

Health minister says nearly 700 civilians killed in 12-day war

‘Israeli strikes targeted seven hospitals, 11 ambulances’



National Desk

Iran’s Health Minister Mohammad Reza Zafarghandi said on Wednesday that nearly 700 civilians were killed during recent Isreal’s unprovoked aggression against the country. Zafarghandi added that the Israeli regime also directly targeted seven hospitals and eleven ambulances during its aggression, which has claimed the lives of 1,100 people in Iran. The Iranian minister said that 18 medical personnel, including six doctors, lost their lives in the regime’s strikes. Sajad Rezaei, Iran’s deputy health minister, put the number of civilians wounded in the attacks at 5,750, saying that around 170 peo-

ple are still hospitalized. Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian in a statement on Wednesday appreciated efforts by the health sector’s personnel, especially nurses, to help the wounded people in the Israeli strikes. Head of the Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) Pirhossein Kolivand also said the Israeli strikes hit targets and hospitals in the vicinity of the Red Crescent building, which damaged around 1,500 hospital beds. Five IRCS members were also killed in Israel’s attacks. Additionally, one helicopter and several ambulances belonging to the IRCS were destroyed. Iran’s Foundation of Martyrs and Veterans Affairs said on Tuesday that death toll from the

Israel’s aggression against Iran rose to 1,100. The Health Ministry had earlier announced the death of 935 people in the regime’s attacks which began on June 13. Kolivand said that the death toll from the Israeli aggression includes 126 women and 41 children, which claimed the lives of civilians, nuclear scientists and the country’s top military commanders. The US also joined the aggression by targeting the three Iranian nuclear facilities of Fordow, Natanz and Isfahan. A cease-fire proposed by the US put an end to the conflict on June 24 after Iran launched barrages of missiles at Israel’s targets in the occupied territories and at the largest US military base in the Middle East in Qatar.

Riyadh hopes cessation of Iran-Israel war to ensure regional stability



Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi (L) meets Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman at Al-Salam Palace in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, on July 8, 2025.

International Desk

Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman on Tuesday expressed hope that a US-brokered unilateral cease-fire agreement between Iran and Israel would contribute to conditions that ensure regional security and stability. The Saudi crown prince made the remarks in a meeting with Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi in Jeddah where they reviewed Tehran-Riyadh relations as well as the latest regional developments. Bin Salman emphasized the kingdom’s stance in supporting dialogue through diplomatic means as a path of resolving disputes. The Iranian foreign minister expressed his gratitude to the kingdom for its stance in condemning the Israeli aggression on the Islamic Republic and offered his appreciation for Bin Salman’s efforts and initiatives to promote security and

stability in the region. The Israeli regime launched in the wee hours of June 13 an unprecedented wave of aggression on Iran’s military and civilian infrastructure that claimed hundreds of lives, including women and children as well as a dozen top military brass. In response, the Iranian Armed Forces, led by the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), launched a powerful and unprecedented retaliatory campaign, Operation True Promise III, against the Israeli regime by targeting key military, intelligence, industrial, energy, and R&D facilities across the occupied territories. The United States, which had been in talks with Tehran about its peaceful nuclear program since April, carried out its own anti-Iran strikes on June 22 by targeting several key nuclear sites. The American onslaught was shortly met with the Islamic Republic’s retaliatory

strikes on a major US military base in Qatar. The Israeli regime was forced on June 24 to declare a unilateral halt to its aggression, which was announced on its behalf by US President Donald Trump. The Iranian foreign minister also held talks with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan bin Abdullah and Defense Minister Prince Khalid bin Salman bin Abdulaziz.

‘Fruitful conversations’

The Saudi Foreign Ministry underlined in a statement that during the meeting between Araghchi and Farhan, the two sides discussed the latest regional developments and efforts to achieve security and stability in the region. The Saudi defense minister said in a post on X that he met with the Iranian foreign minister and discussed various aspects of Riyadh-Tehran cooperation. “We reviewed various aspects of our cooperation. We also discussed regional developments and efforts to promote security and stability, along with several other topics of mutual interest,” he wrote. Pointing to the Iranian foreign minister’s meeting in Jeddah, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baghaei said on X that FM Araghchi held “fruitful conversations with Saudi Crown Prince Muhammad bin Salman, FM Amir Faisal bin Farhan and Defense Minister Amir Khaled bin Salman about Iran - Saudi bilateral relations and latest developments in the region.”

Top general lauds ‘tactful’ measures by police in Israel’s aggression



Iran’s Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Major General Abdolrahim Mousavi (L) meets with Police chief Brigadier General Ahmad Reza Radan in Tehran on July 9, 2025.

National Desk

Iran’s Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Major General Abdolrahim Mousavi on Wednesday praised “tactful and decisive” measures by police forces during a recent Israel’s aggression against the country. Mousavi in a meeting with the Iran’s Police chief Brigadier-General Ahmad-Reza Radan commended police’s actions in preserving public order, supporting the domestic logistical front during the conflict with Israel, and countering the enemy’s hybrid and intelligence threats. During the meeting, the two officials reviewed the police’s performance in the face of emerging threats against the country. Radan outlined police’s measures during the recent conflict with Israel and pointed to the discovery and neutralization of several espionage networks and psychological operations linked to the Israeli regime and US spying services. “Through close cooperation with the country’s security and intelligence institutions, we succeeded in identifying and arresting a number of spies, as well as

dismantling groups of Zionist mercenaries and thwarting their planned crimes.” On Tuesday, Iran’s Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Ground Force said in a statement thanks to the vigilance and insight of local people, the hideouts of several members of terrorist groups were detected in the coastal city of Chabahar in southeastern province of Sistan and Baluchestan. The statement said the IRGC Ground Force neutralized six terrorists in a swift operation. Several light and heavy weapons in addition to a substantial amount of explosives were also seized from the slain militants as well. The IRGC statement further highlighted that the eliminated individuals were planning to carry out a string of terrorist attacks in crowded public places. Sistan and Baluchestan Province, which borders Pakistan, has witnessed several terrorist attacks targeting both civilians and security forces over the past years. Terrorist groups carrying out attacks against Iranian interests in the south-eastern and southwestern parts of the country are believed to be linked to foreign spying services.

Mohammad Ali Rajabi

Cartoonist

China says willing to share military equipment achievements with ‘friendly’ countries

China has always taken a prudent, responsible approach to military exports and is willing to share the achievements of its equipment development with friendly countries, a Chinese defense spokesperson said on Tuesday. Jiang Bin, spokesperson for the Ministry of National Defense, made the remarks when commenting on recent reports that several countries are in discussions with China regarding weapon procurement plans that include China’s J-10 fighter jet, Xinhua reported. Jiang also stressed the country’s com-

mitment to playing a constructive role in regional and global peace and stability. China has transitioned to developing its own advanced aircraft—demonstrating growing self-sufficiency and competitiveness that may surpass Russia, experts say. Countries aiming to acquire advanced fighter jets are increasingly turning to China as it plans to ramp up exports and strategic partnerships, while showcasing its aircraft in military drills. A recent analysis by the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS)



revealed that Myanmar, Pakistan, Thailand, and the United Arab Emirates were the primary recipients of China’s arms sales. The UAE had once eyed American F-35 jets.

