

# New fishing record set in international waters: *IFO chief*

## Iran exports \$451m aquatics in seven months

### Economy desk

The head of Iran's Fisheries Organization (IFO) said the country's fishermen had set a new record in fishing across transboundary waters, with some Iranian vessels catching up to 160 tons — a figure that was previously between 100 and 130 tons. Hamzeh Rostampour made the announcement while speaking at Tehran Permanent International Fairgrounds on the sidelines of the 9th Iran International Fisheries In-

dustry Exhibition (IFEX) on Wednesday. Rostampour said that \$451 million worth of aquatics was exported from the country in the first seven months of the current Iranian calendar year (started March 21, 2025). Stressing that sea-based development in the fisheries sector, as one of the pillars of food security and job creation, holds a strategic position, Rostampour said the IFO had thus far generated employment opportunities for 285,000 job-seeking people directly and for one million

others indirectly. The official also announced a 20 to 30 percent growth in production compared to the current year's forecasts and the export of \$400 million worth of various fishery and aquatic products in the first half of the year. Pointing to the export of over \$400 million worth of fishery products since the beginning of the year, Rostampour stated that about 80% of it consisted of shrimp, with European and neighboring countries as its destination.

The IFO chief also emphasized the importance of supplying the domestic market and reducing the price of aquatic products for consumers, saying, "Warm-water fish have high protein content, and their consumption plays an important role in people's health." Rostampour added that, "By reducing production costs and increasing productivity, the price of fishery products in the domestic market can be lowered so that people can benefit from healthy and high-quality food."



## Energy minister says virtual, physical imports of water on agenda

### Economy Desk

Iran's Energy Minister Abbas Aliabadi announced on Wednesday that the imports of water have been put on the agenda, saying, "Water imports, both virtual and physical, from neighboring countries are on the agenda." Speaking on the sidelines of the 21st Iran International Water and Wastewater Exhibition, Aliabadi said there is an exaggeration in the media

regarding water wastage in the network, and figures such as 35% water loss do not exist. The energy minister added that appropriate measures have been taken for leak detection, and there a significant reduction in water wastage, especially in the country's metropolises in recent years. "We are also seeking to secure Iran's water rights from neighboring countries; we must prevent water outflow to the seas," Aliabadi said. "Ne-



gotiations are underway with neighbors to supply surplus water, but in the current situation, the entire region is facing drought." Speaking at the opening ceremony of the exhibition, the head of the organizing committee for the Energy Min-

istry's water and electricity industry exhibitions said 150 domestic companies and four foreign companies from Italy, Germany, and China are participating in the 21st Iran International Water and Wastewater Exhibition. "Integrated water resource



Iran's Energy Minister Abbas Aliabadi speaks at the 21st Iran International Water and Wastewater Exhibition in Tehran on December 3, 2025.  
● ISNA

management, drought and climate change resilience, consumption optimization, reduction of water waste, development of wastewater collection and treatment networks, wastewater recycling, improvement of drinking water quality, and utilization of new technologies in monitoring and smart management of networks are among the main priorities of this year's exhibition," Gholamhossein Moqimi said.

Referring to the intensification of drought conditions in the country, Moqimi said, "Given the current requirements in the water sector, this exhibition is twice as important as previous periods. The Ministry of Energy and the organizing committee have tried to make this period as coherent and productive as possible, and participants have been invited to present their latest scientific and technological achievements." The 21st Iran International Water and Wastewater Exhibition will be held from Wednesday (December 3), to Saturday (December 6), from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Tehran Permanent International Fairgrounds.

## China ramps up Iranian oil intake after getting new import quota

China's independent oil refiners are boosting their intake of Iranian crude from onshore tanks and ships idling at sea after Beijing issued a fresh round of import quotas late last month, as reported by Bloomberg.

Several processors based in Shandong Province have been taking crude from bonded storage at ports and refineries this week, according to people familiar with the matter, asking to not be identified discussing sensitive information. A lot of the oil had been bought prior to the new quota allocation, they said.

China's private refiners, known as teapots, dominate the nation's purchases of crude from Iran and Russia, which are cheaper than other grades, but had to scale back buying during the fourth quarter due to exhausted allocations and the fallout from sanctions. Beijing runs a quota system under which it controls the amount of oil that non state-owned refiners can import. Still, overall demand from teapots is likely to remain muted through year-end, in part due to weak processing margins, according to Vortexa Ltd. That means "sanctioned crude is likely to keep accumulating on water," said Emma Li, lead China market analyst for Vortexa.

Chinese authorities typically provide guidance on the overall annual quota, but don't usually give details on the tranches issued throughout the year that make up the actual total figure. For the latest allocation, about 20 teapots got between seven-to-eight million tons, according to analysts.

Two supertankers carrying Iranian oil that had been idling off China, discharged their cargoes this week at separate Chinese ports, according to ship-tracking data compiled by Bloomberg. One of the vessels, Panama-flagged Ill Gap — transporting about 2 million barrels — unload-



ed at Rizhao.

The vessel's Mumbai-based manager Eversail Ship Services OPC PVT, and owner Crystal Blue Sky Inc. that's in the Marshall Islands, did not respond to emails for comment. It's not been sanctioned by any Western governments.

Iranian crude held on tankers at sea climbed to more than 54 million barrels this week, the highest in about two and a half years, according to data from Kpler. China is the biggest consumer of oil from the OPEC producer, which is subject to sanctions. Exports recently rose to the fastest clip in years.

Given the very limited pool of buyers, Iranian oil needs to be cheap. Some cargoes of Iran Light were offered at a discount of around \$8-to-\$9 a barrel to ICE Brent this week, compared with about \$4 in August, according to traders. Widening sanctions on Russia are also leading to cheaper barrels.

Many Chinese refiners burned through their allocations faster than usual this year due to stricter tax regimes on alternative feedstock such as fuel oil. Since 2024, they've received full-year quotas upfront to aid planning, but that system often leaves them running short well before year-end.

### Economy desk

The deputy head of planning and economy in the Ministry of Agriculture raised the alarm on Wednesday that the erosion of two billion tons of Iranian soil is regarded as a "silent threat" to the national food security and reducing production costs and increasing productivity are the economic strategies of the ministry for soil conservation.

"Soil; this silent yet vital asset, today more than ever, requires protection, study, and intelligent management. World Soil Day is an opportunity to review the status of this non-renewable resource, which is not only the foundation of food security but also a pillar of sustainable development in the world and in



## Deputy minister warns soil erosion poses 'silent threat' to food security

Iran," Akbar Fathi said.

"In Iran, the soil situation also requires urgent attention and more precise policymaking. Estimates indicate that our country experiences between 1.5 to 2 billion tons of soil erosion annually; a figure that is very high compared to the global average (about five tons per hectare) and in some regions, even 20

to 30 tons per hectare has been reported. This is while the formation of one centimeter of fertile soil takes, on average, more than 700 years."

Stressing that soil is regarded as the food security of future generations, Fathi said, "Although the challenges are serious, there is also a clear and achievable

path. Countries that have implemented long-term soil conservation programs over the past three decades have been able to experience up to a 50% reduction in erosion and a 30% increase in productivity. Iran, with its scientific, academic, and technological capacities, is also capable of managing a significant portion of the current crisis in less than a decade."

The deputy head of planning and economy in the Ministry of Agriculture said the future of Iran's food security is directly dependent on the decisions that are taken regarding soil.

"Soil protection is not a choice, but a strategic necessity for the country's economic, environmental, and social survival," Fathi added.



## AUCTION SJSCO. D140405

Sirjan Jahan Steel Company is pleased to announce the sale and export of 20,000 tons **DIRECT REDUCED IRON (DRI)**, with the option to increase the contract quantity by up to 25% on basis of FAS at the Buyer's warehouse in Bandar Abbas, IRAN according to INCOTERMS 2020.

Interested applicants are hereby invited to obtain the tender documents by visiting the official website of Sirjan Jahan Steel Company at [sjSCO.ir](http://sjSCO.ir), through the Sales and customer portal, Tender and Foreign Tender section.

All documentation will be provided electronically.

All bids on conformity to tender instruction should be submitted no later than **Monday, December 15, 2025.**

**For more information, please contact us at:**

**Tel: +2186084642**