



Iran's Exports to Neighboring Countries to Hit \$1bn

TEHRAN (FNA)- Head of Trade Promotion Organization of Iran (TPOI) Hamid Zadboum announced on Thursday that plans have been made to boost the annual export of non-oil goods to the neighboring countries to one billion dollars. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://en.farsnews.com/newstext.aspx?n=13980915000409>

Agri-Food Items Make up 11.5% of Iran's Non-Oil Exports

TEHRAN (FNA)- Iran has exported 3.582 million tons of food and agricultural products since the start of the current local calendar year on March 21 till October 22, Deputy Agriculture Minister Abdolmehdi Bakhshandeh said, adding that his county has pocketed a total \$2.794 billion from exporting these items which is 11.42% of Tehran's non-oil exports. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://en.farsnews.com/newstext.aspx?n=13980915000426>

ICCIMA Revives Iran-South Africa Economic Committee

Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture has revived the Iran-South Africa Commerce Committee upon the requests of Iranian traders. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://financialtribune.com/articles/domestic-economy/101075/iccima-revives-iran-south-africa-economic-committee>

Iran: Exporters Blamed for Rise in Currency Prices

Major currencies hit six-month highs on Thursday as the US dollar was heading toward the resistance level of 130,000 rials. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://financialtribune.com/articles/business-and-markets/101082/iran-exporters-blamed-for-rise-in-currency-prices>



Pistachio Production Reaches 320K Tons So Far

A total of 320,000 tons of pistachios have been produced in Iran since the beginning of the current Iranian year (March 21), an Agriculture Ministry official said. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://financialtribune.com/articles/domestic-economy/101088/pistachio-production-reaches-320k-tons-so-far>

Statistics show China, Iraq, UAE form major destinations for Iran's exports

TEHRAN, Dec. 07 (MNA) – Statistics for the first 7 months of the Iranian year of 1398 show that China, Iraq, and United Arab Emirates (UAE) have been three major destinations for Iran's exported goods. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/153137/Statistics-show-China-Iraq-UAE-form-major-destinations-for>

Gold and Currency Surge in Tehran Market

The US dollar was traded above the psychological level of 130,000 rials on Saturday and was worth 132,000 rials in Tehran's open market -- the highest in the past five months. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://financialtribune.com/articles/business-and-markets/101098/gold-and-currency-surge-in-tehran-market>

Oman eager to increase trade with Iran: minister

TEHRAN, Dec. 07 (MNA) – Ali bin Masud Al Sunaidi, Minister of Commerce and Industry of Oman said that his country has a special interest in developing trade relations with Iran. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/153120/Oman-eager-to-increase-trade-with-Iran-minister>



Iran has a special place in transportation of region: Azeri official

TEHRAN, Dec. 07 (MNA) – Akif Mustafayev, National Secretary of Azerbaijan in the IGC TRACECA, has hailed Iran's special position in the field of transportation in the region. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/153133/Iran-has-a-special-place-in-transportation-of-region-Azeri-official>

Iran Joins Club of Ramjet Engine Manufacturers

Iran has joined the club of countries that can produce ramjet engine, a sophisticated technology in the aerospace industry, thanks to the efforts of a knowledge-based company. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://ifpnews.com/iran-joins-club-of-ramjet-engine-manufacturers>

Iran calls for barter trade with S. Africa to overcome banking hurdles

TEHRAN - Deputy head of Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture said the best way for overcoming Iran and South Africa banking issues is barter trading. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/442740/Iran-calls-for-barter-trade-with-S-Africa-to-overcome-banking>

Iran keen to boost economic ties with Japan amid preparations for Rouhani's possible visit: Araqchi

A senior Iranian diplomat says preparations are underway for a possible visit by President Hassan Rouhani to Japan, expressing hope that the trip will help strengthen economic ties. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://www.presstv.com/Detail/2019/12/07/613078/Araqchi-NHK-Japan-Rouhani-visit-oil>

Iran's Anzali, Russia's Astrakhan confer on expansion of port coop.

RASHT, Dec. 07 (MNA) – Officials from Iranian Anzali Port and Russian Astrakhan Port have conferred on ways to further expand cooperation between the two sides, according to head of Gilan Ports and Maritime Administration. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/153110/Iran-s-Anzali-Russia-s-Astrakhan-confer-on-expansion-of-port>

'Iran, Oman can fulfill \$5 billion bilateral trade volume by 2020'

TEHRAN, Dec. 08 (MNA) – Gholamhossein Shafei, the chairman of Iran's Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA) met and talked with his Omani counterpart in Tehran on Sunday afternoon. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/153183/Iran-Oman-can-fulfill-5-billion-bilateral-trade-volume-by>

Exports to Iraq via Mehran top \$800mn in 8 months

TEHRAN, Dec. 08 (MNA) – Exports to Iraq through Mehran's border terminal, located in the west of Ilam province, amounted to about 1.3 million tons, worth over \$800 million during the eight months to November 21. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/153150/Exports-to-Iraq-via-Mehran-top-800mn-in-8-months>

Kyrgyzstan Shows Interest in Helping Iran to Develop Anzali FTZ

TEHRAN (FNA)- The 12th Meeting of Iran-Kyrgyzstan Joint Commission underlined the significant role of Anzali Free Trade Zone (FTZ) in broadening of mutual cooperation. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://en.farsnews.com/newstext.aspx?nn=13980917000397>

Iran Targeting Export of 30mln Liters of Gasoline Per Day

TEHRAN (FNA)- A senior energy official announced that Iran can now export some 25 million to 30 million liters of gasoline per day as a result of the implementation of the gasoline rationing scheme that recently came back into force. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://en.farsnews.com/newstext.aspx?nn=13980917000511>

Trading \$738 billion of various commodities on IME

Tehran (ISNA) - During weekdays ending up to December 5, approximately 638,838 MT of commodities worth over 738 million USD were traded on Iran Mercantile Exchange. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://en.isna.ir/news/98091712691/Trading-738-billion-of-various-commodities-on-IME>



Gilan exports top \$260mn in 8 months

RASHT, Dec. 08 (MNA) – More than 480,000 tons of non-oil commodities worth \$260 million were exported from the northern Iranian province of Gilan during the eight months to November 21, the governor of Gilan province said on Sunday. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/153169/Gilan-exports-top-260mn-in-8-months>

Official: Iran, South Africa Enjoy Potentials for More Trade

TEHRAN (FNA)- Iran and South Africa are enjoying very close political ties that can lead to significant rise in their bilateral trade, Vice-Chairman of Iran's Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA) for International Affairs Mohammad Reza Karbasi said, adding that the two countries are going to form a joint committee to contribute to this purpose. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://en.farsnews.com/newstext.aspx?nn=13980917000855>

Industries Ministry Reviews 12 Mineral Products Over Seven Months

The Ministry of Industries, Mining and Trade's review of 12 mineral products during the first seven months of the current Iranian year (March 21-Oct. 22) shows nine witnessed year-on-year growth while the remaining three suffered declines. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://financialtribune.com/articles/domestic-economy/101109/industries-ministry-reviews-12-mineral-products-over-seven-months>

TEHRAN, Dec. 01 (MNA) – Minister for Exports of Iranian SMEs at \$1.5b in Mar.-Nov.

TEHRAN - Iranian small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) exported \$1.5 billion worth of commodities in the first eight months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21-November 23), IRNA reported, quoting an official with Iran Small Industries and Industrial Parks Organization (ISIPO). Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/442870/Exports-of-Iranian-SMEs-at-1-5b-in-Mar-Nov>



Iran, Ecuador discuss expansion of trade ties

TEHRAN - Ecuador's Ambassador to Tehran Alejandro Ortega Almeida and Deputy Head of Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA) Mohammadreza Karbasi met in Tehran on Sunday and discussed expansion of trade ties. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/442794/Iran-Ecuador-discuss-expansion-of-trade-ties>

Development of 25 small ports to be handed over to private sector

TEHRAN - Deputy of ports and economic affairs at Iran's Ports and Maritime Organization (PMO) said the organization is planning to hand over the development of 25 small ports across the country to the private sector in the upcoming weeks, ISNA reported on Sunday. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/442788/Development-of-25-small-ports-to-be-handed-over-to-private-sector>

Iran-China trade at \$20bn in 8 months despite US sanctions: Envoy

China's ambassador to Iran says American sanctions have failed to affect economic cooperation between the two countries, adding that the value of bilateral trade has reached almost \$20 billion between late March and late November this year. Please visit



Iran-China trade at \$20bn in 8 months despite US sanctions: Envoy

China's ambassador to Iran says American sanctions have failed to affect economic cooperation between the two countries, adding that the value of bilateral trade has reached almost \$20 billion between late March and late November this year. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://www.presstv.com/Detail/2019/12/10/613335/Iran-China-trade-boom-US-sanctions-envoy>

Iran, Uzbekistan explore expansion of trade ties

Head of Trade Promotion Organization of Iran Hamid Zadboum and officials from Uzbekistan's Ministry of Investment and Foreign Trade explored the ways for strengthening bilateral trade. Please visit the following link for more information:

<http://www.iran-daily.com/News/262789.html>

Free Zones High Council inks technological co-op MOU with PTP

TEHRAN - Iranian Free Zones High Council Secretariat and Pardis Technology Park (PTP) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Tuesday with the aim of developing and enhancing innovation and technology in the country's free and special economic zones. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/442882/Free-Zones-High-Council-inks-technological-co-op-MOU-with-PTP>

Iranian firms participate at Sulaymaniyah Agriculture, Food Fair

TEHRAN, Dec. 10 (MNA) – Some Iranian companies have participated in the first edition of Sulaymaniyah International Agriculture & Food Industry Fair which was opened on Tuesday in Iraq's Sulaymaniyah. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/153254/Iranian-firms-participate-at-Sulaymaniyah-Agriculture-Food-F>

Iran Auto Output Down 32%

Iran's automotive output fell by 32.3% during the eight months ending Nov. 21 compared to a year earlier. Please visit the following link for more information:

<https://financialtribune.com/articles/auto/101131/iran-auto-output-down-32>

Analysis: The Bottom Line

Policies, prospects, priorities and perceptions so imperfectly explained in the 2020-21 fiscal budget President Hassan Rouhani presented on Sunday are yet another reminder of the truth that the government's economic footprint can be seen all over the place.

And this is bad for our economy in more ways than one. Proponents and opponents of centralized economies (on the verge of extinction) have often been quoted as saying that about 80% of Iran's economy are under state and government control.

It is the government and state apparatus that decides almost everything in this country of over 80 million people. And the results are astonishing. For each and everything, economic or otherwise, the government and its inefficient agencies should be at the forefront.

A vivid and dismaying example of how things can go in the wrong direction is the controversial multibillion-dollar cash subsidy policy crafted in late 2010 by the government of former president, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

In the catastrophic case of cash subsidies, better known as handouts, the government says it pays money to almost 70 million people every month.

Put together, the sum total of the two bands of subsidies and cost of living allowances (before and after the latest gasoline price rise), as stipulated in the budget bill, would be \$5.6 billion.

Fault Line

Now put the oil export revenue beside this prohibitive subsidy payment and see the fault line. How this crisis of shrinking revenue and ballooning expenditure will be solved remains to be seen.

The budget numbers for the coming year are enough to give you a nightmare.

Those in charge of the government's income and expenditure accounts have said that in the coming year, the treasury would "earn 1,982 trillion rials (\$14.52 billion) from taxes".

Strangely but not surprisingly, the president and his aides do not say how this is possible given the recession, forex rate volatilities, the monumental difficulties of business owners coupled with insolvencies and the miserable conditions of banks.

It is highly likely that they too do not have the answers to such awkward and bitter questions.

Taxing the rich is a wonderful idea and a norm in many countries where the rule of law is king. Most economists and the academia in our land hope the day will soon come when the tax regime will be airtight.

Lifelong Exemption

Informed minds often refer to the large number of cartels, economic, social and religious organizations, financial and non-financial institutions along with their army of affiliated companies (deeply involved in trade and manufactures) that do not pay tax. Many of these have the habit of implying that they have "a tax-exemption for life."

Simple arithmetic tells us that big economic enterprises making huge (undeclared) profits must see the writing on the wall. The government is being buried under the burden of deficit spending and can be salvaged if these big and selected companies pay their taxes.

If all the talk about shared responsibility and mutual concern of key economic participants and big money carries any weight, now is the time to practice what they preach.

Government coffers are now such that it seems it never existed. In a news item in Financial Tribune (Oct. 12), a senior lawmaker was quoted as saying, "In the first half of the current fiscal year (March-September), the government budget deficit reached \$5.59 billion."

What Mohammad Hussein, a member of Majlis Plan and Budget Commission, said was that the government is swimming in red ink and spending money it does not have.

In the same report, the Tribune said the Economy Ministry was approaching the bond market with plans to issue debt securities to pay its bills. The ministry said the budget deficit for 12 months ending next March would be in the neighborhood of \$12.5 billion. In the past few days, it was also reported that there is hardly any money for infrastructure and development projects.

Why, one may ask, should government funding for health, education, housing and development programs be scarified while the above-mentioned organizations add to their "non-taxable profit"?

Dysfunctional Tax Regime

The immense power and influence of the rich companies and their lobbies aside, we have the problem of the omnipresent and tainted tax exemptions, tax holidays and tax evasion.

Policies and practices that have brought the economy to where it is today must be revised.

According to Director of Iran National Tax Administration Omid Ali Parsa, 40% of Iran's economic participations are tax exempt.

Gholamali Jafarzadeh Imenabadi, another member of Majlis Plan and Budget Commission, puts the size of tax evasion at 400,000 billion rials (\$2.93 billion) a year.

"Up to 800,000 billion rials [\$5.86 billion] will return to government coffers [annually] if tax exemption laws are revised. I believe the value of tax exemption and tax evasion together is almost 1,000 trillion rials [\$7.32 billion]," he added.

Independent observers say the amount is much higher.

Fixed-wage earners and small businesses must pay their taxes (social security, medical, retirement, VAT) regularly or face penalties. The time has come for the deficit-spending government(s) to mobilize and let it be known in unambiguous terms that we cannot have summer and winter on the same roof.

To this entire burden, add the US economic sanctions—the worst penalties any nation has been subjected to in history. The gamut of restrictions imposed by the controversial US President Donald Trump (now facing serious corruption charges and fighting for his political survival) has almost nearly wiped out our oil exports—the lifeblood of the economy.

When it comes to oil export earnings, the budget bill has it that 482,986 trillion rials (\$3.7 billion) would be generated in 12 months, starting mid-March.

Here again a question arises: Even if this is true, how does the treasury intend to bring back the oil export revenue when Washington has cut off all our ties to international banking for more than a year?

All said, the government's bottom line does not look good at all. However, this does not mean that it has no options or Plan B.

If and when a responsible government sees that its policies and plans are not producing the desired results and the people are suffering, it shifts gears and tries other ways and means.

Of course, there is no one size fits all. Problems, economic conditions, foreign policy and bottom lines differ from one country to another.

Insofar as we are concerned, one solution that can and will deliver is for the government to explain to the people the reality on the ground and once and for all, place transparency and the fight against corruption on the highest pedestal.

Tried and tested clichés of the past have failed to fix the economy. It's time to change and come up with new ideas that will make a difference.

Please visit the following link for more information: <https://financialtribune.com/articles/domestic-economy/101170/analysis-the-bottom-line>



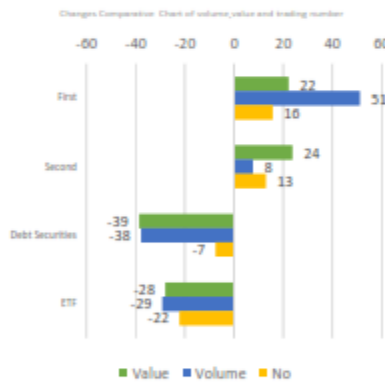
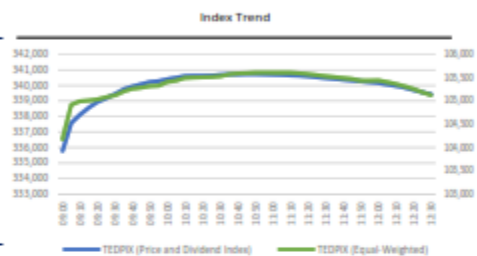
Tehran Stock Exchange

TSE Daily Market Review

10-Dec-19

Total Market View

Indices	Today	Last Trading Day	Changes	%
TEDPIX (Price and Dividend Index)	339,434	335,792	3642	1.1
TEDPIX (First Market)	244,479	242,213	2266	0.9
TEDPIX (Second Market)	700,279	691,156	9123	1.3
Free Float Adjusted Index	401,321	396,790	4531	1.1
TEDPIX (Equal-Weighted)	305,123	304,180	943	0.9
TEPIX	90,917	89,942	976	1.1
TEPIX (Equal-Weighted)	70,245	69,615	630	0.9
Industry Index	303,194	299,942	3252	1.1



		Value*	Volume	No
Total Trading Status		645	5,778	604,608
Equity Market	First	277	3,527	270,823
	Second	328	2,090	322,105
Trading value: US million dollars - trading volume: million shares				
Debt Market	Debt Securities	0	20	137
Trading Value: US million dollars - trading value 1000 papers				
Derivatives Market	Option	16	15,134	280
	Embedded Put Option	0	0 **	0
	Futures	3	8	7
*Trading value: US 1000 dollars ** Volume: million contracts				
ETF	ETF	39,301	161	5256
Trading value: US 1000 dollars - trading volume in million units				

Equity Market Trading in Details

		Value*	Changes to last Trading day	%	Volume	Changes to last Trading day	%
Retail	Equity	558	89	19.1%	5,345	1,374	35%
	Right	3	0	-3.2%	21	-28	-58%
Block		45	24	114%	251	-4	-1%
Wholesale and Transferred		0	0	---	0	0	---
Total Equity Market		605	113	1%	5,617	1,342	31%

Trading value: US million dollars - trading volume: million shares

* Exchange Rate: \$ 1 = IRR 42000

