

Editorial Dept. Tel.: 33911561, 33110251-9

Ext.: 2334, 2336, 2337

Advertising Dept.: 33110251-9 Ext. 2336

Subscription Ext.: 2322

Facsimile: 33114228 & 33111120

Website: www.kayhan.ir/en

E-mail: kayhanintl@yahoo.com

P.O. Box: 11365/9631

Address: Martyr Shah Cheraghi Street, Ferdowsi Avenue,
Tehran – Islamic Republic of Iran

Temporary Accommodation Provided to Quake-Hit Families

TEHRAN -- An official says relief teams have provided temporary accommodation to all families affected by a 5.4-magnitude earthquake that hit near the city of Khoy, in the north-western Iranian province of West Azarbaijan on Wednesday.

According to the Seismological Center of the Institute of Geophysics of Tehran University, the tremor struck an area some nine kilometers northwest of Khoy at 13:38 p.m. local time (1008 GMT) at a depth of 10 km.

"The process of providing people with temporary accommodation has been completed," Muhammad Hassan Nami, head of the National Disaster Management Organization of Iran, said on Thursday. "For now, there is no need for public donations as all required facilities are available."

In a report on Thursday morning, the seismological center said 15 aftershocks had hit the area since Wednesday noon, with nine of them being above 3 on the Richter scale.

According to the latest reports, 194 people were injured during the strongest aftershock and were taken to local hospitals; however, only 24 individuals have been hospitalized.

The quake has had no death toll so far.

Initial estimates show that the jolt has caused damage to some 500 houses in Firurag city and nearby villages as a detailed report on the extent of damage is expected in the next 48 hours.

Affected people in Firurag have been accommodated in sporting halls, Nami said, adding that in nearby villages, as people wanted to be accommodated near their own homes, some 2,000 tents and heating devices have been offered to people so that they can stay there till aftershocks stop.

Relief teams have provided

people with food rations for their next 72 hours, the official noted, adding that warm meals are also being distributed among people since Thursday.

Rescue teams were dispatched to the affected areas immediately after the jolt and high-ranking Iranian officials urged the related bodies to perform relief operations as soon as possible.

On Wednesday evening, President Ebrahim Raisi expressed sympathy with the affected people, calling on responsible organizations in the province to promptly provide people with temporary accommodation and other related equipment.

Eteazad Moqimi, an official with the energy ministry, said Thursday that groups were busy providing tents with electricity. A few problems in the affected area's grid that were caused by the quake were solved, he said, noting that no problem with the water distribution network has been reported.

Another 5.4-magnitude earthquake also struck Khoy on October 5, 2022, damaging more than 5,000 houses in the area.

Putin: Russia Ready to Upgrade Iran Cooperation



Russian President Vladimir Putin, left, is walking alongside Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi in Tehran, July 19, 2022.

TEHRAN – Russian President Vladimir Putin has held phone talks with his Iranian counterpart Ebrahim Raisi for the second time in less than ten days, saying says Moscow is ready to upgrade cooperation with Tehran in different fields.

The two presidents discussed bilateral ties and regional developments during on Thursday, during which President Raisi stressed the need to boost bilateral cooperation and coordination in various fields.

He also hailed "positive and constructive" agreements signed between the two countries for expanding cooperation in the fields of energy and transit.

Putin said Moscow is ready to boost cooperation with Tehran

in the areas of energy as well as transit.

Iran and Russia are working to advance the North-South corridor which will facilitate transportation and greatly reduce transportation time.

In 2002, Russia, Iran, and India signed an agreement for the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC), a 7,200 km multi-mode network of ship, rail, and road route for moving freight between India, Iran, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Russia, Central Asia and Europe.

The INSTC is seen a game-changer that will shorten the distance and lower the cost of transportation from South Asia to Europe through Iran and Russia

and potentially serve as an alternative to the Suez Canal for East-West trade.

The two presidents also discussed the situation in Syria. Raisi stressed that Iran supports solving the Syrian crisis through the Astana Format.

Putin also highlighted the role of Astana talks in solving the Syrian conflict, noting that all sides are committed to the format.

Iran and Russia, as the allies of the Syrian government, as well as Turkey, which sides with the opposition, set up the Astana peace process in January 2017 intending to put an end to the Syrian conflict through the involvement of the Syrian government and the opposition.

Two Daesh-Linked Terrorist Teams Dismantled

TEHRAN -- Iranian security forces have dismantled two teams affiliated with the Daesh terrorist group in the southeastern province of Sistan and Baluchestan before they could sow insecurity in the area.

The two teams were dismantled in a joint operation by the intelligence ministry, the IRGC, and the police, said a Thursday report by Tasnim news agency, adding that members of the team and a number of accomplices were arrested and handed over to the judiciary.

The teams were planning to sow insecurity in the country's southeast, it said. "One of the objectives of these teams was to take foreign nationals and business persons in Chabahar as hostages."

"Confessions by the groups' members, including Afghan and Tajik nationals, show that they have had extensive plans to foment insecurity in southeast Iran," the report added.

In recent months, terrorist teams affiliated with Deash and Mujahed-

in Khalq Organization (MKO) have taken advantage of riots in Iran to carry out acts of terror and sabotage across the country.

Last October, 13 civilians, including a woman and two children, were killed at Shah Cheragh shrine in Shiraz in a terrorist attack claimed by Daesh.

Last month, the intelligence ministry said Iran's security and intelligence forces had arrested 26 Takfiri terrorists for involvement in the terrorist attack.

Envoy Slams UN Silence on Zionist Regime's Crimes

UNITED NATIONS (Dispatches) – Iran's ambassador to the United Nations has strongly criticized UN silence on the occupying regime of Israel's crimes, saying the world body must act immediately to support the Palestinian people.

Saeid Iravani made the remarks while addressing a UN Security Council open debate on the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question. "Sympathy alone is not enough," he said.

The Zionist regime's oppressive, expansionist and apartheid practices against Palestinians continued unabated in 2022, and the Palestinian people, particularly women and children, are facing severe poverty and violation of their basic rights, he said.

The occupying regime has committed atrocities in the occupied Palestinian territories

without accountability for more than 70 years, he said, stressing the importance of fully recognizing, upholding and protecting the Palestinian nation's right to self-determination.

But long as the Security Council remains silent, this is impossible to do so, Iravani added.

The Security Council is duty-bound to remain committed to the UN Charter and maintain international peace and security, he said, emphasizing that it should use all legal channels to hold the Zionist regime accountable for all the crimes it is committing.

The Iranian envoy said the Israeli incursion into the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound earlier this month violated the mosque's sanctity and worship rites and was a brazen provocation of Muslim feel-

ings.

"This illegality and recklessness have serious consequences that should not be underestimated," he said, noting that if not properly addressed, it can further destabilize an already fragile situation and endanger regional and international peace and security.

On January 3, far-right Zionist minister Itamar Ben-Gvir entered the holy site of Al-Aqsa Mosque through the Moroccan Gate, also known as the Mughrabi Gate, sparking widespread condemnation.

Hardline Israeli legislators and extremist settlers regularly storm the al-Aqsa Mosque compound in the occupied city, a provocative move that infuriates Palestinians. Such mass settler break-ins almost always take place at the be-

hest of Tel Aviv-backed temple groups and under the auspices of the Israeli police in Al-Quds.

The Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, which sits just above the Western Wall plaza, houses both the Dome of the Rock and the al-Aqsa Mosque.

Iravani said the UN silence on Tel Aviv's crimes will only encourage the regime to continue its occupation of the Palestinian territories and intensify its brutal aggression against Palestinians.

He said Iran is responsible to support the Palestinian people's legitimate right to resist the oppression and violence of the racist Israeli regime in accordance with Palestinians' right to self-determination, adding it will be Tehran's permanent position until the end of the occupation.

The Holy Qur'an

And We showed Pharaoh
all Our Signs, but he did
reject and refuse.

The Holy Qur'an 20:57

PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)	12:15
Evening (Maghreb)	17:38
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	07:12
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	05:44

Foreign Ministry Summons South Korean Ambassador

TEHRAN – The Iranian foreign ministry has summoned the ambassador of South Korea to Tehran to protest recent interfering comments made by President Yoon Suk-yeol against the Islamic Republic.

The Iranian deputy foreign minister for legal and international affairs voiced Tehran's strong protest, saying Yoon's remarks during a visit to the UAE amounted to meddling in "friendly relations" between Iran and the Persian Gulf countries and undermined peace and security in the region.

The Iranian diplomat demanded an immediate explanation about the remarks and underscored the need for Seoul to correct such an approach.

Referring to South Korea's unfriendly measures, including freeze of Iranian assets, the official said Seoul's failure to take effective measures to undo its wrongs would prompt Iran to reconsider relations with the country.

Addressing South Korean forces based in the UAE during a recent trip, Yoon drew an analogy between the alleged threat posed to his country by North Korea and what he called the "threat" facing Abu Dhabi from Iran. He then labeled Iran as the "most-threatening nation" to the UAE.

South Korea's foreign ministry on Thursday called in Iran's ambassador to Seoul to explain Yoon's remarks, official Yonhap news agency reported.

Seoul's foreign ministry had earlier stated that the comments were "irrelevant" to Seoul's relations with Iran and urged against "unnecessary overinterpretation."

South Korean First Vice Foreign Minister Cho Hyun-dong called in Saeed Badamchi Shabestari and "explained again Seoul's position," the ministry's spokesperson Lim Soo-suk said during a regular press briefing.