

Iran warns aggression on OPEC states violates law, threatens global energy supply

Economy Desk

Iranian Oil Minister Mohsen Paknejad told an OPEC seminar that aggression against energy producers violates international law and threatens global stability, emphasizing that the global energy industry—especially oil—requires peace and stability to fulfill its role in safeguarding welfare at national, regional, and global levels in modern world. In a video message to the opening ceremony of the 9th OPEC International Seminar in Vienna, Austria, under the theme "Charting pathways together: the future of global energy," Paknejad stressed, "This important seminar seeks to address the serious challenges threatening the global path towards a secure energy future," as reported by IRNA. Stating that what is of great

importance is the situation in the Middle East, he said the long-standing cradle of the world's energy faces immediate threats resulting from the overt warmongering of the Zionist regime and the United States. The oil minister added that during this 12-day aggression by the Israeli regime, launched on June 13, over 5,000 were injured and more than one thousand were martyred. Among them are a significant number of innocent women and children, as well as university professors in the energy field and their families. According to Deputy Oil Minister Saeed Tavakoli, during the 12-day war, the country's gas infrastructure was targeted in multiple attacks, "including the South Pars Phase 14 refinery in Asaluyeh, the Fajr Jam refinery, export pipelines, and some ur-

ban facilities," Tasnim reported. Based on reports recorded at the Crisis Management Headquarters and 194 centers across the country, the head of the National Iranian Gas Company reported that over 6,000 major operations were carried out including valve reconfiguration, network stabilization, pressure control and cooling, and firefighting. In some instances, these operations were completed in the shortest possible time and met international standards. In his message, Paknejad stated that the brutal military aggression against the territorial integrity of Iran, one of the world's principal and long-standing energy suppliers, "constitutes a flagrant violation of international law and the United Nations Charter." He noted that the



Iranian Oil Minister Mohsen Paknejad, via a video message, addresses the opening ceremony of the 9th OPEC International Seminar in Vienna, Austria, on July 9, 2025.
● SHANA

onslaught occurred while diplomatic negotiations concerning Iran's peaceful nuclear program were ongoing. Paknejad emphasized that any unstable situation, regardless of its cause – be it aggression or war – which leads to disruption in the smooth flow of oil and gas supply to international markets, increases uncertainty for energy producers and consumers and subjects national economies to varying degrees of economic hardship. Referring to the serious challenges that OPEC members, as well as OPEC+ countries, face



on the path ahead, he stated his belief that all must adopt a principled stance against resorting to war and using it as a tool to achieve political objectives, adding, "This approach will benefit no one." The oil minister called on members to guide each other, both at the seminar and in all other engagements, towards recalling the principles of unity, stability,

and respect for the sovereign rights of nations, which are also stipulated in the 'OPEC Statute' and the 'Charter of Cooperation'. Paknejad also emphasized that the Islamic Republic, as one of the founding members of OPEC in 1960, remains fully committed to the common ideals and objectives of this organization and welcomes the seminar as an opportunity for dialogue.

CAO reports Israeli damage to four civil aviation sites to ICAO



Economy Desk

Iran's Civil Aviation Organization (CAO) announced on Wednesday that it had reported the Israeli regime's ruinous strikes on the country's non-military aviation sectors to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). Hamidreza Sanei, deputy head of CAO, stated that the Zionist regime's attack on four non-military aviation sectors of the country that caused huge damage is a clear example of "illegal interventions." "The hostile regime inflicted 3 trillion tomans (\$34.48 million) in damage to people's property in one instance," Sanei said. "Four attacks on the country's non-military aviation sectors were recorded, all of which have been reported to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in accordance with international protocols and regulations," Tasnim reported. Emphasizing that these actions constitute clear examples of "illegal interventions," he clarified, "According to international definitions, these attacks were carried out by a hostile country and must be pursued in international forums."

Regarding damage details, he added, "During these attacks, two runways at Tabriz airport sustained serious damage. Isfahan airport also suffered damage, though less severe than Tabriz." According to the official, "One of the country's radar systems was damaged during these violations." Noting heavy damage to a private airport, he stated, "Unfortunately, Qazvin's Airport in Abiek, used by the private sector, was targeted by the Zionist regime. This airport was full of light and ultra-light aircraft, and unfortunately, the hostile regime destroyed 3 trillion tomans worth of people's property." According to the latest reports, all airports across the country are operational except for Isfahan Airport, and domestic airlines are conducting their flights as usual. The airport, which Sanei stated had sustained serious damage in recent attacks, has been restored and will soon be reconnected to the network. The head of Iran Airports Company (IAC) Mohammad Amirani said that approximately 638 transit, domestic, and international flights received services from the company. Amirani told IRNA that on Tuesday a total of 224 domestic flights were operated in the country. Additionally, the total number of transit flights through the country's airspace reached 310 flights.

At BRICS summit: CBI prioritizes NDB expansion, sustainable project financing

Economy Desk

A delegation from the Central Bank of Iran at the BRICS Finance Ministers' meeting in Brazil emphasized facilitating the admission of new members to the New Development Bank (NDB) and its role in financing infrastructure projects and sustainable development. The Central Bank delegation, headed by Asghar Abolhassani, the CBI deputy governor, participated in the third meeting of deputy finance ministers and central bank governors, and the first meeting of Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors of BRICS member states, held under the rotating presidency of Brazil on July 3 and 4 in Rio de Janeiro, IRNA reported on Wednesday. During these meetings, key topics raised included the imperative of multilateralism over unilateralism, the establishment of a unified payment infrastructure for the bloc, addressing climate change, and the critical need to bolster economic cooperation. The present BRICS member countries – consisting of Brazil, China, India, Russia, South Africa, Iran, the United Arab Emirates, Indonesia, and Ethiopia – delivered speeches. Iran, while outlining the Central Bank's efforts to control inflation and



strengthen the national currency's value through coherent monetary policies despite facing challenges from oppressive sanctions, and highlighting the sustained positive growth of the Iranian economy in successive past quarters, presented several points. The topics included emphasizing the BRICS group's key role as one of the important global economic coalitions, enumerating the country's economic capacities such as rich natural resources, strategic geographical location, and skilled human resources, stressing the need to enhance financial, banking, and economic cooperation among BRICS countries, the need to reduce dependence on traditional financial systems and achieve balance in the global economy, Iran's commitment to active participation in realizing BRICS' common goals, expanding

the use of national currencies in trade among group countries with the approach of reducing dependence on the dollar and achieving financial independence, integrating payment systems, facilitating the admission of new members to the NDB, and emphasizing the role of the bank in financing infrastructure projects and sustainable development. Furthermore, on the sidelines of the meetings, constructive meetings were held with officials from the ministries of finance and central banks of target countries to secure their support for Iran's membership in the NDB and expand banking cooperation. Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors of BRICS member states pose for a photo on the sideline of the first meeting held under the rotating presidency of Brazil on July 3 and 4 in Rio de Janeiro.

One year with ...

Pezeshkian, for his part, has consistently emphasized his alignment with the views of the Supreme Leader and pledged since his campaign to operate within the broader framework of policies laid out by the Leader for the country's development. The Leader, in return, has offered his full support to the president and the administration. Notably, when parliamentary oversight began to overstep its bounds and obstruct the government's workflow, the Leader intervened, advising lawmakers to exercise restraint. True to his campaign commitments, Pezeshkian also maintained close engagement with the public and the country's intellectual class after assuming office. He established a standing initiative to meet regularly with academics, experts, and elites, fulfilling his promise to tap into the country's wealth of human capital for its advancement and progress. Taken together, a fair evaluation of Pezeshkian's first year in office suggests that, despite numerous challenges—many of them external—the administration has made meaningful headway in strengthening social cohesion, inter-branch cooperation, and citizen participation in governance. In these key areas, the "Government of National Unity" has earned credible marks. There is reason to hope that the post-war surge in social capital—spanning not only the public but also various branches of power with differing political leanings—can be channeled into deeper cooperation. With this backing, and by leveraging domestic capabilities, the 14th administration may be able to take more decisive steps in the remaining three years to address economic challenges and better serve the people.

First phase of water transfer project to Isfahan accomplished

Economy Desk

The governor-general of Isfahan Province announced the first phase of the major project to transfer water from the Oman Sea to the province had been completed. Mehdi Jamali-Nejad on Tuesday stated that despite numerous obstacles and limitations, the first practical step towards supplying the water needed by Isfahan's industries had been achieved, as reported by IRNA.

The most significant advantage of the project is the cessation of water consumption by regional industries from the Zayandeh Rud River. He further delineated that the first step in implementing the project entails ending the consumption of Zayandeh Rud water by regional industries, which was accomplished through the completion of the first stage of the large-scale Oman Sea water transfer system to Isfahan, involving the construction of approximately 800 kilometers of transmission

pipelines, reservoirs, pumping stations, valves, and related connections. The governor-general underscored that this phase has enabled the transfer of 70 million cubic meters of desalinated seawater to Isfahan, equivalent to the total consumption of large industries. He said that in the first phase of the project, 70 million cubic meters of water are supplied via the Persian Gulf, and in the subsequent phase, the water transferred to the province will be sourced from the Sea of Oman.

Jamali-Nejad emphasized that in the initial stage following the project's inauguration, the Isfahan Refinery and industries in the north of the province will benefit from the water supply. He added that in the next stage, within the coming days, the Mobarakeh Steel Complex and southern provincial industries will also gain access to this source. Jamali-Nejad stressed, "Under no circumstances will this water be used for any new development of water-intensive and polluting industries around the

city of Isfahan." Upon full implementation of the massive national project, 70 million cubic meters of desalinated Oman Sea water will be transferred to Isfahan in the first phase, and 400 million cubic meters in the second phase. According to officials, the project's execution is solely aimed at supplying water to the province's existing industries. They state there are absolutely no plans to use it to expand water-intensive industrial units.