

Zangeneh: Iran Able to Build 80% of Oil Equipment



TEHRAN (Dispatches) – Iranian Minister of Petroleum Bijan Zangeneh says the country is able to supply 80% of the items and parts used in the petroleum industry.

During a visit to the of the parliament speaker Muhammed Baqer Qalibaf to the 25th Oil, Gas, Refining and Petrochemical Exhibition on Saturday, Zangeneh said: “We are now able to manufacture and supply at least 80% of the fixed equipment of the oil industry inside the country.”

He said Iran is currently capable of producing NACE sheets, prefabricated processing units, drilling rigs and bits, and cryogenic sheets.

“We have a shortage of capacity in seamless pipes production and we need to invest in CRA pipes,” he said.

The Minister of Petroleum referred to catalysts and chemicals as other commodities needed by the oil industry, and said: “In this sector, in recent years, the country has faced a leap in production and self-reliance.”

Zangeneh further said that rotating equipment is the third item produced by domestic manufacturers, and continued: “Now most of these equipment such as turbines and gas transfer compressors and various types of oil and product transfer pumps are being produced by major companies (OTC and Mapna) and medium-sized ones.”

Iran's Oil Industrialists Welcome Global Activities

Meanwhile, head of the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) for Development and Engineering Affairs said Iran has always welcomed interactions with the world.

“Iranian companies welcome interactions and competition with foreign companies and regard it as a factor for growth and better performance,” Reza Dehqan said.

He underlined that Iran's capabilities in the oil industry are developing rapidly, and said that considering the created capacities, if the sanctions are lifted, Iranian companies can cooperate with the world without fear and use the opportunity for further synergy.

The NIOC official termed the strategic plan to transfer Goureh crude oil to Jask oil terminal a complete symbol of the emergence of Iranian capabilities, and said, “The contractors of the project are 100 percent Iranian and the share of construction in this project is 95 percent.”

Dehqan further stated that the progress of this project has now reached more than 70 percent, and described the speed of progress of the construction of the Goureh-Jask oil transfer pipeline considering the volume of activities as unique in its kind.

The 42-inch Goureh-Jask pipeline with a length of about 1,000

km is equipped with 5 pumping stations and 2 sphering stops and is accompanied by 11 electricity posts and a 180-km power transmission line.

The project is aimed at transferring 1 million barrels of exported crude oil per day, the transmission capacity of an extra 1 million barrels of crude from Goureh to Jask terminal per day, and storing and exporting crude oil from the new terminal in Jask Island.

The project has so far cost \$300 million and needs \$800 to \$850 million more to be accomplished by March 2021, according to Iran's Oil Ministry.

South Pars Phase 14 Making Favorable Progress

Managing Director of Pars Oil and Gas Company Muhammad Meshkinfam has lauded the satisfying progress of South Pars' Phase 14 project, and said that it will start operation by Spring.

“According to forecasts, the project's first operational train will become operational by spring,” Meshkinfam said speaking on the sidelines of the first day of the 25th Oil, Gas, Refining and Petrochemical Exhibition on Saturday.

“Engineering studies are underway for increasing the pressure of the phases and, as the Minister of Petroleum pointed out, a contract will be signed soon for building two 16 MW turbochargers,” he added.

Iran Opens Auto Spare Parts Innovation Centre

TEHRAN (Dispatches) – Iran has opened an auto spare parts industry innovation centre at a domestic knowledge-based company.

The centre was inaugurated in Cruze spare part production by Vice President for Science and Technology Sorena Sattari.

During the ceremony, he highlighted the importance of innovative moves by knowledge-based companies in the auto industry.

He said the fine line between owning a factory and an industry is the ability to design, manufacture, optimize and develop.



“These capabilities materialize only by opening the doors to innovation and welcoming innovative knowledge-based companies and start-ups,” he said.

The top official noted local

knowledge-based companies are capable of producing auto software and parts.

The newly inaugurated spare parts industry innovation centre employs nearly 13,000 people.

Official: Over 150,000 Tons of Goods Transited Via Bileh Savar Customs



TEHRAN (Dispatches) – A local official of Bileh Savar customs of northwestern Ardabil province said on Saturday that up to 155,000 tons of products have been transited through Bileh Savar customs during first ten months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20, 2020- January 19, 2021).

Kalimollah Vosouqi said that around 155 thousand metric tons of various commodities

were transited via Bileh Savar customs office in Ardabil province, indicating a 25% rise compared with last year's similar period.

Vosouqi added that the transit of goods via the Northwestern customs was carried out by 6,727 trucks.

“Mineral water, cement, MDF wood, plaster, chipboard, biscuit, rice, steel profile, salt and garments were

the main goods transited via Bileh Savar,” he added.

Vosouqi noted that Iran's exports via the route reached 251,779 tons in the ten-month period, indicating a 33% fall compared with the similar period of last year.

“Over 242,000 tons of the exported goods were transported by 10,578 Iranian trucks and the remaining 9,000 tons were exported by foreign vehicles,” he noted.

The official went on to say that Azerbaijan Republic, Russia and Georgia were the main destination of such exports during the mentioned period.

Bileh Savar is the capital city of the namesake county in Ardabil province. The city is the site of a border crossing with the Republic of Azerbaijan.

India to Overtake China as World's Fastest-Growing Major Economy in 2021

MOSCOW (RT) – India will regain its status as the fastest-growing global economy as early as this year at the expense of neighboring China, which has topped the rankings for two years in row, according to data and analytics firm GlobalData.

The London-based consultancy firm expects the Indian economy to recover sharply this year from its current technical recession, expanding 9.7 percent, quicker than other major economies across the globe. China is expected to see growth of 8.6 percent.

India's growth will reportedly be bolstered by the substantial foreign direct investment that it has seen in recent months, as well as by a \$266-billion economic stimulus package approved by the government in May to help the economy survive the impact of the corona-



virus pandemic.

Moreover, the recent drop in Covid-19 cases across the country along with a revival in demand during the festive season are also seen as obvious signs of potential economic recovery.

According to the firm, the nationwide vaccination campaign against coronavirus, launched earlier this month, is set to put the hardest-hit sectors, includ-

ing transportation, hospitality and entertainment, on the path to recovery.

“The easing of restrictions, along with huge fiscal stimulus from the government, has resulted in marginally better performance of Purchasing Managers' Index – manufacturing and services since August 2020,” Gargi Rao, economic research analyst at GlobalData said, as cited by Quartz India.

Iraq-Iran Flights Resume After COVID Restrictions Ease

TEHRAN (Dispatches) – Iraqi Airways Company announced on Saturday the resumption of flights to and from Iran after a short halt due to coronavirus concerns, according to local media.

Al-Forat news agency cited Iraqi Airways Company that the Najaf-Tehran and Najaf-Mashhad routes have been reactivated after they were called off in mid-January due to the coronavirus concerns.

Iraqi authorities banned flights with several countries, including Iran, as of January 14 due to concerns regarding the spread of a newly discovered coronavirus disease strain.

Iran detected the first UK variant of the COVID-19 on Janu-



ary 5. So far, only five patients with the new strain have been identified.

The country's daily coronavirus infections and death have

been decreasing in the past weeks. Iran registered 75 deaths of the respiratory disease on Friday, marking a two-digit rate for the third week.