

TEHRAN -- President Ebrahim Raisi said here Sunday Iran is ready to share its scientific expertise with friendly countries, including Sri Lanka.

In a meeting with Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Ali Sabry, the president said relations between Iran and Sri Lanka have been developing throughout the years since the victory of the 1979 Islamic Revolution. Raisi underscored the remarkable progress the country has made in various fields, not least science and technology, despite the Western sanctions regime.

Kayghan International



TEHRAN -- Iranian diver Ghaem Mirabian displayed impressive performances at the 2023 World Aquatics Masters Championships in Japan and bagged three gold medals at the prestigious international tournament.

Mirabian competed in the 40-44 age bracket of the men's 3-meter springboard diving competitions in Fukuoka city, which sits on the northern shore of Japan's Kyushu Island and finished first with 401.95 points. German contestant Markus Albrecht won the silver with 284.45, while the bronze medal went to Canadian diver Jonathan Asselin.

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Monday, August 7, 2023, Mordad 16, 1402, Muharram 20, 1445, Price 300,000 Rials

Ghadir, Nasir Missiles Delivered to IRGC Navy



Ukraine Hits Donetsk With U.S.-Supplied Cluster Shells, Medvedev Suggests Reprisal



Iran Advance to Main Round of World Handball Championship



Zionist Troops Martyr Three Palestinians in Ambush



Protests Engulf Occupied Territories for 31st Week

TEL AVIV (Dispatches) -- Tens of thousands of protesters have rallied for the 31st straight week against the policies of the occupying regime of Israel's hard-right cabinet, including the highly controversial judicial overhaul bill.

The latest rallies took place Saturday night in around 150 locations throughout the occupied territories, local media outlets said.

As was the case in previous weeks, the coastal city of Tel Aviv hosted the largest protest rally, where one of the protest leaders said, "Netanyahu ... is orchestrating the systematic dismantling of the judicial system. It's all meticulously planned and executed according to his playbook."

Thousands of protesters held similar rallies in other cities across the occupied territories, including the holy city of Al-Quds.

The rallies were described as some of the biggest-ever to take place across the occupied territories.

The protests have been a fixture since January, when hardline prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced his so-called judicial overhaul scheme as means of currying favor with his coalition's extreme-right parties.

His scheme, which has been presented to the Knesset as a bill, seeks to render the regime's supreme court incapable of striking down politicians' decisions and give the cabinet more say in the makeup of the court's judges.

Public outrage against the re-

gime's policies has grown since last month, when the Knesset passed the first bill of the judicial overhaul plan after opposition lawmakers left the session. The bill scrapped the "reasonableness" law, through which the supreme court can overturn decisions made by Israeli cabinet such as ministerial appointments.

The remaining parts of the overhaul package will be discussed after the Knesset returns from summer recess in October.

Netanyahu, who is fighting corruption charges in court, has said he would be willing to negotiate with the opposition, though previous mediation efforts, including by the regime's president, have failed.

New protests came after earlier on Saturday hundreds of former senior Israeli military officials held an emergency conference, warning of the collapse of the regime amid the mass protests.

According to Israeli daily newspaper, Yedioth Ahronoth, participants discussed action plans to defend the supreme court, the military, and the police "in crisis situations within the Israeli entity, particularly if the Supreme Court annuls government decisions, resulting in an unprecedented constitutional crisis in Israel."

The conference was attended by Israeli intelligence agencies, Mossad and Shin Bet, as well as the Zionist regime's police and military officials, including major generals, brigadier generals, and senior commanders.

Ayatollah Khamenei: Americans Saying They'd Not Let Certain Ships Cross the Strait Sheer Nonsense



Pictures show the commander, crew, and the families of the 86th Flotilla meeting with Ayatollah Khamenei in Tehran on Sunday.

TEHRAN -- Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei here Sunday met the commander, crew, and the families of the 86th Flotilla of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Navy which accomplished a round-the-world voyage in May.

The successful and honorable mission was a result of great effort, strong determination, self-confidence, designing power, advanced military knowledge, efficient management skills and courage and endurance in the face of difficulties, the Leader said.

"This great movement once again showed that accomplishments, progress and fulfilled hopes come from the heart of

movement, effort and hardship," Ayatollah Khamenei said.

The Leader hailed the flotilla for sailing 65,000 kilometers in about 8 months, describing it as an unprecedented honor in the history of Iranian seafaring.

"This meaningful and profound movement should not be seen only as a military and naval event, since each of its shaping factors are lessons and worthy of attention."

Ayatollah Khamenei pointed out that what the 86th Flotilla accomplished is a clear example of the Qur'anic verse: "Prepare against them whatever you can of power" (8:60).

"What you accomplished el-

evated the level of the country's military capabilities. It strengthened the 'we can' mindset in the armed forces and in people's minds and such a mindset is the basis of the country's progress," the Leader stated.

Ayatollah Khamenei said the feeling of weakness, doubt and passivity encourages the enemy to attack and take action, but when it sees that the other side is prepared and capable, it will think twice before taking any measures.

The accomplishment made by the 86th Flotilla has improved Iran's international image, and that its political value is no less than its military value, the Leader said. He also pointed out the les-

sons that are to be learned from this endeavor.

Referring to the exceptional features of the sea and its greatness as a display of God's signs, the Leader described the first lesson of this seafaring as learning about God.

Ayatollah Khamenei recalled that another lesson that was learned from this mission is a lesson about the Revolution, "because during the disgraceful periods in which the Pahlavi and Qajar ruled Iran, there was no knowledge about the sea and its capacities despite the presence of a vast number of coastal resources and sea facilities in the country. The Navy was also preoccupied with other things. But the Revolution brought the sea and seafaring out of closure and oblivion."

The Leader also described the presence of the Navy in distant areas and the Pacific and Atlantic oceans as a security-building presence for Iran.

"Monopolization of humanity's general issues is one of the features surrounding the US and the superpowers. If they could, they would even claim the seas in their name so that others would not have access to them."

In this regard, Ayatollah Khamenei said, "by being present and countering their hostile actions to thwart or destroy this voyage, you proved that the high seas belong to everyone."

The Leader also referred to obstacles created by the U.S. in sea transportation matters and their bid

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Mass Shooting in Washington: Three Killed

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) -- At least three people were killed when gunfire erupted on a Washington, D.C., street Saturday night, authorities said.

The shooting was reported at about 8 p.m. Eastern time in the Southeast D.C. neighborhood, acting Metropolitan Police Chief Pamela Smith said in a late-night news briefing.

Officers responded to find two men and a woman dead at the scene, Smith said. They were not immediately identified.

Two other wounded men were transported to local hospitals in unknown condition.

No arrests have been made. The circumstances that precipitated the shooting and the number of suspects involved were unclear. There was also no word on a motive.

Washington, D.C., has seen a recent surge in crime. Accord-

ing to the latest city statistics, violent crime is up 37% so far this year compared to the same period in 2022, and homicides are up 21%.

Another mass shooting took place in Washington last month when nine people suffered injuries while celebrating Independence Day in a neighborhood, which is about a 20-minute drive east of the White House.

Smith was appointed D.C. police chief last month, replacing Robert Contee, who announced in April he was leaving the department to join the FBI as assistant director of the Office of Partner Engagement.

"There are a lot more guns are in communities now, a lot more guns than what we experienced over the course of my time here in the police department," Contee told CBS News in an interview on the eve of his departure.

U.S. Unrepentant: Hiroshima Marks Anniversary of A-Bombing

TOKYO (Dispatches) -- Japan on Sunday marked the 78th anniversary of the U.S. atomic bombing on Hiroshima, where its mayor urged the abolition of nuclear weapons and called the Group of Seven leaders' notion of nuclear deterrence a "folly."

The day to commemorate the victims of the world's first nuclear attack comes as biopic "Oppenheimer," chronicling the creation of the atomic bomb, has become a box-office hit in the United States. Some have criticized the film for largely ignoring the weapons' destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki — bombed three days later, on Aug. 9, 1945.

The film's release in Japan has yet to be announced.

Also causing controversy in Japan, the distributor of "Bar-

bie," a blockbuster released on the same day as "Oppenheimer," latched on to fan-produced "Barbenheimer" memes that depicted the actors in the title roles alongside images of nuclear blasts.

Hiroshima was in the spotlight in May, where Prime Minister Fumio Kishida hosted a G7 summit in the western city, his home constituency. G7 leaders issued a statement expressing what they called their commitment to achieving disarmament but said that as long as nuclear weapons existed, they should serve to deter aggression and prevent war.

On Sunday, a peace bell tolled at 8:15 a.m. (2315 GMT on Saturday), the time the bomb was dropped. About 50,000 participants in the

outdoor memorial ceremony including aging survivors observed a moment of silence, with the summer heat hitting 30 degrees Celsius (86 Fahrenheit)

"Leaders around the world must confront the reality that nuclear threats now being voiced by certain policymakers reveal the folly of nuclear deterrence theory," Hiroshima Mayor Kazumi Matsui said at the ceremony, also attended by Kishida.

The prime minister said the road to a world without nuclear weapons was getting steeper, but that this made it all the more important to bring back international momentum toward that goal.

United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres ex-

pressed his support.

"World leaders have visited this city, seen its monuments, spoken with its brave survivors, and emerged emboldened to take up the cause of nuclear disarmament," he said in remarks read by a UN representative. "More should do so, because the drums of nuclear war are beating once again."

The U.S. has never apologized for the first atomic bombings in the world. It continues to stick its cheeky justification that without the bombings, the possible human would have been higher.

The Americans also continue to refer to the bomb which devastated Hiroshima in nonchalant endearing terms as "little boy".

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