and provide a buffer against external pressure. The involvement of American investors could shift the risk perception, making it easier for European and Asian investors to step in, despite sanctions concerns. However, such a strategy calls for careful planning and robust legal frameworks to ensure technology transfer and alignment with national interests. **See page 4 >**

### Thousands flee as Israel seizes Rafah in new Gaza 'security zone'



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### Persian Gulf Pro League: Tractor held as Sepahan, Persepolis given title lifeline

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### Yasuj; a paradise for nature lovers and adventurers

**7 >**



### Lost Achaemenid quarries unearthed in Western Iran

**8 >**