

Pezeshkian: Israeli Actions 'Humanitarian Catastrophe'

TEHRAN – Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian on Sunday condemned Israel's escalating attacks on Gaza, calling for urgent international, especially Muslim countries', efforts to end the blockade and allow humanitarian aid. He described the Israeli actions as a "humanitarian catastrophe" and criticized countries that claim to support human rights but remain silent. The president received credentials from new ambassadors from Ethiopia, Estonia, Djibouti, Laos, Cambodia, Burundi, Latvia, Myanmar, and Nepal during the ceremony.

Araghchi: Closer Saudi Ties Key to Regional Stability

TEHRAN -- Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi on Sunday praised the improving ties with Saudi Arabia, emphasizing that closer cooperation between the two Muslim nations would bolster regional peace and stability. Araghchi made the remarks during a meeting with Iran's Ambassador to Riyadh, Alireza Enayati who provided a report on the latest developments in bilateral relations. The foreign minister highlighted the positive trajectory of Iran-Saudi relations and stressed the importance of enhancing cooperation in both bilateral and multilateral arenas to contribute to regional stability.


Viewpoint

Iran to Abort US-Zionist Meddling in Zangezour

Final Homecoming: Farshchian to Rest Eternally Beside Saeb



Ali Cheheraghani Wins Gold Medal at Asian Boxing Championship



Over 100,000 in Tel Aviv Protest Gaza Occupation Plan



UN Emergency Meeting Warns of Another Looming Calamity in Gaza

NEW YORK (Dispatches) -- The United Nations Security Council convened an emergency session on Sunday amid mounting global alarm over Israel's expanding invasion of Gaza City, which threatens to unleash "another calamity" on the besieged territory and the wider region.

Despite international condemnation, Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu insisted that his aggressive military campaign was aimed at "freeing Gaza" and defeating Hamas, not occupying the territory — a claim widely challenged by observers and humanitarian officials.

At the heart of the crisis is Israel's announcement that its forces will "take control" of Gaza City, a densely populated area where millions of Palestinians are trapped under relentless bombardment and strict blockade. The plan, endorsed by Netanyahu's security cabinet, has drawn sharp rebukes from the United Nations and foreign governments, which warn that the escalation will deepen civilian suffering, cause further displacement, and worsen an already dire humanitarian crisis.

OCHA's coordination director. Hospitals and aid organizations in Gaza describe a "death trap" for civilians, many of whom are forced to queue under fire for food aid, only to face lethal violence.

At least 31 Palestinians were killed on Sunday while attempting to access humanitarian aid, including families waiting near Israeli-controlled corridors for essential supplies.

The Israeli military's campaign, presented as a targeted fight against Hamas, has instead resulted in widespread destruction of homes, infrastructure, and civilian neighborhoods.

Gaza's Health Ministry, administered by Hamas but staffed by medical professionals, reports a staggering death toll exceeding 61,000 Palestinians, nearly half of whom are women and children. These figures, widely regarded as the most reliable in the war on Gaza, reflect the devastating human cost of Israel's invasion and blockade.

Amid the crisis, Netanyahu reiterated his intent to "bring the war to an end" on a "fairly short timetable".

However, critics contend this rhetoric masks a de facto occupation and aggressive siege that has trapped Gaza's population in a humanitarian nightmare.

Netanyahu's announcement to allow limited access to foreign journalists — who have long been barred from reporting independently from Gaza — appears aimed at countering mounting international scrutiny, though the military will accompany reporters, raising concerns about censorship and control of information.

The United States, a key ally and veto-wielding member of the UN Security Council, defended Israel's actions, dismissing accusations of war crimes or genocide as "lies." In contrast, numerous countries and UN officials condemned

(Continued on Page 7)

Iran Climbs to World's Top 10 in Biotechnology



This photo shows the entrance dome of the Iran Agricultural Biotechnology Research Institute which stands as a striking symbol of innovation and growth.

TEHRAN – Iran has made notable progress in biotechnology and medical technology, expanding its production capabilities and aiming to reduce reliance on imports in the health sector, officials said on Sunday.

Speaking at a press briefing, Dr. Mostafa Ghane'i, Secretary of the Biotechnology, Health, and Medical Technolo-

gies Headquarters, highlighted recent achievements, particularly in stem cell therapy.

"Last year, we had only one stem cell therapy product on the market and ranked twelfth globally. This year, with five products, we have reached eighth place worldwide," Ghane'i said.

He added that Iran's goal is to

become one of the top five countries in stem cell therapies and to reduce the need for patients to travel abroad for treatment.

Iran faces economic challenges due to illegal sanctions that have affected access to medical supplies and foreign currency reserves. In response, the government is focusing on domestic production of critical

medical products such as insulin and plasma.

"These two products account for the largest share of foreign currency spending in the health sector," Ghane'i explained. "More than \$300 million is spent annually on plasma imports. Our target is to complete production infrastructure within two years and eliminate imports of both insulin and plasma."

Ghane'i emphasized that developing local technologies is essential for national independence in healthcare, especially under current sanctions. "Self-reliance not only saves foreign currency but also redirects subsidies previously paid to foreign producers back into Iran's economy," he said.

Iran ranks fifth in Asia in the production of biopharmaceutical drugs, according to Ghane'i. "Even during the toughest sanctions, none of our biological medicines faced shortages, demonstrating strong domestic capacity," he added.

(Continued on Page 7)

FM Araghchi: No New Talks, No Compromises

TEHRAN -- Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi on Sunday clarified the current status of nuclear negotiations and regional diplomatic efforts, stressing that no definitive agreements or dates have been set while reaffirming Iran's sovereignty and strategic priorities.

Speaking after a cabinet meeting, Araghchi addressed speculation about the next round of talks on Iran's nuclear program. "No date has been set for the next round of negotiations, and nothing is finalized yet," he said firmly.

On the prospect of indirect talks with the United States, he was equally clear: "Indirect negotiations have not been agreed upon, and I do not endorse any country in this matter."

The minister also detailed upcoming discussions with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). "Tomorrow,

we will hold talks concerning a new cooperation framework," Araghchi said.

"So far, no inspection plan is agreed upon. Until a new framework is finalized, cooperation will not commence." He underscored that any new agreement "will certainly be based on the law passed by our honorable parliament."

Araghchi's comments come amid ongoing tensions surrounding Iran's nuclear program following unprovoked Israeli aggression in June. His insistence on parliamentary oversight highlights Tehran's intention to maintain domestic control over any foreign agreements.

Turning to relations with European countries involved in the nuclear deal and their threat to activate the sanctions snapback mechanism, Araghchi delivered a pointed message.

"From our perspective, the snapback mechanism has no validity, and Europe can no longer be considered a participant in the JCPOA," he said. He acknowledged ongoing "technical and legal discussions" but emphasized that "Europe's positions have made them no longer partners in our view."

On regional security issues, particularly the recent peace deal signed between Armenia and Azerbaijan, Araghchi portrayed Iran as an active mediator committed to peace.

"We have had repeated dialogues with both Armenia and Azerbaijan," he explained. "Tomorrow, the Armenian foreign minister will call me. Prime Minister Pashinyan will also contact us, and on Tuesday, the Armenian deputy foreign minister is scheduled to visit Tehran."

He stressed Iran's position as

supportive of "any peace between Armenia and Azerbaijan."

Highlighting Iran's principled stance, he said, "We desire full sovereignty for all countries in the region over their territories. We defend the territorial integrity of all neighboring states and reject any changes to international borders."

He noted that the recent joint statement by Armenia and Azerbaijan reflects these "three principles: respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, and opposition to border changes," aligning with Iran's views.

On the Zangazur corridor project, Araghchi clarified, "The corridor issue has been completely set aside. The discussion now concerns a transit road under Armenian jurisdiction, managed by an

(Continued on Page 7)