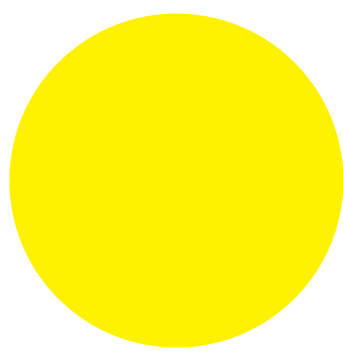


Sports minister urges
FIFA to suspend
Israel over anti-Iran
aggression

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Iran seeking brotherly ties with Qatar 'not confrontation': *Pezeshkian*

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Israel violates cease-fire announced by US president

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Smoke arises from an Israeli air strike on Babolsar, northern Iran, on June 24, 2025, after the regime's violation of an agreement with US to halt its aggression on Iran.

● SOCIAL MEDIA

Veep: National unity, cohesion send clear message to enemies

National Desk

Iran's Vice President Mohammad Reza Aref emphasized that the country's enemies have recognized that they cannot effectively confront Iran and its people. Speaking at a gathering of the senior officials from the Ministry of Roads and Urban Development on Tuesday, he added they initially anticipated a swift victory over Iran within a few days and expected the populace to join them; however, Iranian nation, despite numerous challenges, demonstrated its unity and cohesion.

vices compared to before. "We had already planned in all areas and were prepared accordingly." Aref pointed out that one of the key ministries involved in providing effective services to people was the Ministry of Roads and Urban Development, appreciating the efforts of the minister and the cooperation of the people, drivers, and guild unions. Thanks to these initiatives and teamwork, the ministry and its transportation sector delivered excellent services. Emphasizing the importance of reforms and enhancing cyberse-



Vice President Mohammad Reza Aref (c) addresses the senior officials of Iran's Road and Urban Development Ministry in Tehran on June 24, 2025.

● IRNA

"We extend our appreciation to the people, and we must continue on this path and process," he said. He further highlighted, "With this victory, the enemies understood the capabilities of our country and our people, even though we have not yet revealed all our potential." The vice president congratulated the Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, and the Iranian people on this achievement. He added, "Enemies should know that they must never set conditional terms for Iran." Reflecting on the past 12 days, he said that they served as a valuable lesson for everyone, noting that various organizations and institutions improved their ser-

curity, the vice president evaluated the services provided by the ministry as appropriate. He also called for the development of a comprehensive plan to reconstruct areas damaged by attacks of the Zionist regime. He stated that the Ministry of Roads and Urban Development is responsible for formulating a comprehensive reconstruction plan, which should clearly define the measures to be undertaken by both the government and the people. Aref also reiterated the critical importance of cybersecurity in government agencies, stating that the enemy remains lurking, therefore, executive organizations must undertake necessary reforms to bolster the cybersecurity of their systems and networks.

Iran's missile, defense power forces Israeli retreat

Negotiations needed for permanent cease-fire

> By **Shahriar Heydari**
International affairs analyst

OPINION

Following twelve days of aggression, the war waged by Israel against Iran appears to have come to a halt. Crucially, this cease-fire would not have been declared had it not been for the Islamic Republic of Iran's robust missile and defense capabilities. It was this military deterrence—alongside the resilience, unity, and patience of the Iranian people—

that ultimately compelled the United States and the Zionist regime of Israel to step back and announce a truce. Despite the hardships endured by civilians during this period, the Iranian nation stood firmly with the Armed Forces, demonstrating remarkable composure and solidarity. Such steadfastness played a decisive role in achieving what is now regarded as a major strategic victory for the Islamic Republic of Iran. The cease-fire, therefore, is a direct result of national resis-

tance and endurance. It had not been part of the original American-Israeli plan. In fact, Israel's assault on Iran was launched in full coordination with the United States, and similarly, the cease-fire was only accepted after consultations between the two. However, the show of power and cohesion by Iran's military and its people altered the calculus, leading to the eventual declaration of a truce. The cease-fire must not serve as a temporary measure to allow the Zionist regime to regroup.

At present, the Israeli regime is facing internal political turmoil, with widespread public dissatisfaction among residents of the occupied territories. This discontent has placed immense pressure on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his hawkish cabinet. In addition, divisions within Israel's military and operational leadership have emerged, further weakening the regime's internal coherence. This growing instability prompted the United States to intervene in support

of Israel, ultimately proposing the cease-fire to mitigate further damage. The recent confrontation has offered Iran a valuable strategic experience in facing both the United States and Israel. This experience is expected to further enhance the Islamic Republic's military readiness, cohesion, and capability in future scenarios. It bears repeating that without Iran's missile and defense strength, no cease-fire would have been declared. It was this deterrence, coupled with the en-

durance and unity of the Iranian people, that produced a significant national achievement and brought about a change in the trajectory of the conflict. Nevertheless, this cease-fire must now be followed by negotiations—specifically, negotiations aimed at securing a permanent truce. The goal should be to prevent the United States and Israel from considering any similar acts of aggression in the future. These are the fundamental issues that must now be addressed at the negotiating table.