

TEHRAN -- Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Nasser Kan'ani reiterated Monday that the Islamic Republic's nuclear doctrine remains unchanged.

"Based on our principled approach, Iran has a clear fatwa from the Supreme Leader that prohibits the use of inhumane weapons, and we also believe that these weapons pose a threat to the international community," he noted. A fatwa by Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei stipulates any acquisition, development, and use of nuclear weapons violate Islamic principles and are therefore forbidden.

TEHRAN -- Iran on Monday unveiled its first domestically-manufactured locomotive diesel engine with 4,000 horsepower, placing itself among the countries enjoying such high-level technology. The diesel engine, going by the name of MP610, was unveiled in an official ceremony attended by Iranian Minister of Industry, Mine and Trade Abbas Aliabadi and the head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Railways west of Tehran. Indigenized by Iranian experts and engineers, the 4,000 horsepower engine was designed and manufactured by the MAPNA Group, a leading holding company founded in 1993 with more than 70 subsidiaries that has established itself as Iran's largest contractor of power plant projects and a key player in rail transportation and oil and gas projects within the country.

Viewpoint

What Ails Arab States From Demanding Arrest of Genocidaire Netanyahu?

Nasrallah Says 1,500 Zionist Troops Killed Since Oct. Hezbollah Launches New Heavy Rocket for First Time

BEIRUT (Dispatches) -- Hezbollah announced Monday that it launched a new heavy rocket to strike an Israeli military position in Mount Dov in occupied Palestine.

In a brief statement, Hezbollah said that it had launched several Jihad Mughniyeh rockets, for the first time. It said the rocket targeted a gathering of Israeli troops near the Zebdine site in the Shebaa Farms.

The statement also added that the projectiles hit the designated targets precisely and caused significant damage in the area.

Four Zionists soldiers were wounded, including after two missiles fired by Hezbollah hit Kibbutz Yiftah south of Kiryat Shmona in the Upper Galilee on Monday.

They were evacuated to Ziv Medical Center in Safed and their families were informed, the Zionist military said.

Hezbollah took responsibility for the anti-tank fire at Yiftah. The resistance group also took responsibility for an air attack using UAVs in Beit Hillel.

Hezbollah Secretary General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah said some 1,500 Zionist soldiers have been killed since the start of the Israeli war on Gaza in early October.

The Zionist regime has kept secret the number of soldiers killed or wounded in the war on Gaza as well as those killed in Hezbollah's missile and drone attacks.

Nasrallah said that Israel has failed to achieve its declared objectives in Gaza where it has martyred over 35,000 Palestinians.

He said even people in the Israeli-occupied Palestine doubt claims of victory in Gaza by members of the Israeli regime led by prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

"There is unanimity in Israel over Israel's failure... The Israelis are ridiculing Netanyahu when he speaks about victory," he said.

On Hezbollah's ongoing confrontation with Israel, Nasrallah said the Lebanese group will continue its campaign to pressure Israel to halt the war in Gaza.

"The Lebanese front will continue to support Gaza, this is decisive and final, and the

Americans and the French have acknowledged this fact," he said.

Nasrallah said the main and real objective of Lebanon's front is to pressure Israel to halt the war in Gaza.

"The Lebanese front is imposing equations and its connection to the Gaza front is categorical," he said.

Nasrallah said the Zionist regime seeks to invade Rafah, where more than a million have sought refuge from the regime's brutal attacks on other parts of the territory, in an attempt to cover up its defeat in Gaza.

"Even if the Zionist enemy enters Rafah, that will not spell the end of the resistance," he said. "Netanyahu wants to enter Rafah in order to get rid of the defeat image."

Nasrallah said the entire world is now talking about the right of the Palestinians to have a state, adding the scene of the protests across the globe is a product of October 7. "Palestine today is the main cause in the world."

Gaza Comes Under Heaviest Bombing in Months

GAZA STRIP (Dispatches) -- The Israeli military has launched a new wave of attacks across the Gaza Strip, similar in intensity to the peak of its seven-month war on the besieged Palestinian enclave.

Heavy airstrikes were reported across the strip over the weekend and on Monday, with attacks since Friday martyring at least 180 Palestinians and wounding dozens more, according to the Palestinian health ministry.

The raids coincided with incursions into Jabalia in northern Gaza, and the Zeitoun neighborhood in Gaza City and eastern Rafah.

The ground invasions have been met with fierce resistance by Hamas and other Palestinian groups, with at least five Zionists soldiers killed over the weekend, the Israeli military said.

Another 68 have been wounded over the past 48 hours, including Yogev Bar Sheshet, a brigadier general and deputy military establishment comptroller, the most senior Israeli officer wounded in the war so far.

The heavy shelling has forced tens of thousands of people to temporarily flee their homes in Jabalia and Zeitoun.

In Rafah, the UN estimates

nearly 360,000 have fled since last week.

"We were displaced amidst the terrifying sounds of bombing, shelling and gunfire," said Diyaa Maliha, a taxi driver from Jabalia. "I wouldn't wish the experience of the horror of displacement on anyone," he told Middle East Eye. Having been already displaced five times since October, Maliha said he and his family did not want to leave their home again at first.

However, the heavy bombardment left them with no other option.

"The people of Jabalia camp are showing remarkable resilience and patience with some families still holding onto their homes despite the dangers," he said.

"I attempted to check on our house but I was fired upon by a quadcopter, forcing me to flee. We've been living in a constant state of uncertainty for months, always on the move."

Most people who fled Jabalia and Zeitoun made it to western Gaza City, an area lacking basic infrastructure after months of Israeli attacks.

Maher Habboush said people have been continuously arriving to Gaza's west but struggling to

find basic needs.

"People leave their homes carrying nothing, so they start looking for basic necessities all over again," Habboush said. "Some people used to seek shelter at al-Shifa hospital but it no longer exists [after Israel destroyed it]," he added.

"Families are seeking shelter in schools but those are overcrowded too."

The Palestinian civil defense said the bombardment was reminiscent of "the war's first days", but far more devastating.

They said this was due to medical services and emergency efforts being depleted after months of Israeli targeting.

"We have lost 80 percent of our capabilities," the civil defense said in a statement. "It has become very difficult for our crews to rescue the wounded and recover the martyrs."

Ambulance workers said they were fired at by Israeli drones in Rafah and northern Gaza in recent days, preventing them from carrying out their work.

Meanwhile, the Zionist military continued to block the entry of aid through the Rafah and Kerem Shalom crossings for a seventh day, (Continued on Page 7)

Leader Pays Visit to Int'l Tehran Book Fair



Women Indoor Hockey Team Stuns Oman at Asia Cup



Israel's Shin Bet Chief Admits Failure to Prevent Oct. 7 Hamas Operation



India, Iran Sign Contract to Develop Chabahar



India's Shipping Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, left, and Iranian Minister of Roads and Urban Development Mehرداد Bazrpash pose for photos after signing a 10-year contract in Tehran on Monday.

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- India signed a 10-year contract with Iran on Monday to develop and operate the Iranian port of Chabahar, the Narendra Modi-led government said, strengthening relations with a strategic Middle Eastern nation.

India has been developing the

port in Chabahar on Iran's south-eastern coast along the Gulf of Oman as a way to transport goods to Iran, Afghanistan and central Asian countries, bypassing the port of Karachi and Gwadar in its rival Pakistan.

U.S. sanctions on Iran, however, slowed the port's develop-

ment.

"Chabahar Port's significance transcends its role as a mere conduit between India and Iran; it serves as a vital trade artery connecting India with Afghanistan and Central Asian Countries," India's Shipping Minister Sarbananda Sonowal said in Tehran,

after the signing of the agreement. "This linkage has unlocked new avenues for trade and fortified supply chain resilience across the region."

The long-term deal was signed between Indian Ports Global Limited (IPGL) and the Port & Maritime Organization of Iran, authorities in both countries said.

Under the agreement, IPGL will invest about \$120 million while there will be an additional \$250 million in financing, bringing the contract's value to \$370 million, said Iranian Minister of Roads and Urban Development Mehرداد Bazrpash.

IPGL first took over operations of the port at the end of 2018 and has since handled container traffic of more than 90,000 TEUs and bulk and general cargo of more than 8.4 million tonnes, an Indian government official said.

A total of 2.5 million tonnes of wheat and 2,000 tonnes of pulses have been shipped from India to Afghanistan through Chabahar Port, the official added.

"It will clear the pathway for bigger investments to be made in the port," Indian Foreign Minister S. Jaishankar told reporters in Mumbai on Monday.

Pro-Palestine Students Set Up New Camps in Europe

AMSTERDAM (Dispatches) -- Police moved in to end a pro-Palestinian protest at the University of Amsterdam on Monday after protesters occupied university buildings in various Dutch cities to condemn Israel's genocidal war on Gaza, ANP news agency reported.

In local media footage, the students can be heard chanting at the police: "We are peaceful, what are you?" and "Shame on you".

Earlier on Monday, a Dutch protest group said it had occupied university buildings in the Dutch cities of Amsterdam, Groningen and Eindhoven.

The group told Reuters via email that the occupations would continue until the police broke them up and that the protesters would keep returning until the university meets their demands "for transparency (as well as) boycotting and divesting from Israeli institutions".

In a post on social media site X, Amsterdam police said the university had filed a police report against the protesters for acts of vandalism.

The Eindhoven University of Technology confirmed that there were "dozens of students peace-

fully protesting outside next to ten to 15 tents".

Footage from local media showed a few tents in front of one of the university buildings.

Students in the Netherlands have been protesting against Israel's war on Gaza since last Monday and Dutch riot police had previously clashed with protesters at the University of Amsterdam.

Students in the United States and Europe have been holding mostly peaceful demonstrations calling for an immediate permanent ceasefire and for schools to cut financial ties with companies they say are profiting from the oppression of Palestinians.

On Monday, dozens of pro-Palestinian students set up an encampment at Turin Polytechnic University in Italy to protest Israel's war on Gaza.

Similar protests have been taking place across Italian universities in Rome, Bologna, Naples and Milan.

Protesting students are calling on their universities to boycott Israeli academic institutions, especially if research cooperation is related to military technologies.