

# Official: Japanese Gov't to Support Iran During Sanctions Era



TEHRAN (Fars) - The head of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Yuki Harokobayashi announced on Monday that the country will not alter its supportive policies towards Iran after implementation of the U.S. sanctions on November 4.

"JICA always supports development of mutual cooperation in the private sector and it will use its utmost efforts to return the Japanese companies to the Iranian market," Harokobayashi said.

He explained that JICA is an organization affiliated to the Japanese government, adding that the Japanese government supports Iran.

The official referred to the

last month meeting between the Japanese prime minister and Iranian president, and said, "Despite sanctions, the Japanese government will not change its supportive policies towards Iran."

The Japanese government started Official Development Assistance activities in Iran in 1957 and JICA officially established a Tehran office in 1974. In the almost 60 years of Japan's assistance program, JICA has helped Iran implement many projects with government agencies and local officials, particularly in the field of environmental conservation.

The chief executive officer of JICA in Iran said in September that general policy of the Japanese government and Japan International Cooperation Agency is to strengthen economic relations between Iran and Japan.

## Iran Produces Cooling Fabrics Using Nanotechnology



TEHRAN (IFP) - An Iranian knowledge-based company has used nanotechnology to produce nylon fabrics that could cool down human body by reflecting infrared radiation.

Nanocomposite fabrics have many useful functions including cooling the skin in summer, transferring the body moisture to the environment, rapidly drying textiles, increasing blood circulation, increasing cheerfulness, decreasing vascular cramps, and eliminating the bad smell of sweat and at the same time allowing the skin to continue its natural breathing.

Tehran Zarnakh Company, as the first Iranian company, has managed to produce nylon fabrics called HEALTEX which could reflect infrared radiations, and thus cool down the body.

This product has received a nano-scale certificate from the Iranian Headquarters of Nanotechnology Development this year. These fabrics can reflect infrared radiations and have the ability to retransmit these radiations into the body.

When the infrared radiation penetrates the skin, it contacts the molecules of protein, collagen, fat and water. By creating micrometric fluctuations, a thermal reaction is created which increases the temperature of the body tissue. As blood vessels expand, circulation increases.

Among other products of Zarnakh Company, one could refer to COOLTEX fabrics, which have the ability to rapidly transfer the body moisture to the environment. The presence of micrometric channels in the cross-sectional

area of the fibre results in a faster transfer of moisture to a wider level of tissue; therefore, it can increase the evaporation of moisture from the garment.

The heat required for evaporation is provided by the body, and this results in a feeling of dryness and cooling for the person wearing the cooling garment. These features will not be lost by repeated washing of these fibres.

The nanocomposite antimicrobial fibres are among other products of the company. The antimicrobial particles of these threads directly attack the cell wall of the bacterium and DNA, and reduce the possibility of bacteria spreading. In this way, they prevent the creation of odor.

No similar garment is being produced in Iran, and just some prominent companies of the advanced countries are active in this field. Therefore, there seems to be a good market for this product now and in the future.

Zarankh Corporation is a nano-based company participating in the 2018 International Nanotechnology Exhibition, which is currently underway in Tehran and will be open to visitors until October 16.

## Azerbaijan, Russia, Iran Connect Power Systems

MOSCOW (Dispatches) - Iranian, Russian and Azeri officials in a trilateral working group have discussed the linking of the energy systems of the three countries.

Coordination of the overall project model and the main aspects of the feasibility study of the interconnection of the power systems of the three countries was the main topic of negotiations.

The meeting was chaired by Russian Deputy Energy Minister Anatoly Yanovski. The Iranian side in the negotiations was represented by Deputy Energy Minister Homayoun Haeri, the Azerbaijani side by Deputy Energy Minister Natig Abbasov.

Following the meeting, representatives of the three countries agreed that interested parties should speed up the preparation of specific proposals on electricity trade in the three countries' integrated grid and consider the possibility of trial electricity supplies to Iran in 2019.

An agreement was reached at a tripartite meeting of the deputy ministers of energy of Azerbaijan, Russia and Iran, held in Baku in April, to hold activities related to construction of the second Yashma-Derbent interstate 330 kilovolt power transmission line between the energy systems of Azerbaijan and Russia.

The capacity of the Azerbaijani

energy system is more than 6,000 megawatts.

## Chinese Companies to Build Oil Refinery in Northern Iran

Tehran (Dispatches) - Deputy Governor General of Mazandaran for Economic Affairs Hassan Kheirianpour said on Monday that some Chinese companies have voiced their willingness to construct an oil refinery in Northern Iran.

Kheirianpour made the remarks after meeting with an economic delegation representing of Chinese companies and investors from Jiangxi Province in China visiting Iranian northern province of Mazandaran.

According to Kheirianpour, the Chinese have voiced readiness to both invest in and construct the refinery.

Chinese companies are ready to invest \$2 billion in construction of the oil refinery in Mazandaran province, said the local official.

The Islamic Republic of Iran and China enjoy very good relations in terms of politics and economy and such relations could be promoted in both sides' provinces, he said.

Grounds are well prepared for foreign investment in Mazandaran province in various fields such as agricultural products and construction of rail roads, ports and airports, he said.

Chinese investors also have the opportunity to invest to expand

tourism industry in Mazandaran Province, he said.

Chinese automobile makers also have the option to invest in the sector due to huge demands in the market, he said.

The Chinese visitors, for their part said that Iran is regarded as China's strategic economic partner as grounds for investment in construction of the rail tracks, wastage and oil refinery are well prepared.

Chinese seven-member delegation arrived in Mazandaran on Monday to examine expansion of economic cooperation between the two sides.

## Persian Gulf Star Refinery Petrol Output to Hit 40 ml/d: CEO



TEHRAN (Shana) - CEO of the National Iranian Oil Refining and Distribution Company (NIORDC) Alireza Sadiqabadi said petrol production at Persian Gulf Star Refinery would reach 40 million liters per day by the end of the current Iranian calendar year to March 20 2019.

Speaking to Shana, the official

said the third phase of the refinery, which is also called the Bandar Abbas Gas Condensate Refinery, would become operational by December, adding the unit's production would become stabilized in a matter of two months after its commissioning.

The plant is currently supplying 30 ml/d of petrol, he said, adding

domestic petrol consumption had risen by nearly 20 percent in the current year.

He said most of facility's petrol production capacity was used for meeting the domestic demand for the item, adding the refinery had the required capacity to supply 30 ml/d of Euro-4 petrol.

The NIORDC CEO further added that the petrol output of the refinery could also obtain Euro-5 standards in terms of environmental parameters.

Sadiqabadi said Iran's petrol production capacity had risen by 50 percent since last calendar year and was at 93 ml/d currently.

"By the end of the current calendar year, production of petrol will reach 40 ml/d bringing the country's total production capacity to almost 117 ml/d," he added.

The plant is also supplying an average of 7 ml/d of gasoil which will reach 12 ml/d once the third phase of the facility comes online.

## U.S. Holdings Corp. Files for Bankruptcy

NEW YORK (Bloomberg) - Sears Holdings Corp., the 125-year-old retailer that became an icon for generations of American shoppers, filed for bankruptcy, saddled with billions of dollars of debt racked up as it struggled to adjust to the rapid shift toward online consumption.

The company, which employs 68,000 people, filed for Chapter 11 early Monday in White Plains, New York. Eddie Lampert, the hedge fund manager who propped up the retailer for years with lifelines and financial engineering, is stepping down immediately as chief executive officer. At the same time, Lampert's ESL Investments Inc. is negotiating a financing deal while also discussing buying "a large portion of the company's store base,"



Sears said in a statement.

The financing would help ensure that much of Sears' and Kmart's stores are kept open through the crucial holiday season. Lenders

and Lampert will in the meantime begin hashing out through the courts how much -- if any -- of the company will remain a going concern beyond that.

## Global Stocks Slip on Continuing Global Trade Worries

TOKYO (China Daily) - Global stocks slipped Monday as investor worries continued about global trade tensions and prospects for economic growth.

KEEPING SCORE: France's CAC 40 lost 0.3 percent in early trading to 5,079.25, while Britain's FTSE 100 was down less than 0.1 percent at 6,995.44. U.S. shares were also set to drift lower, with Dow futures losing 0.5 percent to 25,182. S&P 500 futures dipped 0.6 percent to 2,753.

ASIA'S DAY: Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 dipped 1.9 percent to finish at 22,271.30, while Australia's S&P/

ASX 200 slipped nearly 1 percent to 5,837.10. South Korea's Kospi edged down 0.8 percent to 2,145.12. Hong Kong's Hang Seng fell 1.5 percent to 25,411.64, while the Shanghai Composite shed 1.5 percent to 2,568.10.

TRADE WORRIES: Investors are growing worried that U.S.-China trade tensions are impairing global economic growth. The International Monetary Fund cut its forecast for global economic growth last week because of trade tensions and rising interest rates.

THE QUOTE: "The repercussions

of trade tensions that had plagued global equity markets persist," said Jingyi Pan, market strategist at IG in Singapore.

CHINA MEETING: News that Chinese President Xi Jinping and U.S. President Donald Trump may meet has sparked hope that tensions in the trade war between the world's two largest economies might ease. But worries about the increased tariffs the two sides have imposed on each other's goods, a move that tends to dampen growth, are contributing to volatility in financial markets.

SOFTBANK SLIDE: Shares in SoftBank skidded more than 7 percent. The Japanese technology company's brand is getting slammed because of its link with a major investment fund centered around Saudi government financing called the Vision Fund. The kingdom may be involved in the disappearance and suspected murder of Jamal Khashoggi, a journalist who wrote for the Washington Post. The kingdom has poured \$100 billion into the firm's tech investing and has suggested it may put another \$45 billion into it.