

Economic recession taken life of Persian enamel art



"The price of the colors used in the Persian enamel has been raised following the increase in the value of exchange rate since the colors are imported from abroad. Consequently, the products prices increase and subsequently tourists' purchasing powers decrease," a handicraft artist said. "Enameling is among the handicrafts that have been impacted by the latest economic recession in Iran; it is noteworthy to mention that the importance of enameling should not be compared with other handicrafts as each of them has its own unique features," Fatemeh Nazemi said.

"Serious negative effects has come through the recent economic recession; no purchase and sale are currently taking place and tourists cannot afford the costs. We should overcome the downturn to increase sales and arrive to witness a boom in Iran's handicraft market," she added.

"Due to the economic depression, people cannot afford to buy enamel works while they used to buy enamels on various occasions. The main problem is that enamel colors are imported from Germany and the price depends on the exchange rate; so, rising exchange rate affects the price of these colors. The price of copper that is the dominant metal used in this handicraft has also increased. also, making the colors used in this artwork is not feasible in the country as their production requires high costs and time" Nazemi said.

» License Owner & Managing director: Reza Mahzunieh
» Editor-in-Chief: Marzie Rabiei
» Assistant Editor-in-Chief of English Section: Bahare Yousefi
» Isfahan Office: Hooraa Building, Shahid Mofateh Street, Ahmad Abad Square, Isfahan, Iran
» Tel: 031-32274500
» Public Relations: 031-32274754

» Organization of advertisement: 031-32274517, 32274518, 32274512, 32274505.
» Fax: 031-32274507, 32274511
» Lithography and printing: Golriz
» Isfahan subscribers Office: 031-32274508
» website: esfahan-news.com
» SMS: 30007232

Chehel Sotoun: Palace, Garden, Nice Wall Paintings



Chehel Sotoun, located in the central Iranian city of Isfahan, is a surviving 17th-century palace, which used to be part of the royal precinct that stretched between Imam (Naqsh-e Jahan) Sq. and Chahar Bagh Abbasi St.

The Safavid-era palace was built as a pleasure pavilion and reception hall amidst a large park, itself an exemplar of the Persian Garden which has been inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage list.

The name of the palace, which literally means "Forty Columns", derives from the illusion that the twenty columns of the front portico are doubled by the reflecting pool to the south.

The palace is entered via an elegant terrace that connects a pattern of a Persian garden to an interior of elaborate design and splendor. Chehel Sotoun boasts eye-catching

frescos that depict multitudes of human figures, royal meetings, and battle scenes amongst them: the reception of an Uzbek King in 1646 and the infamous Battle of Chaldiran against the Ottoman Sultan Selim I.

Based on historical records, the building was initially constructed in the mid-17th century and rebuilt in 1706 following a raging fire.

Here is a selection of comments that visitors to the palace have posted to TripAdvisor, one of the most popular travel websites in the world:

"Pleasant"
A little oasis of peace and quiet with its own absorbing history and its part in them. Relaxing and recommended.

"Palace, garden, nice wall paintings"
The Huge and beautiful garden surrounding this palace. The palace itself is not that big. But the highlights are the six big paintings on the inside walls. The colors and the details really stand out.

"A highlight in Isfahan"

Among all the attractions in Isfahan, Chehel Sotun is my number 2 favor after masjid-e sheikh lotfollah.

The palace is wonderfully designed, although the 20 slim columns on the terrace and the rectangular pond in front of them are both elegant, I think the real gems are the exquisite mirror works at the ceilings and the interesting and well preserved/restored frescos inside the main hall. I am not a garden person, but I found the garden there very pleasant. Well worth a leisurely stroll.

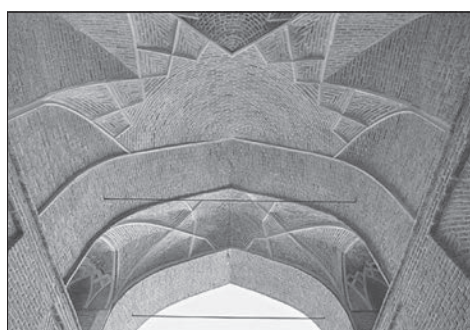
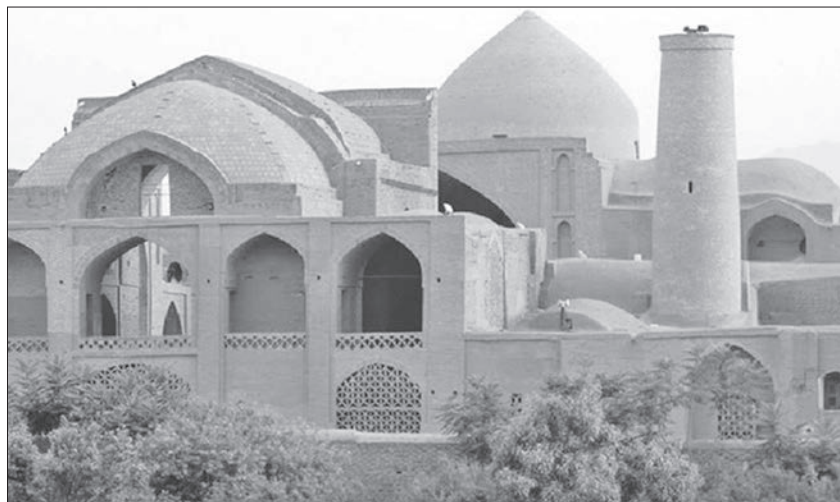
"We Were Blown Away"

This attraction exceeded our expectations! The palace was stunning and the wall paintings were exquisite. It is definitely a must see if you visit Isfahan. The gardens were also lovely and provided a nice relief from the busy city traffic. A tip - don't buy the postcards sold within the premises. The same postcards are sold just at the gates for half of the price!

The name of the palace, which literally means "Forty Columns", derives from the illusion that the twenty columns of the front portico are doubled by the reflecting pool to the south.

Must-see sites in Isfahan

Naqsh-e Jahan Square, known as Imam Square is a square situated at the center of Isfahan city, Iran. Constructed between 1598 and 1629, it is now an important historical site, and one of UNESCO's World Heritage Sites. The Jameh Mosque of Ardestan, in central Iran, is of high historical importance as it incorporates successive architectural styles of the Sassanids, Buyids, Seljuks and Safavids. However, a majority of what visitors to the mosque see dates from the Seljuk era (ca. 1040-1196). Located in a city of the same name in Isfahan Province, the two-story hypostyle mosque has a four-arched portico (iwan) courtyard surrounded by encircling arcades. The mosque is part of a larger premises that also include other mud brick structures such as a cistern, a caravanserai, a marketplace, a bathhouse, and a madrasa. According to Isfahan Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts Department, the mosque was inscribed on the national heritage list in 1931. Jameh means congregational.



WHERE TO STAY

Argegoogad Hotel, Excellent Choice For Atmosphere



ArgeGoogad is a historic castle near Googad city. It has a restaurant and a teahouse and 20 rooms. It has Free Parking, Restaurant, Free High Speed Internet (WiFi) and the Breakfast is included. The historic 3-star hotel is the old town of Golpayegan in the city of Gogd in the province of Isfahan. The Kohgud Arg is located on the path of the famous Silk Road and is the second building of Iran's clay and mud, which dates back to about four centuries ago. It was used as a caravanserai during peacetime as a military fortress during the war or attack. It should be noted that the distance from the city to Isfahan is about 180 km.

See what travelers are saying:

Saeid Nouri, Tehran: A must-see monument

Being in Arg-e Googad is not only being in a hotel or a restaurant. It is one of the 999 Carvansara made in the route of Silk Road ordered by Shah Abbas Safavi (Safavid dynasty) about four hundred years ago in Iran. It is the second biggest clay monument in Iran after Arg-e Bam. The tourist, who comes to the Arg, has to consider this important fact and the history behind it. I loved the place and enjoyed the time being there, trying to connect myself to the history when it was built.

Jupino, Tehran: Just a restoration of past

the hotel is the restoration of an old famous castle used as a resident and defense area many years ago. it's nice to be restored as a hotel. The missing point is basic standards and accommodation essentials. for example, the air conditioning is very poor and the bathrooms are really missed. the hotel has also used expensive handicrafts for carpets and warns guests not to step on. this really strange. it is not a museum, it's a guest room. The hotel is nice overall.

Kimiyatehrani23, Tehran, Iran: Good Experience

It was a good stay. Restaurant... Rooms... The staff they are all good. Not only Water pressure is perfect but also the temperature is awesome. Every night we went to a traditional restaurant. The atmosphere is perfect. There is a folklore band who sing and play Persian songs very good and you can enjoy all the time you are there. Also, the garden is perfect. This Hotel is near to Khansar. A beautiful city which is known for its honey and its beautiful nature. To sum up, staying in this hotel was a good idea.

The Cultural and Historical Collections of the Googad Citadel - Googad - Golpayegan

WHERE TO EAT

Pasio Cafe: Magnificent, Energetic, And Best Place To Hang Out With Friends



Pasio cafe is a cafe near old chahar bagh st. Of isfahan. This place is close to hasht behesht garden, naghsh-e jahan square and abbasi hotel.

Restaurant Details

Cuisine: Italian, Middle Eastern, Persian
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, Brunch, Late Night, Drinks

Restaurant features: Delivery, Takeout, Reservations, Seating, Television, Digital Payments, Free Wifi

See what travelers are saying:

Reza E: So calm and friendly

Very relaxing place, the best mocktails, and teas. Great vibes from the atmosphere. Very nostalgic decoration and historical alley.

Roohania, Tehran: Such a WoW

Magnificent, energetic, and best place to hang out with friends, if you are looking for a place where can laugh loudly and hear good music and drink a fantastic coffee the Pasio is where you want.

Mohammad Hossein: Good atmosphere and nice place

Good atmosphere and a nice place to hang out and have coffee. Food is just fine and you can have anything you want to go.

19, Kazeeroni Alley, Chahar Bagh St., Esfahan

Isfahan Museums	Address	IRR
Chrehel Sotoun	Imam Hossein Square, Isfahan, Isfahan Province	200000
Vank Church	Vank Church Alley, Jolfa, Isfahan, Isfahan Province	200000
Imam Mosque	Imam square, Isfahan, Isfahan Province	200000
Ali Gholi Agha hammam	Bid Abadi St, Isfahan, Isfahan Province	200000
Decorative Arts Museum	Ostandari Street Isfahan, Isfahan Province	150000

Iran: Q1 Land, Home, Rent Prices Rise

The Statistical Center of Iran has published its latest report on the state of home and land prices in addition to rents, which indicates all have significantly increased across urban areas in the country during the first quarter of the current fiscal year that ended on June 21. According to the report, published on the official website of SCI, the average price of each square meter of land (vacant) or land of a rundown residential property (residential units that are unsuitable for living to a degree that only the underlying land is useful for construction) in Iran's urban areas went up by 29% during Q1 compared with last year's corresponding period. Prices increased by 3.6% compared with last year's Q4. The minimum price of each square meter of land or land of a rundown property in the country stood at 260,000 rials (1.8\$) while the maximum was at about 260.78 million rials (1,870\$), bringing the average

to about 13.37 million rials (93\$). The number of land deals made during the current year's Q1 increased by 27.7% compared with the similar period of last year, but declined by 1.9% when compared with the final quarter of last year. The average area of each deal of land or land of a rundown property in real estate agencies across urban areas was reported at 339 square meters by SCI. **%30.3 YOY Rise in Home Prices** According to the report, the average price of each square meter of residential floor area surged by 30.3% during this year's Q1 on a year-on-year basis. When compared to the previous quarter, prices indicated a growth of 5.8%. The minimum price of each square meter of residential floor area across urban areas during this year's Q1 stood at 804,000 rials (6\$) with the maximum price registered at about 379.82 million rials (2,655\$). The average price was about 19.37 million rials (135\$). In terms of the number of deals for residential floor areas, the current year's Q1 saw a rise of 29.7% compared with the Q1 of last year. Against the Q4 of last year, the number of such deals registered a contraction of 3.9%. SCI put the average deal floor area at 108 square meters

while putting the average age of residential units at 11 years. **%22 YOY Rise in Rent Prices** The Statistical Center of Iran also disclosed figures for monthly home rents plus 3% collateral legally paid to rent 1 square meter of residential floor area. It reported that the average rent prices increased by 22% during this year's Q1 compared with the Q1 of last year while they grew by 5.2% compared with the final quarter of last year. The minimum cost of each square meter of residential floor area rented in Iran's urban areas stood at 1,640 rials (0.01\$) with the maximum being registered at about 1.42 million rials (99\$), bringing the average to 98,002 rials (0.69\$) per month. Compared with the first quarter of last year, this year's first quarter rent deals decreased by 9.8% whereas they increased by 11.9% compared with the final quarter of last year.



China, Russia Together Can Overcome Consequences of US Sanctions, Says Official

China and Russia are capable, combining their efforts, to overcome the negative consequences of the sanctions pressure and trade wars unleashed by Washington, Vice Minister of Commerce of China Fu Ziyang said on Tuesday. According to the official, China and Russia have created the necessary framework for successful cooperation. The economies of the two countries mutually complement each other - in this regard, with mutual efforts the countries would be able to overcome the difficulties that have arisen, he said at the press conference, TASS news agency reported. On Monday, customs duties of 10% on imported goods from China to the United States entered into force, the total value of which is estimated at 200\$ bln.

Tehran Stocks Rally, Incline Toward Export Sector

Tehran Stock Exchange set a fresh record high on Monday as investors received more positive news on corporate earnings, especially export-oriented stocks that have benefited the most since the rial's decline intensified six months ago. The market's all-share index leapt 2.15% to reach 168,624.5. According to a majority of analysts, the coming days are fateful for the equity market as investors will decide whether the rally will be sustainable in the face of coming political and economic challenges. Monday's bull market was mainly attributed to investor's satisfactory response to corporate monthly earnings reports gradually being released. Investors will particularly look for export figures of petrochemical and mineral firms in that they account for the bulk of the non-oil exports and are big contributors to the market rally.

GOLD PRICE PER OUNCE
1,199\$

Currency	IRR
USD	42000
GBP	55037
CHF	43471
EUR	49317

Currency, Gold at New High in Tehran Market

The foreign exchange market heated up again on Monday to post fresh records for the US dollar and other major currencies as they gained considerably against the plummeting rial. The dollar was traded for 156,790 rials in Tehran's open market, another "super-resistance" level to be broken since the rial's freefall began six months ago.



The greenback gained close to 5% on the rial in late trading, according to Tehran Gold and Jewelry Union's website. The euro was traded for 183,890 rials and the British pound changed hands for 204,920 rials. On the Website Sana, which records the average daily currency trade across the exchange bureaux, the dollar's exchange rate was 143,104. Sana's rate tends to be lower than the open market's as it leans heavily on the secondary market. According to the Central Bank of Iran, only 3% of the currency trade takes place on the open market and in the form of banknotes, with the rest being conducted through the secondary market where rates are negotiated among exporters and importers. In order to stem the rial's decline the CBI has authorized the import of currency and gold bars by all individuals. CBI Governor Abdolnaser Hemmati said on Saturday that since the bank allowed the import of hard currency by currency exchange houses and other natural and legal persons, the flow of banknotes into the country has been growing. He added that the CBI is keeping a

watch on the market and will inject hard currency if need be. Hemmati attended a meeting with members of the Majlis Planning and Budgetary Commission on Monday. He told the MPs that until September 14 \$22.7 billion had been earned in non-oil exports and called for the money to be repatriated (by exporters) to the country's "economic cycle." He emphasized that exporters should either present their forex earnings on the secondary market or undertake imports with the foreign currency. **Colossal Challenges** Exporters complain that with Iran's foreign banking relations facing colossal challenges due to the US sanctions, they cannot simply meet the 3-month deadline to repatriate their foreign earnings as required by the CBI. According to Hemmati, since implementation of the new forex policies on August 6, up until Sep. 21,

roughly €2 billion was sold in the secondary market through the online forex system Nima. Some non-oil exporters, including petrochemical firms mostly owned by the government or semi-state entities - have been accused of withholding hard currency earnings from the secondary market and for rates to climb further. In a speech this month President Hassan Rouhani harshly criticized the practice which he said is tantamount to "treachery". On Monday, the benchmark Bahar Azadi gold coin entered uncharted territory and sold for 47.51 million rials, to score a hat trick in the currency, stock and gold market and attain an all time high. Volatility in the currency and gold markets further intensified after US President Donald Trump announced in May that he is pulling out of the multilateral nuclear deal Iran signed with world powers in 2015.

According to the Central Bank of Iran, only 3% of the currency trade takes place on the open market and in the form of banknotes, with the rest being conducted through the secondary market where rates are negotiated among exporters and importers.

Iranian Banks Lend \$16.8 Billion in 5 Months

Banks and credit institutions allocated 2.4 quadrillion rials (\$16.82 billion) to various sectors during the first five months of the current fiscal that ended on August 22, the Central Bank of Iran said. According to the latest report published on the regulator's official website on Sunday, the figure was higher by 325.6 trillion rials (\$2.27 billion) or 15.6% compared to the corresponding period of the previous year. The money was given in the form of an estimated 3.42 million loans. As usual, the services sector was at the top of the list of loan receivers with 1.91 million loans worth 980.71 trillion rials (\$6.85 billion). It was followed by the industry and mine sector that borrowed 680.01 trillion rials (\$4.75 billion) in the form of 99,204 loans. The trade sector took out 414,258 loans worth 320.83 trillion rials (\$2.24 billion) during the period. The lender afterward prioritized the agriculture sector with 550,610 loans worth 217.05 trillion rials (\$1.51 billion) and the housing and construction sector with

444,095 loans worth 207.71 trillion rials (\$1.45 billion), according to Financial Tribune. A total of 1,094 loans worth about 1.65 trillion rials (\$11.53 million) was listed as miscellaneous in the CBI report. Loans allocated for facilitating working capital accounted for the lion's share of the loans at 61.6% or about 1.48 quadrillion rials (\$10.37 billion). The figure was 149.5 trillion rials (\$1.04 billion) or 11.2% higher than the total number of working capital loans handed out in the corresponding period last year. 'Miscellaneous' loans had the second highest share at 10% or 241.07 trillion rials (\$1.68 billion). Loans doled out for establishing a business had a share of 8.5% or 205.74 trillion rials (\$1.43 billion) and personal loans had a 7.4% share equal to 177.23 trillion rials (\$1.23 billion). The industries and mining sector was eligible for 570.27 trillion rials (\$3.98 billion) or 38.4% of the total loans in the form of working capital facilities. It constituted 83.9% of all loans handed out to such businesses, which the central bank said indicates the prioritization of resource allocation to the key sector by banks and credit institutions.

Iraq's large trade delegation departs for Tehran

A large trade delegation from the Iraqi private sector departed for Tehran Monday night for talks on expansion of cooperation with Iranian private sector, Iran's commercial attaché in Baghdad Nasser Behzad said. The 22-member delegation comprising heads of Iraqi chambers of commerce and some prominent businessmen trading in plastic products, electric equipment and agricultural machinery is headed by Ja'far al-Hamdani, chief of commerce chambers of Iraq, Behzad said.

The Iranian official said the private sectors of Iran and Iraq are determined to facilitate and expand mutual cooperation and raise the two countries' trade exchanges.

The trade exchanges between Iran and Iraq in 2017 amounted to 13.21 billion dollars.

Iran Steel Exports Rise 27% to Over 4m Tons: ISPA (Mar-Aug, 2018)

A total of 4.13 million tons of finished and semi-finished steel products were exported from Iran during the first five months of the current fiscal year (March 21-Aug. 22) to register a 27.72% year-on-year growth, the Iranian Steel Producers Association announced.

Semi-finished steel made up 3.02 million tons or more than 73% of the total export volume, up 12% YOY.

Slab had the lion's share of semis exports with an aggregate of 1.6 million tons to mark an 11% YOY growth. Billet and bloom followed with 1.41 million tons, up 13% YOY.

Exports of finished steel products surged 109% YOY to reach 1.10 million tons, Financial Tribune reported. Rebar was the main exported finished product with 507,000 tons, registering a 92.05% jump YOY.

Exports of direct-reduced iron increased 4% YOY to 350,000 tons. Iran surpassed its 8-million-ton export target in the last fiscal year (March 2017-18) by shipping 8.49 million tons of steel, up 53.4% YOY. Iranian steelmakers have targeted 9.5 million tons for this year (March 2018-19) and 14 million tons by the end of the 2020-21 fiscal year.

Iran's Trade With Japan Surpasses \$400m

Iran traded 343,170 tons of non-oil commodities worth \$408.18 million with Japan during the first five months of the current fiscal year (March 21-Aug. 22).

This registers a 42.34% and 12.73% decline in tonnage and value respectively compared with last year's corresponding period, latest data released by the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration show.

Iran's exports to Japan stood at 290,056 tons worth \$155.19 million, down 46.08% and 30.25% in tonnage and value respectively year-on-year. Japan was Iran's 14th major export destination during the period.

Iran mainly exported gas condensates, methanol and floorings to Japan during the five-month period, according to Financial Tribune.

Japan exported 53,113 tons of goods worth \$252.98 million to Iran, down 7.19% in tonnage and up 3.16% in value YOY. Japan was the 15th major exporter of goods to Iran over the five months.

The imports mainly included auto parts, pipes and turbojet parts.

NO 44

Sudoku

Solution: NO 43

	1	6						9
					2	4		
8								
		8						
		7	6					
5								4
	7					3		6
2				9				
								8

6	7	9	5	3	4	2	8	1
3	4	2	1	7	8	5	9	6
1	8	5	9	2	6	7	3	4
7	9	1	6	5	3	8	4	2
8	2	6	7	4	1	3	5	9
4	5	3	8	9	2	1	6	7
2	6	7	4	8	5	9	1	3
5	3	4	2	1	9	6	7	8
9	1	8	3	6	7	4	2	5

News

Iran Industrial Production Index Falls in Q1 After 4 Quarters of Growth

After experiencing four consecutive quarters of growth, the Industrial Production Index for large manufacturing units in Iran registered a downturn during the first quarter of the current fiscal year that ended on June 21, new data released by the Central Bank of Iran show. According to latest figures disclosed by the monetary regulator, IPI decreased by 0.5% during the three months compared with the similar period of last year. The reduced manufacture of pharmaceutical and chemical products, in addition to machinery

and equipment, was mostly responsible for the decline. IPI is an economic indicator measuring real output in various industries, with industrial production and capacity levels expressed as an index level relative to a base year, which the CBI considers to be the fiscal 2015-16, standing at 100. In other words, the index does not express absolute production volumes or values, but the percentage change in production relative to that year. The central bank calculates IPI using data of large units with 100 workers or more operating in 24 industries.

Do Not Be Afraid: The Warehouse Is Full Of Goods!

...and sell their products at high prices. According to officials, sanctions could not bring the country to this situation. Our country has suffered from self-sanction. Unfortunately, in the recent past, the media have focused on the market of a commodity, causing fear of famine and lack of goods. However, that is not right. The atmosphere must be kept calm so that people have peace of mind. Maybe you just send a short story of a shortage of basic goods from a group in Telegram to another. However, you have unwittingly helped the hoarders to give people a sense of lack of goods. Enemies use the opportunity, the political climate is uneasy due to the economic climate, and its result will be Ahwaz terrorist incident!

Iran, Turkey stress coop. in countering sanctions

Iranian President Rouhani and his Turkish counterpart Erdogan stressed joint efforts to combat terrorism and counter US sanctions. Iranian President Hassan Rouhani met with his Turkish counterpart Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Monday evening on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in New York. During the meeting, President Rouhani called for expediting the implementation of agreements, saying that Iran welcomes the presence and participation of Turkish investors and companies in advancing the country's projects. The President also appreciated the condolences of the Turkish government on the martyrdom of a number of Iranians in the Ahwaz terrorist attack, saying "we have always been together in difficult times, and these incidents tell us that we need to be more serious in fighting terrorism." He also noted the importance of Iran-Turkey-Russia cooperation on Syria, and added that Iran was fully prepared to help resolve the Syrian crisis, especially in Idlib, in the framework of tripartite cooperation with the help of Turkey.

Majlis to send all FATF bills to Expediency Council

All bills related to Financial Action Task Force (FATF) are to be dispatched to the Expediency Council for revision, Iran's Majlis (Parliament) speaker announced here on Tuesday. Expediency Council will make observation about the bills, Ali Larijani said at the Majlis open session this morning. The four bills include reform in the money-laundering rule, change in the funding terrorism law, the joining of Iran to Terrorist Financing Convention and the joining of the country to the Palermo Convention. Majlis approved the first two bills and sent them to the Guardian Council after changes in internal laws of the country, but the

two others were shelved for two months as of June 10. According to UNODC, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, adopted by General Assembly resolution 25/55 of 15 November 2000, is the main international instrument in the fight against transnational organized crime. It opened for signature by Member States at a High-level Political Conference convened for that purpose in Palermo, Italy, on 15-12 December 2000 and entered into force on 29 September 2003. In June, Iranian lawmakers did approve the Palermo bill with 136 votes in favor and 89 against. In a related development, the parliamentarians brought reform in Palermo bill on Tuesday (September 25) in order to be agreed with Iranian Guardian Council's view about the issue.

From total 244 lawmakers who were present in today's Majlis session, 141 voted for the bill on joining the Palermo Convention, 46 voted against and nine abstained. Guardian Council has already declared that it has objection to some parts of the Palermo bill, saying it is against the Article 110 of the Constitution. Guardian Council is an important body in Iran and one of its key duties is to interpret the Islamic Republic's Constitution. And the duty of the Expediency Council is to decide whether to pass a law forwarded by Majlis with changes demanded by Guardian Council or not.



Iranian President Says Has No Plans to Meet Trump in New York

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said he had no plans to meet US President Donald Trump during his visit to New York, saying the United States had employed only threats and sanctions against his country.



"There is no such program for a meeting," Rouhani said in an exclusive interview with NBC News on Monday, saying conditions were not ripe for talks.

Rouhani, in New York for the annual UN General Assembly session, said the US has adopted a hostile stance toward Iran and turned its back on diplomacy after its unilateral withdrawal from the 2015 nuclear agreement between Tehran and world powers.

"Naturally, if someone is keen on having a meeting and holding dialogue and creating progress in relationships, that person would not use the tool of sanctions and threats (and bring) to bear all of its power against another government and nation," Rouhani said. "That means that the necessary willpower is absent in order to resolve outstanding issues."

After having met with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un in an unprecedented summit in June, Trump and his deputies have held out the possibility of talks with the Iranian president.

Rouhani ruled out Washington's diplomacy with Pyongyang as a possible model for US-Iran relations, though he left the door open to other efforts to reduce tensions. "The North Korean model cannot be a correct model, because we cannot draw such comparisons. But certainly there are different models out there that can be used." As a precondition for any dialogue, Rouhani said the US would need to repair the damage done by exiting the 2015 nuclear deal. "That bridge must be rebuilt," he said.

Rouhani said his country could withstand US economic sanctions and called Washington's threats to choke off Iranian oil exports an "empty promise."

"The United States is not capable of bringing our oil exports to zero," Rouhani said.

"It's a threat that is empty of credibility. Perhaps on this path, we will sustain certain pressures but certainly the United States will not reach its objective."

Since Trump pulled the US out of the accord in May, the United States reimposed a first tranche of economic sanctions in August and is due to reintroduce sanctions on Iran's oil and gas industry on Nov. 4. In the interview, Rouhani said Iran would remain in the agreement, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), despite Washington's withdrawal, as long as the other signatories held up their end of the deal to open the door to trade.

"Until such time that our interests are guaranteed with the five remaining countries, we will remain within the JCPOA," Rouhani said, adding that "a one-sided agreement would be meaningless."

Asked if Iran would fulfill threats to close off the Strait of Hormuz to oil shipments, Rouhani refused to rule out possible

Iranian action to shut down the strategic waterway in response to US pressure.

"If the United States wishes to use force in order to sanction the petroleum industry of Iran, it will certainly see the appropriate response," he said.

The Iranian president added, "We do have the power to secure our own waterways and keep our waterways free."

Asked if he was warning Trump, Rouhani said, "This is not a warning. This is a reality. If the Persian Gulf waterway is to remain free and secure, it must remain so for everyone." The 73rd session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA 73) opened in New York on September 18 and will run until September 30.

During his four-day stay in New York, Rouhani is also scheduled to hold talks with the remaining parties to the JCPOA. He will also sit down with United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and media elites and experts.

María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés, President-elect of the UNGA 73, announced in July 2018 that the theme of the general debate will be, "Making the United Nations Relevant to All People: Global Leadership and Shared Responsibilities for Peaceful, Equitable and Sustainable Societies."

"Naturally, if someone is keen on having a meeting and holding dialogue and creating progress in relationships, that person would not use the tool of sanctions and threats (and bring) to bear all of its power against another government and nation," Rouhani said. "That means that the necessary willpower is absent in order to resolve outstanding issues."

India's oil imports from Iran jumped %44 in August: Indian paper

India's crude oil imports from Iran jumped a whopping 43.72 percent to 2.07 million tons (mt) in August this year.

India is among the largest importers of Iranian crude oil and the jump in imports comes amid increasing pressure from the United States on Iran's oil customers to cut purchases, the Economic Times reported. Cumulatively, oil imports by India from Iran in the first five months (April to August) of the current financial year increased 43.69 percent to 13.32 mt as compared to 9.26 mt imported in the corresponding period a year ago, fresh data sourced from the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCIIS), an arm of the Ministry of Commerce and Industries showed.

In value terms, India imported crude oil valued at 1.08\$ billion from Iran in August alone, as compared to 0.52\$ billion worth of crude imported in the corresponding month last year. India's oil import from Iran, in value terms, during the five month period doubled to 6.82\$ billion from 3.27\$ billion

worth of imports in the corresponding period last year.

US had in May walked out of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) with Iran and reimposed economic sanctions on the country. The sanctions prohibit other nations to enter into new contracts with Iran immediately and provide a six-month period ending November 4 to wind-down existing commitments with the country, especially with Iranian oil companies. Economic Times had last week reported Indian refiners will pay for oil from Iran in rupee, using UCO Bank and IDBI Bank channels, beginning November 4 when oil-related sanctions against the Islamic Republic go into effect.

Also, India has offered to cut oil purchase from Iran significantly to secure a waiver from the US to continue its imports. Indian refiners are currently using State Bank of India (SBI) and Germany-based Europaeisch-Iranische Handelsbank AG to buy Iranian oil in euros, according to a Reuters report. Iran's Oil Minister Bijan Namdar Zangeneh has said removing Iran's oil from the market was not a possibility in the mid-term and US plans of bringing Iran's oil exports to zero in the short term, even for a month, will not happen. Zangeneh added that some countries have lowered their oil import from Iran following US pullout of the JCPOA in May, but no country other than South Korea has stopped imports from Iran since then.

report

Faced with US Sanctions, Iran Urges WMF Support

Iran's president urged the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to support Tehran in countering the "illegal US sanctions". In a meeting with IMF Managing Director Christine Madeleine Odette Lagarde on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly on Monday, President Hassan Rouhani reminded the international organization of its duty to back its members in the face of banking and monetary sanctions. Denouncing the US sanctions on Iran as unlawful and out of step with the international law, Rouhani said

international organizations ought to help Iran against the illegal US measures. "The International Monetary Fund should prove that it can play its role in the economic stability of a member state, and I hope that it (IMF) would take a positive step in this regard," Rouhani added.

For her part, the French head of IMF assured Iran of continued cooperation and fulfillment of duties, asserting that the IMF is in charge of securing financial stability and ensuring economic growth in the world.

The Iranian president arrived in New York on Sunday to attend the 73rd UN General Assembly and hold sideline meetings.

He has said that the UNGA provides an opportunity for better explication of the US breach of international regulations. On May 8, US President Donald Trump pulled his country out of the JCPOA, which was achieved in Vienna in 2015 after years of negotiations among Iran and the Group 5+1 (Russia, China, the US, Britain, France and Germany). The US has also re-imposed sanctions on



Iran and has devised a new wave of economic sanctions, which are aimed at pushing Iran's oil exports down to zero.

NEWS

Iran Says Terror Team in Ahwaz Attack Linked to Reactionary Arabs

Iran's Intelligence Ministry released more details about the identity of perpetrators of a recent terrorist attack on a military parade in the city of Ahwaz, saying they were sponsored by certain reactionary Arab regimes.

In a statement on Monday, the Intelligence Ministry said it has discovered the identity of the 5-strong team that carried out Saturday's terrorist attack in Ahwaz, saying they were affiliated with "Takfiri separatist groups under the aegis of reactionary Arab countries."

The intelligence forces have stormed the whereabouts of terrorists and arrested 22 supporting elements and those involved in the fatal attack in Ahwaz, it added.

During the raids, ammunitions, military equipment and communication gear have been confiscated from the whereabouts of terrorists, the statement said.

It also said that foreign sponsors and masterminds of the terrorist attack have been identified, adding that more details will be released later.

While the military forces were on parade in Ahwaz on Saturday morning and people were watching the event, Takfiri militants opened fired on people in the gathering, killing 25 and injuring more than 60 others.

A senior spokesman for the Iranian Armed Forces said the four terrorists involved in the attack had hidden their rifles in the parade venue beforehand.

The Al-Ahvaziya terrorist group has claimed responsibility for the attack.

ECO, best option for regional coop.

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister for Legal and International Affairs Gholamhossein Dehghani said that Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) is the best option for multilateral cooperation between regional countries.

He made the remarks at the 25th Informal Meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers of Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) late on Monday (New York local time), held on the sidelines of the seventy-third session of the UNGA.

He stressed the strategic significance of this regional treaty and called for the expansion and development of trade, business, economic and environmental cooperation among member states. Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) is important for the regional security and stability, he said, adding, "this organization still is the best option for multilateral cooperation among regional countries."

Environmental challenges, boosting level of trade and business cooperation between regional countries, progressing intra-regional communications in terms of road transport as well as enhancing energy network are of the main and basic priorities of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), Dehghani reiterated. Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) is a regional economic organization founded by the Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan and Turkey in 1964. After the collapse of Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR), Afghanistan, Azerbaijan Republic, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan joined this organization.

China says will maintain normal relations with Iran

- Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said that his country will continue normal economic ties with the Islamic Republic of Iran. He made the remarks in a meeting with his Iranian counterpart Mohammad Javad Zarif on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in New York on Monday night. The Chinese minister highlighted the need to preserve JCPOA, saying that China opposes US pressures against Iran. He also offered condolences to Iran's nation and government on the Ahwaz terrorist attack. The two sides discussed the latest status of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) and ways to boost bilateral cooperation in various fields.

ISFAHAN NEWS

The First Bilingual Economic Newspaper In Isfahan Province

5000 Rials

Wednesday, September 26, 2018, No.52

Iran's security chief: Terrorism causing crisis in entire Middle East

Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council (SNSC) Ali Shamkhani says terrorism and its root causes are to blame for the existing crisis across the Middle East and are hindering progress of Muslim countries. "The threat of terrorism and its root causes such as the Takfiri ideology, which is promoted by certain countries, have caused crisis for the entire region and are a big obstacle in the path of Muslim countries' growth and progress," Shamkhani said in a meeting with Azerbaijan's Interior Minister Ramil Usubov and his accompanying delegation in Tehran. He lashed out at the United States and the Israeli regime for pursuing policies aimed at sowing discord among neighboring countries.



Headlines

Iranian President Says Has No Plans to Meet Trump in New York

7

Iran: Q1 Land, Home, Rent Prices Rise

6

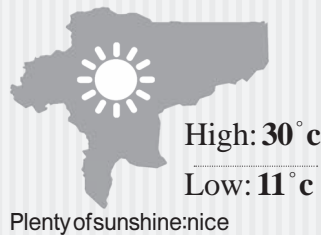
Chehel Sotoun: Palace, Garden, Nice Wall Paintings

5

CALL TO PRAYER TIME IN ISFAHAN

Morning call to prayer:
04:33:38
Noon call to prayer:
11:54:40
Evening call to prayer:
11:54:40

WEATHER



Plenty of sunshine: nice



Do Not Be Afraid; The Warehouse Is Full Of Goods!

It can be accepted that a commodity will be deficient due to sanctions that have not yet been applied. However, reducing the supply of essential commodities of the people for a while and then, their abundant supply with multiplied price what does it mean other than "hoarding"? The unfavorable economic situation in the country has created such a psychological burden on the people that, as soon as goods are said to have fallen, a massive flood goes into the market for the purchase of that product. In addition, hoarders use this opportunity

7



Currency, Gold at New High in Tehran Market

6

Official: Domestic knowledge, capabilities will help Iran survive drug sanctions

Knowledge, equipment and capacity of the domestic pharmaceutical industry are advanced enough to help Iran easily survive under the present difficult circumstances despite the cruel unilateral US sanctions, said the head of the Iranian Human Pharmaceutical Industry Owners Syndicate.



Addressing the opening ceremony of the Fourth International Exhibition on Pharmaceuticals and Related Industries (Iran Pharma 2018) in Tehran on Monday, Ahmad Sheibani added throughout history, pharmaceuticals have always been excluded from the list of sanctions.

Now, however, unfortunately Iran's pharmaceutical industry is faced with such a problem, he regretted. Sheibani said they falsely claim that they have not sanctioned pharmaceuticals exports to Iran, adding, however, over the past few months, some foreign companies with, trade cooperation backgrounds of 40 years, have explicitly announced that they will refrain from selling Iranian drug companies even one gram of raw materials.

He underlined that Iran can use this tough situation as an opportunity to make progress.

Iran meets 97 percent of its pharmaceutical needs domestically, Sheibani said, assuaging people's concerns over the probability of a medication shortage in the future.

"Iranian pharmaceutical industry, being backed by the government of the country, will give a strong response to those who have imposed the sanctions and the ones who are not willing to see our development."

Expressing satisfaction with the rapid development and significant growth of Iran's pharmaceutical

industry over the past 40 years after the victory of the 1979 Islamic Revolution, he said prior to the Islamic Revolution domestic production could meet only 25 percent of the country's needs to medications.

"This comes as at present, the figure has reached 97 percent as 100 drug production factories are operating in the country."

He urged domestic industrialists in pharmaceutical sector to continue their efforts as the present condition under the US sanctions will fail to be more difficult than the one Iranians lived and worked in during the eight years of the Iraqi-imposed war during 88-1980.

"We do not require those foreign companies that used to sell us raw materials for years but now don't. Our industrialists and academics can easily synthesize and produce pharmaceuticals in the country. Currently, 50 percent of the raw materials [for drug production] and antibiotics are produced domestically which shows that the result of the sanctions and restrictions [on Iran] have been positive." A total of 360 foreign and domestic companies have taken part in Iran Pharma 2018 which will be open to the public until September 26.

UN ideal platform to portray Iran's real image

The United Nations General Assembly is an ideal platform for President Hassan Rouhani to present "the real image and strategies" of the country, an international affairs expert said. "Under the prevailing circumstances when the Western mainstream media have dominated the free flow of information through

its biased and partial news agencies and think tanks, the president can use the UN platform to present the real image of the Islamic Republic to the world," Shahram Fattahi said on Monday.

Fattahi said it is vital for the president to be present at the UN as the US is trying to use the platform to forge an international consensus

against Iran. US President Donald Trump takes the podium at the UN General Assembly on Tuesday where he is expected to unleash his anti-Iran rhetoric. Rouhani will take the podium shortly after Trump - a speech that would probably center on the Trump's decision to scrap the 2015 Iran nuclear deal with world powers.

Maneuver of "no single-occupancy vehicles" in Isfahan

Announcing the dramatic maneuver of "no single-occupancy vehicles" to encourage Isfahani citizens to use the public transportation, the head of citizenship culture development department of Isfahan municipality said, "This dramatic maneuver is conducted in the intersections at the center of the city like Abshar and Takhti intersections, from 23th to 27th September."

"Every year, the urban traffic load increases with the beginning of the school year, therefore, citizenship culture development department affiliated to Isfahan municipality with the cooperation of deputy of transportation and traffic organization and the communication and international affairs department of Isfahan municipality have prepared out-of-home advertising with the subject of "using public transportation", which have been installed on buses, taxis, and the public areas of the city, to decrease the urban traffic load," Ahmad Rezaei Dar Afshani said.

Pointing to the distribution of 20 thousand booklets with



the subject of citizenship, Rezaei Dar Afshani said, "Some artists present these booklets with the themes of "using bicycles and public transportation and tips to stay safe crossing the streets" to the students who use subways and buses every day."

"For more detailed information about the cultural products and the programs of the citizenship culture development department of Isfahan municipality, you can call 61-34467360, or go to the website of shahrvandi.net," he noted.

Iran, G1+4 statement strong message to US unilateralism



The joint statement issued by G1+4 and Iran foreign ministers, saying they are to help to neutralize US sanctions on Iran with a special financial mechanism, conveyed a strong message to the US unilateralism on the verge of President Donald Trump's hype in the UN Security Council.

Iran, G1+4 statement strong message to US unilateralism The meeting of foreign ministers of Iran and G1+4 - France, the UK, Russia, China and Germany - took place on Monday evening (New York local time) on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly. The meeting was presided by High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Federica Mogherini.

The meeting was of great importance since the US is trying to

exploit the UNGA to put on a show against Iran. The support of China, Russia and Europe for Iran Deal, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), clearly depicted US' isolation.

The issued statement contained important points. The statement restated JCPOA remaining signatories' commitment to its full and effective implementation, including their commitment to removing the sanctions; they admitted that Iran's economic interests are the vital part of the deal.

G+4 foreign ministers expressed their regret over US' exit from the deal, and in an open confrontation with the US' unilateral sanctions on Iran, they expressed their commitment to their previous joint statement, issued on July 6, regarding expanding economic ties with Iran, keeping and reinforcing effective financial channels for transaction with Iran, stressing continuation of Iran's oil, liquid gas and petrochemical products export. They also reiterated their commitment to take certain and effective actions to guarantee money transfer channels to Iran. Considering the necessity and emergency to obtain tangible results, the foreign ministers welcomed practical suggestions to maintain and expand payment channels, in particular establishing a 'special mechanism' for facilitating payments of exports, including oil, and imports, which will reassure traders to work with Iran.

They reiterated their support for more activity to operationalize the 'special mechanism' along with strengthening transition to regional and international partners.