Iran's Para Athletics Team to Compete in New Delhi World Championships



TEHRAN - The Iranian national para-track and field team will participate in the world championships with a team of 20 male and female athletes in New Delhi, India, from October 24 to 25. The Jawaharlal Nehru (JLN) Stadium will host over 1,000 athletes during the New Delhi 2025 take place from 27 September to 5 October. It will be the 12th edition of the World Para Athletics Championships and the largest Para sport event ever held in India.

Iranian team consists of fifteen male and five female athletes that will make up the delegation, leading by eight coaches.

The team will depart for India on September 21, so that its athletes can participate in medical classification before the official start of the competition.

The Iranian para-track and field team won numerous medals, including three gold medals, in the previous world championships hosted by Ja-

The New Delhi 2025 World Para Athletics Championships competition program will feature 186 medal events (101 men's, 84 women's and one mixed), 15 more than at the last edition of the championships in Kobe, Japan.

FIFA to Support CAFA Nations Cup

TEHRAN - FIFA announced new commitment to supporting the CAFA Nations Cup.

Organized by the Central Asian Football Association (CAFA), the 2025 edition of the tournament is being hosted byTajikistan and Uzbekistan, with a total of 14 matches culminating in the final which takes place in Tashkent on Monday, September 8.

In line with its commitment to further facilitate meaningful matches at national-team and club level, FIFA has announced its support of the CAFA Nations Cup, the bi-



ennial international men's football championship of Central

"Tournaments like the CAFA Nations Cup offer teams valu-

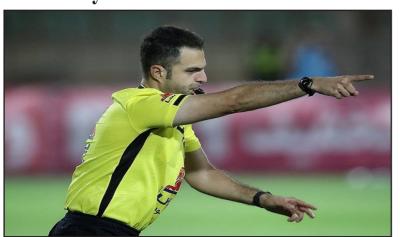
able opportunities to compete and celebrate football," said FIFA Secretary General Mattias Grafström.

"FIFA is committed to sup-

porting events like these, working together with our confederations, regional associations and FIFA Member Associations to look at ways of arranging more competitive matches between national teams and clubs within zones or regions. FIFA is proud to stand alongside CAFA in making this tournament a platform for growth, passion and unforgettable moments."

Following its inaugural edition in 2023, the tournament has expanded to feature eight national teams, including six CAFA members and two guest associations.

Payam Heydari to Officiate Melbourne City vs Sanfrecce Hiroshima



TEHRAN - Iranian referee Payam Heydari has been chosen to officiate the match between Melbourne City and Sanfrecce Hiroshima.

The match is slated for September 16 at the Melbourne Rectangular Stadium on Matchday 1 of the 2025-26 AFC Champions League

Heydari will be assisted by his countrymen Farhad Farhadpour and Ali Ahmadi.

The fourth official will be from

Esteghlal on Verge of Finalizing Aboubakar's Deal

TEHRAN – The Iranian club Esteghlal is reportedly on the verge of finalizing an official deal with Cameroonian international striker Vincent Aboubakar.

Esteghlal aim to strengthen its squad during the summer transfer window, foot-africa.com reported. Last season, Aboubakar scored

seven goals for Hatayspor and provided two assists in 25 matches.

The international Cameroonian forward had also been linked with a move to Esteghlal's archrival Persepolis.

Aboubakar has played for the French club Lorient and Portuguese side Porto.



We Prepared Team With Limited Time, Iran U-23 Coach Ravankhah Says

TEHRAN - Omid Ravankhah, the head coach of Iran's U-23 football team, says they are ready for the AFC U-23 Asian Cup Saudi Arabia 2026.

The 44 teams were divided into eleven groups of four teams. In each group, teams played each other once at a centralized venue. The eleven group winners and the four best runners-up will qualify for the

final tournament in Saudi Arabia. "We are here to perform well in Asia. There isn't a big difference between us and our rivals, and we



have immense respect for them. The high quality of our rivals has increased our players' motivation," Ravankhah said.

"I hope this tournament will be a successful one for us, even though we had limited time. We trained for two weeks, and there was not enough time for coordination, but with the quality of our players we will do our best in the competition," he added.

Iran will also meet Guam and the UAE on September 6 and 9, respectively.

Guilan Hosts Caspian Cup International Badminton Competitions



TEHRAN -- The second edition of the Caspian Cup International **Badminton** Competitions kicked off on Wednesday, in the Bandar Anzali Free Zone.

Up to 75 athletes from Iran, Azerbaijan, the UAE, Indonesia, Austria, and Kazakhstan are participating in this edition of the competition, competing in two categories: singles and doubles.

Speaking to IRNA on the sidelines of the competition, head of the Guilan

Province Badminton Committee Majid Fatehi said, these competitions will be held in two categories: men and women. The women's competition has already begun, and this evening, men's badminton players will compete.

"Fortunately, very highlevel badminton players have participated in this edition of the competition, and for this reason, we expect the quality of these competitions to be very high."

Taremi to Wear No. 56 in Olympiacos



TEHRAN – Iranian international forward Mehdi Taremi will wear No. 56 shirt in Olympiacos.

The 33-year-old striker joined the Greek side from Inter Milan on September 31.

for Inter, scoring three goals and providing nine assists. From 2020 to 2024, he wore the Porto shirt, making 182 appearances, scoring 91 goals and providing 56 assists, winning one Championship, two Super Cups, three Cups and

one League Cup.

In the 2020-2021 season, he made his Champions League debut and his extraordinary goal against Chelsea was named the best of that cam-Taremi made 43 appearances paign in Europe's premier club

> In his homeland, he also played for Shahin Bushehr, Iranjavan and Persepolis. He has made 95 appearances for the Iranian national team (56 goals) and has participated in two World Cups (2018, 2022).

Report: Sevilla Eye Javad Husseinnejad

TEHRAN - Sevilla has set its eves on Muhammadjavad Husseinnejad, a 22-yearold Iranian midfielder, who is a member of the Russian Premier League's Dinamo Makhachkala.

According to Football-Transfers, the Hispanic club leads the bid for the young player, competing with

teams such as Fulham and

Wolverhampton.

While Seville seeks to reinforce its attack, Husseinnejad presents himself as a versatile option with great growth potential under the direction of Matías Almeyda.

Husseinnejad stands out for his vision of play, partnership ability and ability to generate danger in creative