

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

Ministry Rejects Reports of Iran's Willingness for 'Compromise'

TEHRAN -- Iran's foreign ministry has rejected reports of the country's willingness to "compromise" its stance in ongoing indirect negotiations to restore the 2015 nuclear deal.

Foreign ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh said late Saturday that Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei made no mention of compromise to Qatar's emir, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, when they met in Tehran earlier this month. Ayatollah Khamenei told the emir "we have always said the negotiations must yield results, not waste time", and "the Americans know what they need to do regarding this", Khatibzadeh told the Tasnim news website.

"It is very clear from the context of the Leader's remarks that the ball is in the U.S. court, which must make wise political decisions to fulfill its obligations," he said.

The comments come after Qatar's foreign minister, Sheikh Muhammad bin Abdulrahman Al Thani, was quoted as saying in the German newspaper Handelsblatt that the "Iranian leadership" had expressed readiness for compromise concerning "the Iranian nuclear file".

Khatibzadeh suggested a mistranslation of comments may have occurred. Qatar's foreign ministry on Sunday said the minister was misquoted about the "compromise" comments.

On Friday, Sheikh Tamim expressed optimism during a press conference in Germany that an agreement can be reached in Vienna, and reiterated Qatar's readiness to assist. Majed Muhammad al-

Ansari, spokesman for Qatar's foreign affairs ministry, said on Saturday that Doha is "very optimistic" about progress in the talks to achieve "peace and stability in the Persian Gulf region".

"We hope an agreement that satisfies all parties and guarantees Iran's right to peaceful use of nuclear energy will be reached as soon as possible," al-Ansari said.

The talks to restore the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), as the deal is formally known, have stalled since March as the two sides have failed to agree on a small but consequential number of issues, including a "terror" designation against Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC). The U.S. unilaterally abandoned the deal in 2018, imposing harsh sanctions.

The European Union's coordinator for the talks, Enrique Mora, visited Tehran earlier this month in an effort to facilitate the talks. Iran's Foreign Minister Hussein Amir-Abdollahian and EU's foreign policy chief Josep Borrell had a phone call earlier this week to discuss the state of the talks.

"Important to get going," Borrell tweeted following the call. "The more we wait the more difficult it becomes to conclude negotiations."

TEHRAN -- The Iranian Army on Sunday assured the nation of its complete preparedness to protect the country's security and national interests.

In a statement released on the occasion of the anniversary of the liberation of Khorramshahr, the armed forces hailed the vic-

President Raisi Calls for Review of Economic Policies



President Raisi addresses the first privatization event in Tehran on Friday.

TEHRAN -- President Ebrahim Raisi spoke at length about the economy at a gathering attended by hundreds of experts and businessmen in what was described as the first international privatization event in Iran.

Raisi said hard decisions to be made which some people may not agree with. He also focused on the issue of privatization in Iran.

"Privatization does not mean abandoning industrial units. It is the beginning of the government's supervision on privatized companies," he said.

For the past 15 years successive governments have talked about privatization.

During the past years, hundreds of workers of privatized companies have protested to the privatization process that has handed over many government companies to well-connected but often disinterested and non-expert individuals who only used the assets to take hefty loans from government banks with no intention to pay back.

Many of these companies including the sugar mill at Haft Tappeh

and the heavy equipment factory in Arak which used to be profitable in the past are currently on the verge of bankruptcy according to their workers.

Raisi said on Saturday that privatization empowers the private sector. He called for looking back and reviewing the privatization process that has taken place.

He said "fair and critical review of the past is essential and inevitable," so that lessons could be learned, and corruption could be prevented.

IRGC Spokesman Gen. Sharif: Iran Will Never Brook Zionist Forces Near Borders

TEHRAN -- The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) spokesman Brigadier General Ramazan Sharif said Sunday Iran will never tolerate deployment of Israeli forces in bases near Iran.

The Zionists have officially announced everywhere that they are against Islamic Republic's interests, General Sharif said.

"They've said that they are seriously after assassinating our prominent figures and

identifying our bases," he stated.

In March, IRGC commander Major General Hussein Salami warned the Persian Gulf Arab states against the threat that Israeli presence poses to the security of the region.

"Unfortunately, some regimes to the south of the Persian Gulf have established political and security relations with the Zionist regime, which poses a serious threat

to the security of the region and especially those regimes," General Salami said while referring to the security situation in the Persian Gulf region, the Strait of Hormuz and the Sea of Oman.

"We explicitly declare and warn that the continuation of such relations are not acceptable at all, and they should know that the existence of the evil Zionist regime everywhere is a cause of insecurity," he added.

F-14 Jet Overhauled in Isfahan

TEHRAN -- Experts at the Iranian Air Force base in the central city of Isfahan have overhauled an F-14 fighter jet.

The Air Force managed to overhaul an F-14 fighter jet, grounded for 18 years, Air Force chief Brigadier General Hamid Vahedi said.

He said the overhaul on the aircraft was conducted in the Air Force's base in Isfahan over a period of three years.

"Our enemies never thought we could overhaul this aircraft and use it after years, seeing its very complicated maintenance," General Vahedi said.

He said thousands of parts of the fighter plane were replaced or repaired during the process.

"From A to Z of the repair and maintenance process was carried out by domestic experts and we needed no help from any foreign company," General Vahedi said.

Last year, experts at the Air Force base in northeastern Mashhad overhauled an F-5 bomber.

Army Says Fully Ready to Protect Iran's Security

TEHRAN -- The Iranian Army on Sunday assured the nation of its complete preparedness to protect the country's security and national interests.

In a statement released on the occasion of the anniversary of the liberation of Khorramshahr, the armed forces hailed the vic-

tory as the symbol of unity and solidarity of the armed forces in safeguarding Iran's security and territorial integrity.

The statement described the heroic event as a stellar model of defending independence for future generations.

Khorramshahr was a city in

southwestern Iran that had been occupied by Iraq's Ba'athist army in the early 1980s under former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein.

Paying tribute to the martyrs of the epic battle for the liberation of Khorramshahr, the statement assured that the Army forces

are fully ready to sacrifice their lives for safeguarding the Islamic establishment and protecting Iran's security and national interests.

Iranian military and political officials have repeatedly warned the enemies about the dire consequences of military action

against the Islamic Republic.

In remarks last month, the commander of the Iranian Army's ground force described the Islamic Republic as the safest country in the region, cautioning the aggressors that any stupid move will be dealt with seriously.

The Holy Qur'an

(To) those who love this world's life more than the hereafter, and turn away from Allah's path and desire to make it crooked; these are in a great error.

The Holy Qur'an (14.3)

PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)	13:01
Evening (Maghreb)	20:29
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	05:54
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	04:13

Foreign Ministers of Iran, India Review Bilateral Ties

TEHRAN -- Iranian Foreign Minister Hussein Amir-Abdollahian has hailed good relations between Tehran and New Delhi, stressing the significance that the Islamic Republic attaches to the bilateral ties.

In a telephone conversation, Amir-Abdollahian and his Indian counterpart Subrahman-yam Jaishankar exchanged views about the relations between the two sides as well as major regional and international issues.

The top Iranian diplomat said cooperation between Iran and India is in line with developing their all-out relations.

He also hailed consultations between the two sides on regional and international affairs as an indication of growing ties.

The Indian foreign minister, for his part, referred to the good level of cooperation between Tehran and New Delhi and expressed hope that their bilateral ties will further grow and deepen in different areas.

Jaishankar also invited his Iranian counterpart to visit India for talks with the South Asian country's senior officials, which was welcomed by Amir-Abdollahian.

In their telephone conversation, the two foreign ministers also discussed developments in Afghanistan, Yemen, and Ukraine as well as negotiations on the revival of the 2015 Iran nuclear deal and an end to anti-Iran sanctions.