

# Pezeshkian says gov't focused on heeding public's legitimate demands

*Putin: Iran's recent unrest resembles 'color revolution' scenarios*

## International Desk

President Masoud Pezeshkian said on Friday that his government's approach in domestic policy is people-oriented, stressing that all efforts are focused on listening to the "legitimate demands of the people" and reducing problems caused by "unjust sanctions" imposed on the country. The Iranian president made the remarks during a phone call with his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin following recent protests in Iran over economic problems, which turned violent after US and Israeli interference. Demonstrations in Iran, caused by the national currency deval-

uation, began on December 28. The protests remained peaceful for a week during which President Pezeshkian and his administration entered talks with the protesters' representatives to hear their demands. Instigated by expressions of support on behalf of US president as well as Zionist-relayed instructions, armed groups and individuals in various cities, including the capital Tehran, transformed the protests into violent clashes. A yet-to-be-specified number of people, including protesters and security forces, have lost their lives in the clashes. During the phone conversation, Pezeshkian highlighted the direct role of the United States,

the Israeli regime, and some European countries in the deadly incidents. The Russian president said that Moscow is closely monitoring the developments in Iran. He described the recent events in Iran as similar to "color revolution" scenarios, adding that, "We fully understand that long-term unjust sanctions can cause economic and social problems in Iran, but rioting and vandalism have no compatibility with peaceful and civil protest." Putin denounced measures by the rioters who attacked governmental, public and religious buildings, as well as violent attacks on security and law enforcement forces with foreign



Vladimir Putin



Masoud Pezeshkian

support. "The million-strong march by Iranians after these events in support of the Islamic Establishment, the Leader, and their government clearly shows the reality in Iran. We hope that with the Iranian government's

measures in the economic field, we will witness improvement and strengthening of economic issues, while our diplomatic efforts to explain Iran's conditions and positions and prevent escalation of tensions in international forums continue," the

Russian president added. Putin also referred to the latest status of bilateral relations between Tehran and Moscow, affirming that Russia always welcomes the further expansion of relations with the Islamic Republic.

## NIGC sets new record in sweet gas production, transmission



IRNA

## Economy Desk

The National Iranian Gas Company (NIGC) set a new record for gas sweetening and transmission to the national grid, increasing daily volumes to 882 million cubic meters in more than first nine months of the Iranian calendar year, began on March 21, according to the company's head. Addressing the 14th Winter Fuel Coordination Meeting on Friday, Saeid Tavakoli said that on January 13, 162.1 million cubic meters of gas were injected to power plants, breaking another record for gas delivery this year, IRNA reported. Tavakoli said that from the start of the year through January 11, more than 3.2 billion cubic meters of additional gas were delivered to power plants and at least 1.5

billion cubic meters more to industries compared with the same period last year. However, the deputy oil minister cautioned that such gains do not signal a return to normal conditions and were achieved only through staff efforts and proper consumption management. Tavakoli stopped short of mentioning the exact output figure of the same period last year. However, the NIGC announced last January that more than 872 million cubic meters of gas were produced and injected into the network daily. The official attributed some part of the achievement to the recovery of the damaged unit at Fajr Jam gas refinery in the southern province of Bushehr. A unit at Iran's Fajr Jam gas refinery was brought back online on January 6 follow-

ing repairs, months after the facility was hit during Israel's aggression on Iran in June. According to Oil Minister Mohsen Paknejad, the refinery suffered "serious damage" on two of its eight gas sweetening trains when it came under attack. One of the damaged trains had been repaired and brought back online under a six-month timetable, Paknejad said during a visit to the city of Jam to reopen the unit. Fajr Jam is one of Iran's largest gas refineries, processing feedstock from the Nar and Kangan gas fields and part of the natural gas from phases 6, 7 and 8 of the South Pars gas field, which Iran shares with Qatar in the Persian Gulf. The facility has the capacity to process around 125 million cubic meters of natural gas per day and also produces gas condensate and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG). Tavakoli also added that despite colder weather this year — averaging about 1 degree lower than last year since September — and an increase in household consumption of an average 23 million cubic meters per day due to 700,000 new subscribers, there were no gas outages in any sector. He called the achievement a symbol of pride for the company.

## Tehran raps G7 'duplicious approach' toward human rights

## International Desk

The Iranian Foreign Ministry condemned "meddlesome" remarks by the Group of Seven about recent developments in Iran, describing it as the evidence of the "duplicious approach" of the G7 member states toward the issue of human rights. In a statement, the Foreign Ministry said the G7, influenced by American propaganda and the Israeli regime, knowingly ignores the fact that Iran's peaceful protests were driven to violence through the entry of organized elements of terrorists equipped by Israel between January 8 and 10. The statement added that a large number of protesters, police, and law-enforcement officers were attacked, killed and wounded during the same period. "The explicit statements and remarks by current and former American officials, as well as Zionist regime's officials, encouraging violence and slaughter of the people, alongside solid documents collected by security authorities, indicate the direct role of the Israeli regime in equipping and organizing armed terrorists and US support for them," it added. The Foreign Ministry said the Is-



IRNA

lamic Republic with all its power will undertake the responsibility to protect the security of its citizens and public order against "imported terrorism," and also to defend the national sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iran against any foreign threat or aggression. The statement also referred to the G7 member states' "shameful record of gross human rights violations in their own countries and the West Asia region," saying that they lack "any legitimacy or moral standing to judge others." "Undoubtedly, the collective memory of the Iranian nation will not forget the support by American,

German, British, Canadian authorities, and some other G7 members for the Zionist regime's military aggression against Iran and the slaughter of hundreds of Iranians in June 2025," it added. The Foreign Ministry concluded that instead of issuing "deceptive and interfering statements," the G7 members should stop meddling in Iran's internal affairs, end the "unjust and illegal sanctions" against the Iranian nation, and refrain from exploiting the noble concepts of human rights as a cover for intervention in Iran's internal affairs and for provoking violence and terrorism.

## Chamber head urges close cooperation among Muslims for sustainable growth

## Economy Desk

Head of the Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture called for close cooperation between economic actors and private sector businessmen of the Muslim countries to achieve an economic development and sustainable growth. In a congratulatory message to the Muslim world on the occasion of Mab'ath, the anniversary of the Prophet Muhammed's (PBUH) divine appointment, Samad Hassanzadeh said that the chambers of commerce of the Muslim nations can play a pivotal role in building up an extensive international network,

ISNA reported. "Renowned tradespeople in Islamic Iran and the Muslim world have proved throughout history that with resort to the noble religion of Islam and teachings of Prophet Muhammed (PBUH), they can present a distinguished model of immaculate, trust-worthy and profit-oriented commerce that favors the entire society and is shot of self-oriented racketeering," Hassanzadeh said. "Creating trade networks among economic stakeholders and merchants of private sectors in Islamic countries can bring about invaluable blessings and beneficence for the sustainable economic growth

and development across the globe," he added. The Islamic Republic prioritizes fostering cooperation with Islamic countries — home to over 1.8 billion Muslims worldwide. The Islamic world's share in economic value creation, AI-related scientific production, and technological development is estimated at less than 5 percent, according to the Iranian vice president. "This figure starkly contrasts with the vast potential and capabilities of Islamic countries, Mohammad Reza Aref said at the second Ministerial Meeting of the OIC-15 Dialogue Platform in Tehran in May.

## Top general: Enemies distort Iran's reality via 'cognitive' war, propaganda

## National Desk

Chief of Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces Major General Abdolrahim Mousavi said on Saturday that Iran's enemies have distorted reality of recent developments in the country by using the mainstream media and "cognitive war." "Over the course of a soft war, the enemy influenced a number of people in the society through its propaganda empire and cognitive war, turning the reality upside down," Mousavi said at a meeting with Iran's cultural officials. The top general called on the officials and the relevant cultural authorities to transfer the Islamic Revolution and the Sacred Defense ideals to the younger generations as a way to tackle the "enemy's tricks in the cultural area." He also called for revealing the enemy's crimes against the Iranian nation. Since the beginning of recent protests in Iran over eco-

Abdolrahim Mousavi  
MEHR

omic woes on December 28, the Western media have launched a campaign against the Islamic Republic over its response to the deadly riots, which were triggered by the protests over national currency devaluation.