



# President urges unity, praises women's role in national development

## Social Desk

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian on Sunday made an unannounced visit to the Vice Presidency for Women and Family Affairs in Tehran, calling for stronger public engagement in national development and emphasizing the "pivotal" role of women in social participation. In remarks to senior officials from the Women's Affairs office and the National Population Headquarters, Pezeshkian said women possess "stronger motivation" and "better capacity" for social involvement, president.ir reported.

He warned against excluding voices based on ideology or identity, saying, "We must stop dividing people into insiders and outsiders. This country belongs to all Iranians." His comments mark a shift toward more inclusive rhetoric just weeks after assuming office. Pezeshkian criticized current policies for falling short despite heavy spending, especially in culture and population planning. "When the results don't match the input, it's time to rethink the way we operate," he said, urging officials to act on data rather than "rushing into structural overhauls."

Touching on his war-era experience, he recalled how public solidarity had helped the country pull through both the 1980s Iran-Iraq War and the recent 12-day conflict with Israel. "People stood their ground so shortages wouldn't spark unrest," he said. "Some even set aside personal frustrations to deny the enemy a chance to exploit them." He praised women's influence at home and in society, calling them "a cornerstone" in shaping future generations and national resilience. "As mothers and wives, their impact is serious. And they've shown greater



Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian (2<sup>nd</sup> R) attends a meeting with officials from the Vice Presidency for Women and Family Affairs and the National Population Headquarters in Tehran on July 13, 2025. ● [president.ir](#)

drive when it comes to social engagement," he said, challenging the notion that their role should be limited. He concluded by calling for "unity of purpose" across divides. "The only way to build this country is by embracing diversity, fostering solidarity, and pooling every ounce of national potential."



## Tehran faces worst drought in six decades, minister warns



## Social Desk

Iran's Energy Minister Abbas Aliabadi on Sunday said Tehran is going through its driest period in 60 years, with drinking water reservoirs serving the capital sharply depleted.

In a high-level meeting hosted by the Iran Water and Power Resources Development Company in Karaj, senior officials including Tehran and Alborz governors and top water managers reviewed the urgent progress of the Taleqan-to-Tehran water pipeline. The pipeline, which is set to transfer 150 million cubic meters of water annually from the Taleqan River to treatment plants in Tehran and Karaj, is seen as a critical medium-term fix as the capital grapples with shrinking reserves and dwindling rainfall. "We are in one of the toughest years in decades," Aliabadi said during the meeting. He called the current drought "unprecedented" and stressed the need for immediate action. Recent data shows a 47% drop in precipitation

across the Tehran and Alborz provinces, which has triggered a sharp decline in dam levels. Despite the water crunch, the government says infrastructure work is moving faster than before. According to Aliabadi, the second phase of the Taleqan pipeline project has progressed more in the past six months than it had in the previous two years. The project has now reached over 60% completion, up from 40% at the start of the current administration in 2023. He also noted that this leg of the pipeline is expected to connect soon to the Bileqan treatment facility near Karaj. Once operational, it will help supply both cities and parts of Qazvin Province with treated water. While underscoring the urgency of technical

upgrades, Aliabadi said public cooperation remains vital. "We need people to cut water use—even small savings will go a long way," he said, warning that ignoring conservation could lead to "serious consequences." Beyond the Taleqan pipeline, other short-, mid-, and long-term water supply projects are also underway, though Aliabadi admitted that overcoming the summer ahead will require "more than engineering." He stressed that better distribution networks, upgraded transfer systems, and increased purification capacity are part of the solution, but so is a national culture of water-saving. "This project isn't just about today," the minister said. "It's about securing the water future of Tehran and Alborz."

## Iran's 'Dandelions Girl' wins Audience Award at Tokyo festival

## Arts & Culture Desk

Iranian short film 'Dandelions Girl' won the Audience Award in the Asian competition at the 27th Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia 2025, the festival's organizers confirmed on Sunday. Directed by Azadeh Masihzadeh and produced by Razieh Gholami, 'Dandelions Girl' beat dozens of contenders to emerge as the crowd favorite in screenings across Tokyo cinemas and the festival's online platform. The annual Oscar-qualifying festival is one of Asia's short film events, celebrating both es-



tablished and emerging voices in filmmaking. The 15-minute film follows a young girl breaking into the world of soccer despite social constraints. With a symbolic take on "truth versus

lies," the story paints a picture of honesty and defiance among youth. "She disturbs the balance," said Masihzadeh, describing the character's impact on the field. Actors Tara Soroush, Binyam Afrangheh, and Abdollah Bahadori lead the cast. International distribution is managed by AtoZinema, headed by Masihzadeh. The Audience Award is based on public votes across the "International," "Asia," and "Japan" sections. 'Dandelions Girl' topped the Asian category with the highest viewer votes, reflecting its emotional resonance and timely themes.

## Iranian short film awarded at Ecuador's Cuenca Festival

## Arts & Culture Desk

Iranian filmmaker Nasrin Mohammadpour received a special jury mention for her short film 'Twenty-One Weeks Later' at the 24th Cuenca International Film Festival, which wrapped up earlier this month in Santa Ana de los Ríos de Cuenca in Ecuador. The festival, originally slated for June 25-30 but held with a slight delay, showcased dozens of international films, with a particular spotlight on human rights issues, including environmental and social concerns. 'Twenty-One Weeks Later,' written, directed, and produced by Mohammadpour, competed in the short film section and was singled out by jurors for its emotional weight and cinematic precision. Held annually for over two decades, Cuenca's festival has drawn global talent including Laurent Cantet, Isaki Lacuesta, Goran Paskaljevic, and Eduardo Noriega. Mohammadpour's work now joins the legacy of award-winning films to emerge from the event, praised for capturing "the depth of human conflict in minimal time." This is not the first time 'Twenty-One Weeks Later' has turned heads on the global circuit. The film previously won the Special Jury Prize at Spain's Taboo Nikaah Film Festival, Best Asian Short at South Korea's 28th Bu-



san International Short Film Festival, and a Jury Award at Turkey's Golden Boll International Film Festival. It has also screened at major festivals in the UK (Raindance), Germany (Hof), the Dominican Republic (Santo Domingo), and Colombia (Santander), among others. The film's international distribution is handled by Cinerama, under the management of Neshat Bagheri. The cast includes Banafsheh Riazi, Leila Hosseinzadeh, Soudابه Bahraminejad, and Parisa Asgari.

**Notice of tender for export sale No. Z/1404/08**  
**Golgohar Mining and Industrial Company**

Hereby Golgohar Mining & Industrial Co. announces selling and export 70.000 metric tons of Iron Ore Concentrate (%Fe:66.50 ave) on basis of F.O.B at Rajaei Jetty Bandar Abbas - Iran. Interested bidders should find tender documents at Golgohar website: [www.geg.ir](http://www.geg.ir). All bids on conformity to tender instructions must be submitted no later than 09:00 A.M. on 22. Jul.2025 to 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 22.Jul.2025 at the office of the Seller.

Analysis %	
%Fe Ave	66.50
%FeO	Min 24    Max 28
%P Max	0.05
%S Max	1.1
%SiO2 Max	3.0
%Al2O3 Max	0.7
%CaO Max	0.9
%MgO Max	2.5
%Moisture Max	5.0
Size ave	80%<0.48 mm

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