

Italy After Expanding Economic Ties With Iran



Italian economic delegation and Iran's senior trade authorities held a meeting in Sari, Mazandaran province.

TEHRAN (FNA) - Italian Trade Commissioner in Iran Augusto Di Giacinto announced on Wednesday that Italy is eyeing expansion of mutual cooperation with Iran.

The Italian official made the remarks in a visit to Iranian northern province of Mazandaran, calling for provision of necessary grounds to expand mutual

cooperation.

Heading an Italian economic delegation, Di Giacinto met with Iran's senior trade authorities in Sari, the capital city of the province. In the meeting, the Italian official reassured that Italy will remain Iran's friend in hard times.

Di Giacinto noted that Italian commercial sector has been making

efforts from long ago to consider ways to continue cooperation Iran and tap the great potentials and capacities of the Iranian market.

According to him, despite the difficulties hindering joint cooperation, the Italian economy is eager to cooperate with Iran.

"We should provide the grounds for cooperation between Italian and Iranian investors and traders," he added.

He urged that necessary actions should be taken to remove the banking hurdles such as liquidity and money transfer.

The U.S. has been trying to cut off Iran's access to SWIFT and hamper the country's financial ties since May when U.S. President Donald Trump unilaterally pulled out of Iran's nuclear deal with world powers.

The official stressed that the Italian embassy are seeking cooperation in different Iranian provinces with their considerable potentials.

Italian Ambassador to Iran Mauro Conciatori announced on Monday that Rome is determined to bolster and enhance mutual cooperation with Tehran.

Iranian Firms to Cooperate in Oman's 'Nano City'



TEHRAN (Dispatches) - Secretary General of Iran Nanotechnology Initiative Council (INIC) Saeed Sarkar has said that a number of 40 Iranian companies will cooperate to build a 'Nano City' in Oman.

He pointed to the presence of high-ranking delegations from seven foreign countries including Oman in the 11th International Nanotechnology Festival and Exhibition and said, "With the coordination made in this regard,

40 knowledge-based Iranian firms will cooperate to build a Nano City in Oman."

Speaking on the sidelines of the exhibition, he said, "In this edition of the exhibition, more than 40 foreign guests from Russia, Bolivia, Malaysia, Indonesia, Oman, South Korea and Iraq will cooperate with the Islamic Republic of Iran in the field of nanotechnology."

Oman Nano City Project is expected to be launched by

2023 in cooperation with Iran's Nanotechnology Initiative Council, he said, adding, "The feasibility studies of the project are underway, so that its first phase will be constructed on a land area as large as one million square meters on the suburb of Muscat, Omani capital city."

Elsewhere in his remarks, he pointed to the negotiations held between Omani representatives and 40 knowledge-based Iranian companies and added, "Fortunately, negotiations brought about positive results."

Turning to the visit of 10 South Korean companies to the 11th International Nanotechnology Exhibition, he said, "Some Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) were inked between Iran and South Korea for broadening bilateral cooperation in nanotechnology."

The 11th International Nanotechnology Exhibition wrapped up on Wednesday.

Russia, Iran Working on Setting Common Standards



Head of Institute of Standards and Industrial Research of Iran (ISIRI) Nayerh Pirouzbakht

TEHRAN (FNA) - Head of Institute of Standards and Industrial Research of Iran (ISIRI) Nayerh Pirouzbakht announced on Wednesday that Iran and Russia are working hard on setting common standards to boost economic cooperation.

The Iranian official said that the move is aimed at further bolstering mutual trades and commercial relations between Tehran and Moscow.

According to the ISIRI head, enhancing mutual trades requires

common standards, and the two sides are studying various options and potentials to pave the way for greater cooperation.

"Constant negotiations are underway between the Islamic Republic and the Russian Federation to find the best approaches to reach common standards", she said.

Referring to the long-term strategic ties between the two countries, Pirouzbakht said, establishing joint laboratories are among the ideas proposed by the Russian side to achieve the goal.

To do so, Russians are eyeing to use some of the Iranian modern laboratories in the private sector, she said, adding that Iran is also following a similar approach toward Russian laboratories.

Pirouzbakht added that formulating similar standards can help reduce goods inspection period in the borders, which would lead to acceleration and promotion and trades between the two states.

Gas to Provide Strategic Power to Iran: Official

TEHRAN (Shana) - The former Secretary General of the Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF) Mohammad Hussein Adeli said gas will become a great player in the world of energy in future and it will provide the ground for strategic powers to Iran.

Adeli, on the sidelines of the 4th Iranian Petroleum and Energy Club Congress & Exhibition in Tehran said, "It's time to look at gas exports, especially LNG, differently and make the necessary investments in this regard."

The former GECF secretary general said that gas would provide Iran with strategic powers the same as oil or perhaps even more in the future saying: "As oil is a valuable commodity in the energy sector, natural gas, and in particular, LNG will become great players in the energy world."

He stressed that Iran could become a major producer of liquefied natural gas (LNG) in the light of its proven gas reserves.



European Car Sales Slump 23% as New Emissions Tests Start



BRUSSELS (Bloomberg) - Car sales have slumped for several major European automakers due to new emissions regulations, according to one of Europe's biggest auto manufacturing organizations.

Fiat Chrysler, Volkswagen Group and Renault saw a 23.5 percent decline in European car sales in September, the Brussels-based European Automobile Manufacturers Association (ACEA) said in a report on Wednesday.

Car registrations dropped to 1.12 million cars in the European Union and European Free Trade Association, Reuters reported, down from 1.47 million in September last year, the report stated.

It also said that new Worldwide Harmonized Light Vehicle Test (WLTP) standards, which came into effect September 1, forced some automakers to cease deliveries until cars could be recertified under the new regulations.

Firm Builds Machine to Purify Wastewater Using Nanotechnology

TEHRAN (IFP) - A graywater purification device, which is made based on nanostructured ceramic membranes, was recently unveiled in a nanotechnology exhibition in Tehran.

The device was unveiled on the sidelines of the 11th International Nanotechnology Exhibition, during a ceremony attended by Iranian Vice-President for Science and Technology Sorena Sattari.

The water purifier has been designed and built on several stages of filtration and ultrafiltration. The machine has several nanoscale ceramic membranes with different pore diameters.

Aliakbar Babaloo, the Managing Director of Nano Industry Researchers Company and a faculty member at Sahand University of Tabriz, talked about the performance of the device.

"Due to the high precision of the pore size of the membranes, this device can purify graywater and turn it into microorganism-free water. In the future, it can even be used to produce drinking water."

Regarding the domestic and foreign samples of this machine, he further added that "For the time being, some European companies are producing ceramic membranes, but according to the country's economic

conditions, our product will be much more cost-effective than its foreign counterparts."

Kitchen and laundry wastewater, carwash and carpet wastewaters are sullage samples that can be used for irrigation of greenhouses, farming, and even filling flash-tanks.

Report: Indonesia, Iran Trade Exchanges Up 2.5-Fold

TEHRAN (Dispatches) - Indonesian Ambassador to Tehran Octavino Alimudin has said that Iran and Indonesia trade exchanges have increased by 2.5 times comparing to previous year, Iran News Agency (IRNA) reported.

In a meeting with managing director of Aras Free Zone during his visit to the region, he put the economic exchanges of the two countries at \$800 million, saying that grounds are prepared for raising the figure to one billion dollars.

Referring to the operation of nine free zones in Indonesia, he stressed the need for using opportunities and capacities of Aras Free Zone to help improve trade relations between the two countries.

He further noted that his trip to Aras is aimed at exploring ways for promoting bilateral relations, adding that Aras industries are indicative of high speed of progress and existence of special developing industries in it.

The Indonesian envoy also voiced his country's interest in cooperation between the two countries' free zones in the fields of petrochemicals, non-oil industries including clothing, leather shoes and Halal food industry.

China Cuts U.S. Treasury Holdings for Third Straight Month

BEIJING (dispatches) - China's holdings of U.S. Treasuries fell for a third consecutive month in August as the Asian nation struggles to prevent the yuan from weakening amid trade tensions with America.

China's ownership of U.S. bonds, bills and notes was \$1.165 trillion, down from \$1.171 trillion in July, according to data released by the Treasury Department. Japan, which is the largest foreign owner of Treasuries after China, decreased

its holdings to \$1.03 trillion from \$1.036 trillion a month earlier.

Beijing's sale of Treasuries is sometimes viewed as a response to the trade war, especially after China's ambassador to the U.S. signaled in March his country could scale back purchases of the debt to retaliate against American tariffs. President Donald Trump since July has imposed tariffs on about half of Chinese imports, with Beijing responding with duties of its own on American goods.