



Islamic Republic of Iran
Ministry of Foreign Affairs



MFA DIGEST

CENTRE FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY



IRANIANS MARK 47TH ANNIVERSARY OF ISLAMIC REVOLUTION VICTORY

Iran's Foreign Minister visited Oman and Qatar and held political consultations with senior officials of the two countries including his counterparts. In Muscat, he led the Iranian nuclear negotiating team and held another round of sanctions-lifting negotiations with the United States. Dr. Araghchi also met UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs in Tehran.



IRANIAN FM AT AL-JAZEERA FORUM IN DOHA: A JUST RESOLUTION OF THE PALESTINIAN ISSUE IS CORNERSTONE OF LASTING SECURITY IN REGION AND WORLD



Iran's Foreign Minister held telephone conversations with his counterparts from Türkiye, Pakistan, Egypt, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Kuwait, Bahrain and Cyprus.



IRAN ATOP ISLAMIC NATIONS IN MOLECULAR, GENETIC TECHNOLOGIES



The Web of Science (WoS) has ranked Iran first among Islamic countries in molecular and genetic technologies over the 10 years from 2000 to 2024.

The country's best ranking is in transfection technology (14th globally), with 1,067 documents. It is also placed first in the region, followed by Turkey (with 309 documents), Egypt (with 273 documents), Saudi Arabia (with 207 documents), and Malaysia (with 190 documents).

In gene therapy, Iran's global ranking is 15; it ranks first in the region. Turkey (374 documents), Saudi Arabia (363 documents), Egypt (305 documents), and Malaysia (210 documents) are placed second to fifth.

The country ranks 22nd globally, and first among Islamic countries in CRISPER technology (with 587 documents). Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Egypt, and Turkey rank second to fifth, with 431, 430, 315, and 218 documents, respectively.

IRAN AMONG TOP EIGHT COUNTRIES IN INTL. OLYMPIADS

Iran ranks eight worldwide in international Olympiads as the country stood respectively third, seventh, and eighth in mathematics, computer, and physics Olympiads last year, IRNA quoted Reza Hosseini, the head of the Young Scholars Club, as saying.

Many countries such as China and the U.S., as well as world's big technological companies are directly in touch with the club to attract Iranian Olympiad winners, he added.

He went on to say that the country allocates specific facilities to these gifted students. The gold winners can major in their specialized fields in Iranian universities without participating in the university entrance exam.

Students that have grabbed gold at the International Biology Olympiad can study medical sciences, and those won gold medals at International Mathematical Olympiad or International Physics Olympiad can major in technical and engineering fields.



IRAN ELECTED AS VICE-CHAIR OF UN COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT



Abbas Tajik, Iran's representative to the United Nations, has been appointed as the vice-chair of the 65th Session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD65).

The CSocD is the advisory body responsible for the social development pillar of global development. It is one of the eight functional commissions established by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) since 1946 to advise and assist it in carrying out its work. The commission consists of 46 members elected by ECOSOC.

CSocD64 was held from February 2 to 10 at the UN headquarters in New York. It brought together Member States, United Nations entities, civil society, and other stakeholders to advance global dialogue and action on inclusive and sustainable social development. Stefano Guerra (Portugal) and Shahriyar Hsjiyev (Azerbaijan) were elected as the chair and the other vice-chair of the forthcoming session.

The priority theme for CSocD64 was "Advancing social development and social justice through coordinated, equitable, and inclusive policies."

IRAN AMONG TOP 10 COUNTRIES IN REGENERATIVE MEDICINE

With the approval of six new advanced therapy medicinal products (ATMPs), Iran has showcased breakthroughs in regenerative medicine, improving the country's global ranking from 12 to 7.

According to the latest global report, out of 148 ATMPs approved in 2025 under the supervision of 12 internationally recognized regulatory bodies, seven were made in Iran, placing it among the top 10 countries in the field, IRNA reported.

The number of licensed products in regenerative medicine has grown from one product in the Iranian year 1402 (March 2023-March 2024) to seven this year, which started in March 2025.

These include cell therapy, issue engineering, and chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell therapy products, which are used to treat different diseases such as vitiligo, graft-versus-host disease (GVHD), cerebral palsy (CP), burns, diabetic foot ulcers, arthritis, and B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (B cell ALL). Some of these high-tech medical products have export potential.



KISH ISLAND HOME TO 230 BIRD SPECIES



Despite being a relatively small island, stretching for 90 square kilometers, the Persian Gulf island of Kish is home to 230 bird species, accounting for a third of the country's birds.

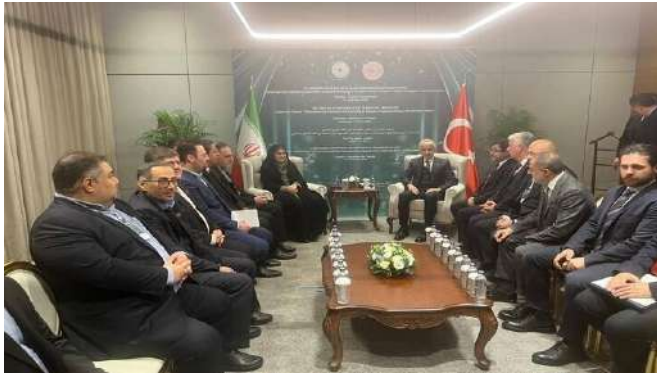
Thanks to favorable weather in the south of Iran during the cold season, flocks of migratory birds from cold and northern regions, such as Siberia, flew to the island for wintering. In addition to waterside birds, migratory raptors or birds of prey are spotted on the island, increasing the diversity and population of the birds. This feature has turned the island into one of the unique spots for the development of birdwatching tourism in the country, said Maryam Mohammadi, head of the provincial Department of Environment (DOE) in Kish.

Birds of prey such as falcons, honey buzzards, waterfowl birds like cormorants, flamingos, sandpipers, and curlews are among the prominent bird species in the island, she noted.

The provincial DOE, in cooperation with investors, is restoring a bird habitat in the north-west of the island with the aim of increasing the number of birds and their biodiversity. The DOE has also developed a book titled 'Kish birds' for the tourists and those interested in birds to get familiar with these species, Mohammadi further noted.

Trade & Economy

IRAN, TURKEY DISCUSS NEW RAIL LINK, BROADER TRANSPORT COOPERATION



Iran and Turkey have discussed expanding transport cooperation, including a new rail connection at the Cheshmeh Soraya–Aralik border crossing and the revival of passenger train services between Tehran and major Turkish cities, Iran's Transport Minister said.

Farzaneh Sadegh met Turkish Transport Minister Abdulkadir Uraloglu on the sidelines of the second meeting of transport ministers from Islamic countries, according to Iran's Ministry of Roads and Urban Development.

The two sides reviewed cooperation in rail, road and air transport and reaffirmed their commitment to broadening ties across all sectors.

Among the issues discussed were increasing capacity at shared border crossings, establishing a new rail link at Cheshmeh Soraya–Aralik to complete the east–west rail transit corridor, expanding roll-on/roll-off (Ro-Ro) capacity across Lake Van, and resuming Tehran–Ankara and Tehran–Istanbul passenger train services. Sadegh said the two countries had held a joint transport committee meeting after a three-year hiatus, describing it as one of the most productive sessions in its history, with discussions conducted at both technical and strategic levels.

TPO PLANS OPERATIONAL STEPS TO BOOST TRADE WITH AFRICA

The head of Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) said Tehran is preparing operational programs to facilitate and expand trade with African countries, following talks with senior Zimbabwean officials.

Mohammad Ali Dehghan Dehnavi, who is also a deputy industry minister, met Zimbabwe's ambassador to Tehran, Bright Kupemba, and Allan Tawanda Majuru, chief executive and head of ZimTrade, to review bilateral commercial ties, the TPO said.

Dehghan Dehnavi said the meeting focused on practical measures to ease and develop trade between the two countries, including proposals presented by both sides.

Key areas discussed included facilitating financial and logistics channels as well as exploring opportunities for joint production, he added.



Anniversary of 1979 Islamic Revolution



IRANIAN CUISINE

Try delicious Iranian foods: Mirza Ghasemi (Persian Eggplant Tomato Dip)



When you think about it, just about every culture has its own version of an eggplant spread. Iran has no shortage of its own variety of eggplant dishes. As a matter of fact, it has been said that eggplants are the potatoes of Iran. This is Mirza Ghasemi, a smokey, delicate and umami filled eggplant spread!

Eggplants are so easy to love for their flavor, texture, and adaptability to the flavors you offer it – and for those exact reasons, it is also easy to dislike!

TRADE AND ECONOMY

IRAN RANKS AMONG TOP 10 COUNTRIES BY THERMAL POWER CAPACITY



Iran ranks among the world's 10 countries with the largest thermal power generation capacity, a senior official at the Thermal Power Plants Holding Company (TPPH) said.

Hamed Seyrfianpour, acting deputy for planning and management development, said Iran's thermal power capacity has increased seventeen-fold since the 1979 revolution to about 78,000 megawatts, according to a statement carried by IRNA on Monday.

He said around 2,200 megawatts of power capacity, along with major transmission lines and substations, were damaged during the eight-year war, adding that repairs were difficult due to economic and political sanctions.

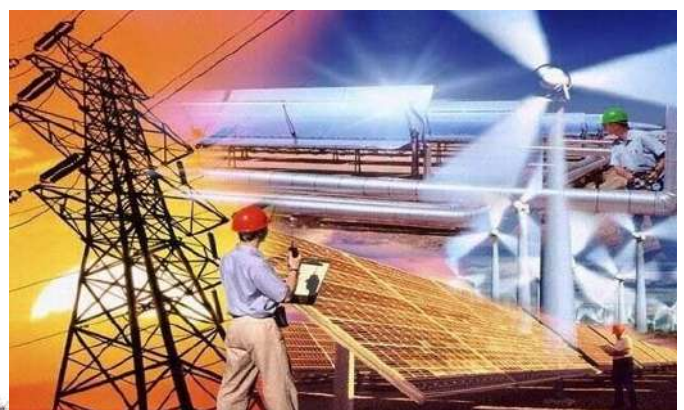
Iran currently operates 149 thermal power plants that generate more than 90 percent of the country's electricity needs, Seyrfianpour said.

IRAN TARGETS \$10B IN ENERGY SERVICES EXPORTS TO EURASIA BY 2028/29

Iran is aiming to export about \$10 billion worth of energy-related services, engineering expertise and goods to the Eurasian region by 2028/29, leveraging a free trade agreement as its main platform for expansion, an industry official said.

Hassan Kazemi, a board member of the Energy Export Federation of the Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA), said the free trade agreement with the Eurasian Economic Union offers the strongest and most suitable framework for Iran's trade cooperation under current conditions, according to a statement from the Trade Promotion Organization of Iran (TPO).

He said the agreement provides a sustainable development platform, offering preferential access to regional markets and tariff reductions for a wide range of goods and components, including zero tariffs for up to seven product groups.



IRAN'S GRECO-ROMAN TEAM WIN 2026 ZAGREB OPEN



Iran's Greco-Roman wrestling team claimed the championship at the United World Wrestling (UWW) 2026 Zagreb Open in Croatia.

Competing in the first UWW Greco-Roman ranking event of 2026, staged from February 4 to 8, Iran finished top of the team standings with 125 points. Uzbekistan placed second with 120 points, while Kazakhstan ranked third with 108 points. Iran secured a total of seven medals, including three gold and four bronze. The gold medals were won by Mohammad Hosseinvand at 55 kg, Erfan Jarkani at 63 kg, and Ali Oskou at 77 kg.

Bronze medals went to Pouya Dadmarz (55 kg), Meysam Delkhani (63 kg), Mohammadreza Mokhtari (82 kg), and Mohammad Hadi Seidi (97 kg).

Despite fielding wrestlers in only seven out of 10 weight categories, the Iranian team delivered a strong and efficient performance to outscore their rivals and begin the 2026 international season with a major title at one of the UWW's key ranking tournaments.

IRAN CROWNED CHAMPIONS OF AFC FUTSAL ASIAN CUP 2026



Iran captured the AFC Futsal Asian Cup title with a nerve-shredding victory over host nation Indonesia, prevailing in a penalty shootout after a fiercely contested final in Jakarta.

The triumph reinforces Iran's long-standing dominance in Asian futsal and signals the team's continued status as a global contender, even as emerging programs like Indonesia challenge the region's traditional hierarchy.

Widely regarded as Asia's futsal powerhouse, Iran once again demonstrated resilience on the continental stage, overcoming an early deficit, a hostile home crowd, and intense pressure to secure another major trophy.

The final of the 2026 AFC Futsal Asian Cup was played on Saturday at Indonesia Arena in Jakarta before a crowd of roughly 16,500.



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DISCOVER IRAN IN PICTURES

“SARDABEH” FROZEN WATERFALL IN ARDABIL

ARDABIL, – "Sardabeh" Waterfall is located in a village of the same name, 28 km away from Ardabil province. The water of this waterfall is slightly sour, clear and colorless and has a temperature of 35 degrees Celsius.

The volume of the waterfall is limited to a few springs and has a height of 16 to 20 meters. The rocks around the waterfall are covered with moss and other aquatic plants.

