

U.S. Sanctions on Iran Will Harm Iraq

Baghdad is heavily dependent on trade with Tehran. Without an exemption from Washington, Iraqis—and the stability of the country—will suffer. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2018/12/21/u-s-sanctions-on-iran-will-harm-iraq/>

Iraq receives waiver extension to import Iranian gas, power

TEHRAN, Dec. 22 (MNA) – The United States has extended for 90 days a waiver given to Iraq from sanctions against Iran, a State Department spokesman said on Friday, allowing Baghdad to keep importing Iranian gas that is critical for Iraqi power production. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/140736/iraq-receives-waiver-extension-to-import-iranian-gas-power>

Iran executes businessman for economic crimes: state TV

DUBAI (Reuters) - Iran on Saturday executed a businessman sentenced to death by a fast-track court set up to fight economic crimes, state television reported, following an outcry against profiteering and corruption that has seen dozens of people jailed. Please visit the following link for more information:

https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iran-economy-execution/iran-executes-businessman-for-economic-crimes-state-tv-idUSKCN1OL04U?feedType=RSS&feedName=worldNews&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+Reuters%2FworldNews+%28Reuters+World+News%29&&rpc=401

Iran ready to meet Turkey's long-term energy needs

TEHRAN- "Iran is capable of supplying energy to Turkey in the long run," Iranian President Hassan Rouhani announced in his visit to Turkey on Thursday evening adding that his country will convert U.S.-led sanctions into an opportunity for reinforcing economic ties with Turkey, IRNA reported. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/430942/Iran-ready-to-meet-Turkey-s-long-term-energy-needs>



Major Iranian Copper Mines Register Growth in Output

Major Iranian copper producers extracted about 120 million tons of copper ores during the first eight months of the current fiscal year (March 21-Nov. 21), which indicates a 7% growth compared with last year's corresponding period. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://financialtribune.com/articles/domestic-economy/95717/major-iranian-copper-mines-register-growth-in-output>

India-Iran Payment Mechanism Operational

As part of the payment mechanism, UCO bank has opened rupee Vostro accounts with five Iranian banks so they can deposit the oil money in those accounts. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://financialtribune.com/articles/business-and-markets/95719/india-iran-payment-mechanism-operational>

PMO sign deals, MOUs worth \$428m with private sector on ports development

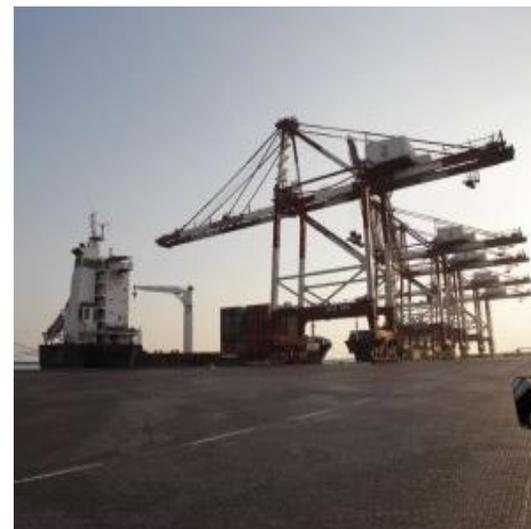
TEHRAN- Iran's Ports and Maritime Organization (PMO) signed 19 deals and memorandums of understanding (MOUs) worth 18 trillion rials (about \$428.5 million) with the country's private sector on investment making in Iranian commercial ports. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/430943/PMO-sign-deals-MOUs-worth-428m-with-private-sector-on-ports>

Iran Bitumen Exports Rise 16% to \$560m in 8 Months

Iran exported 2.38 million tons of bitumen worth \$561 million during the first eight months of the current fiscal year (March 21-Nov. 21) registering a 7.46% decline in tonnage and a 16.15% increase in value compared with last year's corresponding period. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://financialtribune.com/articles/domestic-economy/95714/iran-bitumen-exports-rise-16-to-560m-in-8-months>



Breakthrough Expected in Iran-Turkey Banking Ties

The governor of the Central Bank of Iran says important developments in banking and trade will take place following talks between the presidents of Iran and Turkey. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://financialtribune.com/articles/business-and-markets/95723/breakthrough-expected-in-iran-turkey-banking-ties>

Iranian Airliner to be Banned by Germany

GERMANY IS TO BAN FLIGHTS IN AND OUT OF THE COUNTRY BY IRAN'S MAHAN AIR, WHICH IS UNDER US ANTI-IRAN SANCTIONS, A NEWSPAPER REPORTED. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://ifpnews.com/wired/iranian-airliner-to-be-banned-by-germany/>

Tehran Determined to Boost Trade with Beijing

TEHRAN (FNA)- Iran's new Ambassador to Beijing Mohammad Keshavarzadeh, in a Saturday meeting with Iranian merchants and entrepreneurs residing in China, said that improvement of bilateral trade and economic relations with the PRC is the top priority for Tehran. Please visit the following link for more information:

<http://en.farsnews.com/newstext.aspx?nn=13971001000283>

Iran bans export of 17 products

Iran has banned the export of 17 items including butter, various cereals and some agricultural products from Saturday, announced the director general of Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration's Export Affairs Department. Please visit the following link for more information:

<http://www.iran-daily.com/News/236257.html>

India to continue Iranian oil imports via rupees: envoy

TEHRAN, Dec. 22 (MNA) – India's ambassador Saurabh Kumar said on Saturday that his country will continue importing Iranian oil with the help of the new payment mechanism agreed between the two sides. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/140758/India-to-continue-Iranian-oil-imports-via-rupees-envoy>

'South Pars development phases to be complete by March 2020'

TEHRAN- All development phases of Iran's South Pars gas field, except for phase 11, will be completed by the end of the next Iranian calendar year (March 20, 2020), Mohammad Meshkinfam, the managing director of Pars Oil and Gas Company (POGC), announced in a press conference on Saturday. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/430979/South-Pars-development-phases-to-be-complete-by-March-2020>

Third hub of petrochemicals being created on Persian Gulf coasts

Tehran, Dec 22, IRNA - A senior petrochemical announced that one of the plans of the petrochemical industry is creating a new hub on the Persian Gulf coasts where from regional dimension, facilities and the strategic position is attractive for all investors. Please visit the following link for more information:

<http://www.irna.ir/en/News/83143671>

Iranian industry min. calls for more economic ties with Turkey

TEHRAN- Iranian Industry Minister Reza Rahmani, who accompanied President Hassan Rouhani in his trip to Turkey, called for expansion of economic cooperation between Tehran and Ankara during his meetings with the Turkish president, his Turkish counterpart and other senior officials from that country, Shata reported on Friday. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/430981/Iranian-industry-min-calls-for-more-economic-ties-with-Turkey>

Tea exports hike by 51% year-on-year

RASHT, Dec. 23 (MNA) – Iran has exported some 12,571 tons of tea worth \$18 million since the beginning of the current fiscal year (started on March 21), a senior official said. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/140788/Tea-exports-hike-by-51-year-on-year>

Iran Ups Crude Steel Output by over 17 Percent

TEHRAN (FNA)- Iran considerably increased the production of its crude steel in the first 11 months of 2018, registering more than 17 percent growth as compared with last year's corresponding period. Please visit the following link for more information:

<http://en.farsnews.com/newstext.aspx?n=13971001000383>



Armenia's Pashinyan: We plan to deepen economic, political relations with Iran

We are very much interested that investments flow, many tourists come to Armenia from Iran. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://news.am/eng/news/487597.html>

NPC CEO: Iran seeking greater diversity in petchem sector value chain

Iran seeks to prioritize further diversity in the value chain of the petrochemical sector in the industry's development plan, which is currently being drawn up, said the managing director of National Petrochemical Company (NPC). Please visit the following link for more information:

<http://www.iran-daily.com/News/236313.html>

Rouhani to submit national budget bill to Parliament on Tuesday

President Hassan Rouhani plans to submit the proposed budget bill for the year to start March 2019 to the Iranian Parliament on Tuesday, a lawmaker said. Please visit the following link for more information:

<http://www.iran-daily.com/News/236314.html>

China's Bank of Kunlun Restores Iran Ties But US Restrictions Hang On

As China's Bank of Kunlun officially resumed its transactions with Iran after a one-month pause this week, the bank's scope of work falls short of what Iranian businesses had hoped for as the bank hews strictly to the US sanctions regime. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://financialtribune.com/articles/business-and-markets/95759/chinas-bank-of-kunlun-restores-iran-ties-but-us-restrictions>



Azerbaijan top destination among CIS for Iranian-made products

TEHRAN, Dec. 25 (MNA) – The Iranian ambassador to the Republic of Azerbaijan says that the central Asian country is a top destination for exporting Iranian-made products among other CIS nations. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/140901/Azerbaijan-top-destination-among-CIS-for-Iranian-made-products>

Kurdish business official calls for strengthening trade ties with Iran

TEHRAN, Dec. 23 (MNA) – The Vice-Chairman of Chamber of Commerce of Sulaymaniyeh in Iraqi Kurdistan has called for strengthening bilateral trade relations with Iran. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/140809/Kurdish-business-official-calls-for-strengthening-trade-ties>

Iran plans to create new petrochemical hub on Persian Gulf shores

TEHRAN – Iran plans to establish a new petrochemical complex in Hormozgan Province adjacent to Persian Gulf waters, IRNA reported quoting a petrochemical official. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/431017/Iran-plans-to-create-new-petrochemical-hub-on-Persian-Gulf-shores>



90% Rise in Sistan-Baluchestan Exports

More than 1 million tons of goods worth \$479.24 million were exported from the southern Sistan-Baluchestan Province during the first eight months of the current fiscal year (March 21-Nov. 21) to register a 5% decrease in tonnage and a 90% increase in value compared with last year's corresponding period. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://financialtribune.com/articles/domestic-economy/95793/90-rise-in-sistan-baluchestan-exports>

Iran Chabahar Port Lease Deal With India Takes Effect

Loading and unloading as well as supply of equipment and marketing will be part of the mission of Indian Ports Global Limited that has been commissioned with the management of Chabahar's Shahid Beheshti Port. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://financialtribune.com/article/s/domestic-economy/95796/iran-chabahar-port-lease-deal-with-india-takes-effect>

Iran crude vital for sustaining balance in oil trade

TEHRAN, Dec. 26 (MNA) – Iranian crude in the global market is extremely important for sustaining a balance in oil trade, says Sanjiv Singh, chairman of Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/140902/Iran-crude-vital-for-sustaining-balance-in-oil-trade>

Minister: Pakistan envisages broader Iran trade ties

Efforts are underway to forge strong trade relations with Iran, especially in the banking and financial sectors, said Pakistani finance minister. Please visit the following link for more information:

<http://www.iran-daily.com/News/236449.html>

Iran's petrochemical plants fully operational during cold season

TEHRAN – With South Pars gas field's new phases going operational, the required feedstock for all the country's petrochemical plants will be supplied during the cold season and none of them will stop production, Shana reported quoting an official with the National Petrochemical Company (NPC). Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/431106/Iran-s-petrochemical-plants-fully-operational-during-cold-season>