



# IRAN DAILY



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## Taliban car bomb kills dozens in Afghan capital

A Taliban suicide attacker detonated a car bomb in the western part of Kabul on Monday, killing up to 35 people and wounding more than 40, government officials said, in one of the worst attacks in the Afghan capital in recent weeks.

Police cordoned off the area, located near the house of Deputy Government Chief Executive Mohammad Mohaqiq in a part of the city where many of the mainly Shia Hazara community live, Reuters reported.

Monday's suicide bombing, which targeted government personnel, continued the unrelenting violence that has killed more than 1,700 civilians in Afghanistan so far this year.

The assault came as a presidential spokesman said the Taliban also killed at least 35 civilians in an attack on a hospital in central Ghor Province over the weekend.

The Taliban, which is battling the Western-backed government and a NATO-led coalition for control of Afghanistan, has launched a wave of attacks around the country in recent days, sparking fighting in more than half a dozen provinces.

Acting Interior Ministry spokesman Najib Danesh said at least 24 people had been killed and 40 wounded but the casualty toll could rise further.

Another senior official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the toll stood at 35 killed. That was in line with a claim on Twitter by Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid, who said 37 "intelligence workers" had been killed.

Government security forces said a small bus owned by the Ministry of Mines had been destroyed in the blast but the National Directorate for Security, the main intelligence agency, said none of its personnel had been hit.

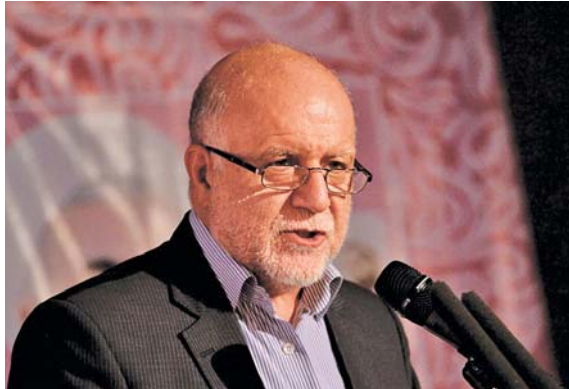
Three civilian vehicles and 15 shops were destroyed or damaged in the blast, the Interior Ministry said in a statement. Kabul has accounted for at least 20 percent of all civilian casualties this year, including at least 150 people killed in a massive truck bomb attack at the end of May, according to United Nations figures.

The Daesh terror group claimed an attack on a mosque in the capital two weeks ago that killed at least four people.

On Sunday, dozens of Afghan troops were under siege after Taliban militants overran a district in northern Faryab Province, a spokesman for the provincial police said.

There was also fighting in Baghlan, Badakhshan, and Kunduz provinces in Afghanistan's north, and Kandahar, Helmand, and Uruzgan in the south, according to officials.

## Iran: Total deal will generate over \$130b revenues



### Economic Desk

Iran's oil minister once again threw his weight behind a deal reached with France's energy giant Total to develop the Islamic Republic's massive offshore natural gas field in the Persian Gulf, saying it will generate over \$130 billion worth of revenues for the country.

On July 3, Total signed the five-billion-dollar deal to develop Phase 11 of Iran's South Pars, the world's largest gas field.

"Iran's revenues from the deal with Total will exceed \$130 billion during the project," Bijan Namdar Zanganeh said on Monday.

He rejected the claim that Total's revenues from the deal will exceed those of Iran's adding that the foreign consortium will only be paid \$12.9 billion during 20 years.

The oil minister said the foreign side will also pay around \$1.3 billion as taxes to the Iranian government.

He said delaying the project each year will incur losses of \$5.5 billion.

Some Iranian lawmakers said that the deal would undermine the country's "national interests". However, government officials rejected the claim, saying the accord will serve the interests of national development.

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## Anti-Erdogan journalists tried in Turkey on 'terror' charges

Directors and journalists from one of Turkey's most respected opposition newspapers went on trial Monday in a case which has raised new alarm over press freedoms under President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

media is a right!"

If convicted, the defendants face varying terms of up to 43 years in jail.

Turkey ranks 155th on the latest Reporters Without Borders (RSF) world press freedom index, below Belarus



The defendants from the Cumhuriyet daily were detained from October last year under a state of emergency imposed after the July 2016 failed coup blamed on US-based preacher Fethullah Gulen and charged with terror-related offences, AFP reported.

A total of 17 Cumhuriyet staff – including writers, cartoonists and executives – went on trial at the imposing Palace of Justice in Istanbul inside a courtroom crammed with supporters.

Supporters released dozens of multicolored balloons outside the courthouse, chanting: "Don't be silenced! A free

and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

According to the P24 press freedom group, there are 166 journalists behind bars in Turkey, most of whom were arrested under the state of emergency.

Erdogan, however, insisted in an interview earlier this month there were just "two real journalists" behind bars in Turkey.

Cumhuriyet (Republic), which was set up in 1924 and is Turkey's oldest mainstream national title, has been a thorn in the side of Erdogan in recent years.

It is one of the few genuine opposition voices in the press,

which is dominated by strongly pro-government media and bigger mainstream dailies that are increasingly wary of challenging the authorities.

Those appearing in court include some of the best known names in Turkish journalism including the columnist Kadri Gursel, the paper's editor-in-chief Murat Sabuncu and the respected cartoonist Musa Kart.

Also being tried in the case is the investigative journalist Ahmet Sik, who in 2011 wrote an explosive book, "The Imam's Army" exposing the grip Gulen's movement had on the Turkish state.

Eleven of the 17, including Gursel, Sabuncu, Kart and Sik, are held in custody, while the other six are free.

"This trial is a test for Turkey," Aydin Engin, one of the writers on trial who was freed after his arrest, said. "Erdogan says justice is balanced in Turkey. Now we will see."

Those held have been detained for 267 days, with the exception of Sik, who has been held for 206 days.

Since their arrests, Cumhuriyet has continued publishing the columns of the jailed journalists but with a blank white space instead of text.

The 17 are charged with supporting in the newspaper's writings no less than three groups considered by Turkey as terror outfits – the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK), the ultra-left Revolutionary People's Liberation Party-Front (DHKP-C) and Gulen's movement, which Ankara calls the Fethullah Terror Organization (FETO).



## Rouhani: Unity key to fulfilling Leader's guidelines, serving people

### Political Desk

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said on Monday that unity and solidarity among all the forces and institutions of the Islamic establishment are essential for fulfilling the guidelines of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, and serving the people.

He made the remarks in a meeting with the top commanders of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) in Tehran, IRNA reported.

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## Polish president vetoes controversial court reforms

Polish President Andrzej Duda on Monday vetoed controversial judicial reforms that had prompted huge street protests and threats of unprecedented EU sanctions.

"It should not be part of our tradition that the attorney general can interfere in the work of the Supreme Court," Duda said.

The role of attorney general is held by the



GETTY IMAGES

The veto came as a surprise move from Duda, a close ally of the ruling rightwing Law and Justice (PiS) Party that had pushed the reforms.

Duda said he had made his decision after extensive consultations with legal experts during the weekend, when thousands of people took to the streets across Poland urging him to veto proposals that have led critics to accuse the government of threatening the rule of law, AFP wrote.

The reforms will now pass back to Parliament to be amended, and would need a three-fifths majority – which the PiS does not have – to go through.

"I have decided to send back to Parliament – therefore, to veto – the law on the Supreme Court, as well as the law on the National Council of the Judiciary," Duda said in a televised announcement.

"This law would not strengthen the sense of justice" in society, he said.

His veto was immediately welcomed by the opposition.

"It's without a doubt a step in the right direction," said Kamila Phowicz-Gasiuk, a lawmaker from the liberal Nowoczesna Party.

"It's proof that pressure from citizens can work."

The reforms would have increased political control over the judiciary, sparking an outcry amongst critics who said the PiS Party was seeking to reduce the independence of the courts.

justice minister in Poland, and the change was among reforms that had sparked concern over the rule of law.

The Polish senate had on Saturday backed the reforms, but they had still needed the president's sign-off.

But Monday's veto was a surprise as Duda is closely allied with the PiS.

Thousands of protesters have taken to the streets across Poland in recent days to oppose the bill, including huge crowds of people who held a candlelit protest outside the Supreme Court on Sunday night urging Duda to veto the changes.

Several hundred had gathered at the court again on Monday.

The European Commission had threatened to halt Poland's voting rights over the proposed reforms – a so-called 'nuclear option' that the EU had never invoked – while the United States had also expressed concern.

The government has defended the reforms, calling them indispensable to combat corruption and streamline the judicial system.

The PiS, which began making changes to the judiciary after coming to power in late 2015, has argued that resistance to the initiatives is a case of the elite defending its privileges.

Under the current system, candidates for the Supreme Court are selected by an independent body consisting mainly of judges but also a few politicians.



## Iran Judiciary chief calls on US to release Iranians, assets

Iran's top judge called on the United States on Monday to release Iranians held in US prisons and billions of dollars in Iranian assets, days after Washington urged Tehran to free three US citizens.

The statement by Ayatollah Sadeq Larijani capped a week of heightened rhetoric over the jailing of Americans in Iran and new US sanctions against the Islamic Republic, Reuters reported.

"We tell them: 'You should immediately release Iranian citizens held in American prisons in violation of international rules and based on baseless charges'," Larijani said in remarks carried by state television.

"You have seized the property of the Islamic Republic of Iran in violation of all rules and in a form of open piracy, and these should be released."



MIZAN NEWS AGENCY

On Friday, US President Donald Trump urged Tehran to return Robert Levinson, an American former law enforcement officer who, Washington claims, disappeared in Iran more than a decade ago, and release businessman Siamak Namazi and his father Baqer, imprisoned on espionage charges.

Trump said Iran would face "new and serious consequences" if the three men were not released. US authorities imposed new economic sanctions on Iran on Tuesday over its ballistic missile program.

Earlier this month, Iran said another US citizen, Xiyue Wang, a graduate student from Princeton University, had been sentenced to 10 years in jail for spying.

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Bahram Qassemi said on Monday that the US "cannot and should not" speak to Iran using a threatening language. "The era of threats is over," he said, adding that some comments by US officials on the arrest of the US citizen "amounted to interference in Iran's domestic affairs."

"Such remarks will not have any bearing on Iran's decisions and judicial system," said Qassemi.

"The Americans should change their language and discourse, and use some other language and diction in regard to the Iranian nation."



# Iran: P5+1 not accompanying US over nuclear deal

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Bahram Qassemi said the countries of the P5+1 group are not accompanying the US in its treacherous measures against the nuclear deal.

During a Monday press conference, Qassemi said the United States is in a minority of one in its destructive ambitions against the 2015 nuclear deal between the Islamic Republic and the P5+1 group, which includes the US.

Iran and the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council – the United States, Britain, France, China and Russia – plus Germany signed the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) on July 14, 2015 and started implementing it on January 16, 2016, Press TV reported.

Under the agreement, limits were put on Iran's nuclear activities in exchange for, among other things, the removal of all nuclear-related bans against the Islamic Republic.

The JCPOA has been hailed as a triumph for diplomacy, which has benefited all the contractual parties.

The US has, however, been toying with the idea of "tearing up" the accord or effecting changes to it, despite various international bodies, including the United Nations and the European Union warning Washington could not do so as the agreement is a multilateral one.

"The JCPOA is a multilateral agreement," Qassemi said, adding, "We are aware of European countries' positions [on it]. They are committed to the JCPOA... China and Russia's relevant position is also clear and transparent."

He noted that a meeting of the Joint Commission of the JCPOA, which gathers representatives of the signatories around the task for monitoring the accord's implementation, had seen all the attendees pledging their present and future commitments to the pact. "Even the US itself announced that it was committed to it (the JCPOA)," the official said.



IRNA

Describing the JCPOA as a solid agreement, Qassemi said the US has not been able to undermine it, despite "its lack of commitment and obstruction against it."

"Therefore, it cannot but take other measures to weaken it so it can deny Iran of its benefits as much as it can, or to spoil the political atmosphere," he added.

He was referring to Washington's sanctions against Iran's missile program, despite the program's not constituting a violation of the accord.

Iran, though, is a self-sufficient and powerful country, which could move forward without reliance on others, he said, and noted, "This is a source of concern for the US."

Qassemi expressed hope that US President Donald Trump would not put his

country and people in trouble by seeking to act against the JCPOA.

### Kuwait ties

On Iran-Kuwait ties, Qassemi said relations at an ambassadorial level will continue.

He said that on Thursday Iran's ambassador to Kuwait met with Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry officials, who told him "it would be better" for staffers at the Iranian diplomatic mission to reduce their number, and that the mission was advised to take action towards downsizing the workforce within a month and a half.

"This is contemptible," Qassemi said, and noted that Tehran reserved the right to counteract.

### Saudi fishing boat

On Friday, Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Navy seized a Saudi vessel after it trespassed on the country's territorial waters in the Persian Gulf.

Qassemi said it was natural for vessels to stray into foreign waters as a result of meteorological circumstances.

"This is partly natural and can be subject to interaction and negotiation," he said. Iran and Saudi Arabia do not have diplomatic relations, but occasionally exchange messages through other channels, Qassemi noted. Riyadh cut its diplomatic ties with Iran in early 2016 after violent protests in front of its Iran-based diplomatic premises against its earlier execution of a leading Shia cleric.

## Shamkhani: Countering terrorist groups needs coordinated measures

### Political Desk

Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council Ali Shamkhani said on Monday that countering the formation and expansion of terrorist groups requires coordinated measures among neighboring countries.

Shamkhani made the comments in a meeting with visiting Afghan president's national security advisor Mohammad Hanif Atmar in Tehran on Monday, IRNA reported.

Both officials also exchanged views on security developments in the region and fighting terrorism.

They also discussed bilateral cooperation on the economy, security, water and fighting illicit drug trafficking.

The Iranian official condemned a Monday terrorist attack in Afghanistan's capital which killed at least 35 people,

expressing condolences to the families of the victims, Afghan government and the nation.

He also expressed concern about the continuation of financial and intelligence support for terrorist and Takfiri groups by certain regional countries on the pretext of establishing religious schools and social institutions, warning that these measures would expand insecurity and ethnic conflicts.

Referring to Iran's constructive cooperation over the formation of Afghanistan National Unity Government, the Afghan official emphasized the continuation of negotiations in order to strengthen the government's authority.

Atmar added that the increase of insecurity and political differences in the country paves the way for the strengthening of the influence of terrorism and the spread of insecurity to regional countries.

## Rouhani: Unity key to fulfilling Leader's...

### From Page 1

Expressing his gratitude towards the IRGC's devoted and sincere forces, he expressed hope that during his second term in office as president, coordinated efforts by all Iranian Armed Forces would result in the speedy accommodation of the people's demands.

The president expressed optimism that in the next four years, all responsible Iranian institutions will increase their efficiency by demonstrating complete transparency in their specialized fields and guarantee the country's national security by using modern technologies to improve the combative capabilities of the IRGC and the Islamic Republic of Iran Army.

He also stressed that his administration will fully support the IRGC's services and efforts in the coming years.

Addressing the same gathering, IRGC Commander Major General Mohammad-Ali Jafari congratulated Rouhani on his reelection as Iran's president and the huge turnout in the May 19 presidential election.

He voiced the IRGC's willingness to fully cooperate with the Rouhani administration to achieve the targets of Iran's 1979 Islamic Revolution.

In this meeting, other commanders presented a report on the IRGC's activities and level of preparedness, and expressed appreciation for the government's support in expanding the country's defense capabilities and fighting terrorism.

## Iran: Total deal will generate...

### From Page 1

Zanganeh pointed to the objectives of the country's Sixth Five-Year Economic Development Plan, saying Iran needs to attract \$200 billion of investment in the oil sector.

He said 70 percent of such huge investment should be met through foreign financial resources.

Total will be the deal's operator with a 50.1 percent stake, alongside Chinese state-owned oil and gas company CNPC with 30 percent, and National Iranian Oil Company's subsidiary Petropars with 19.9 percent.



The project will have a production capacity of two billion cubic feet per day, or 400,000 barrels of oil equivalent per day including condensate. Total says, adding that the gas will supply the Iranian domestic market starting in 2021.

The first stage of the South Pars development will cost around \$2 billion and the production is expected to start within 40 months.

The agreement marks the first major Western energy investment in the Islamic Republic since the lifting of sanctions against the country in January 2016 which followed the signing of a nuclear deal known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) with the major world powers a year earlier.

The offshore field was first developed in the 1990s. Total was one of the biggest investors in Iran until the imposition of international sanctions in 2006.

Total signed an initial agreement with Tehran on November 8.

The French company had delayed the final investment decision as it waited for US President Donald Trump's administration to renew the US sanctions waivers.

Trump extended sanctions relief for Iran in May.

Iran, a major producer in the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, hopes its new petroleum contracts will attract foreign companies and boost oil and gas output in the post-JCPOA era.

# Kremlin warns against 'harmful' new US sanctions on Russia

The Kremlin on Monday warned that new US sanctions on Russia would hit the interests of both sides as Congress gears up to approved fresh punitive measures.

"We consider such a continuation of the rhetoric of sanctions counterproductive and harmful to the interests of both countries," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said.

In mid-June, the US Senate overwhelmingly passed tough sanctions, but the text stalled in the House of Representatives, until agreement was reached on Saturday, AFP reported.

The House is now set to vote today on a bill that targets Russia – for its alleged meddling in the 2016 presidential election and reunification of Crimea with Russia in 2014 – as well as Iran and North Korea, for its ballistic missile tests. Initially, US President Donald Trump resisted the legislation, which would prevent him from unilaterally easing penalties against Moscow in the future – effectively placing him under Congress's watch.

But he seems to be left with little option but to sign off on the move as a political firestorm swirls over potential collusion between his campaign and Russia. Peskov said the Kremlin is still waiting and watching to see if Trump will approve the measures, after White House communications director Anthony Scaramucci said the US leader was weighing his decision.

Before Trump definitively takes a deci-



Dmitry Peskov

MIKHAIL METZEL/TASS

sion it is too early to talk about any potential countermeasure from Moscow, Peskov said.

Ties between Moscow and Washington

have slumped to their lowest since the Cold War as the US slapped sanctions on Moscow over its meddling in Ukraine.

Russia had hoped that Trump's elec-

tion might ease relations between the two sides, but those prospects have dimmed in the face of a major political pushback in Washington.

## Maduro says vote on as Venezuela opposition calls 48-hour strike

Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro, defying a threat of US sanctions and calls by his opponents for two days of general strikes this week, vowed to press on with a vote to elect a new national assembly and rewrite the constitution.

"Who doesn't go vote next Sunday is hurting the Republic of Venezuela, is hurting the right for peace, because what we are deciding here next week is between peace or war, violence or the constituted assembly," according to a statement issued Sunday, Bloomberg reported.

Maduro reinforced his determination to hold the July 30 vote after Venezuela's opposition party called for a 48-hour general strike in Caracas Wednesday and Thursday.

Deputy Simon Calzadilla, speaking for Unidad Democratica, urged Venezuelans to go to their electoral centers to place protest banners and signs that say "in my voting place there won't be a constituent assembly."

Calzadilla, in an email, also asked citizens to rally to Caracas next Friday to "demand massively" that Maduro's government halt the assembly vote.

"If the regime doesn't cancel this fraud by Friday, the party will inform of the actions it will hold on July 29 and 30, Calzadilla said in the statement. "Center by center, street by street, neighborhood by neighborhood to defeat Maduro's proposal."



Nicolas Maduro

REUTERS

Maduro has signaled he would proceed despite US threats of "strong and swift economic actions" and a symbolic vote against it by 7.5 million Venezuelans who participated in an unsanctioned ballot. With the oil-exporting economy already in a tailspin, investors say some sort of ban on crude exports from Venezuela may force the country into default on its debt.

Julio Borges, the president of Venezuela's National Assembly, called this upcoming week "crucial" for the country. In an interview broadcast Sunday on CNN's "Fareed Zakaria GPS," Borges appealed for international help in stopping Maduro's planned assembly and to lay the groundwork for a "real and deep negotiation with the participation of the international community."

"Venezuela is not only a Venezuelan problem right now," he said, noting widespread emigration. "We need the help from other democracies in order to change what we are living right now in Venezuela."

## Hospitals overwhelmed as Sri Lanka dengue death toll nears 300



Fogging for mosquitoes in Sri Lanka suffering a record near 300 deaths from dengue this year

Sri Lanka announced Monday it was intensifying its war on dengue fever, with schools to shut across the island to help curb the unprecedented outbreak of the mosquito-borne virus that has claimed nearly 300 lives.

The Red Cross also announced it was scaling up its emergency response to the country's worst-ever outbreak of the disease as the number of dengue cases topped 100,000, according to AFP.

That figure is nearly double the previous year, with doctors warning hospitals were beyond capacity as medics struggled to treat a new strain of the disease.

The education ministry said schools would shut from Friday for four days as tens of thousands of volunteers join government officials and soldiers in targeting mosquito breeding grounds.

"Instructions have gone out to all schools today to coordinate with local authorities and look for any mosquito breeding areas in their immediate neighborhood," a ministry official said.

Troops have already been spreading out across the island to help local councils drain pools of stagnant water to ensure mosquito larvae have nowhere to flourish. Official figures show 290 people have died so far this year from dengue fever, nearly four times the fatalities recorded in all of 2016.

The number of cases has soared to above 105,000, a sharp jump from the 55,150 recorded last year.

About half those cases were reported from the island's west, including the capital Colombo.

"One reason for the dramatic rise in cases is that the virus currently spreading has evolved and people lack the immunity to fight off the new strain," Dr. Novil Wijesekara, head of health at the Sri Lanka Red Cross, said in a statement.

The humanitarian organization, which has increased its budget by \$300,000 to cope with the outbreak, said infected patients were "streaming into overcrowded hospitals that are stretched beyond capacity and struggling to cope."

Last week Australia said it was donating \$1.2 million to manage patients and help with research to contain the spread of the virus.

Humid monsoon weather, stagnant water from recent flooding and mounting piles of rotting garbage in Colombo have created perfect conditions for the rapid spread of mosquitoes.

Authorities have blamed a waste management crisis in the capital for the unusually large number of infections. Sri Lanka's main rubbish tip collapsed in April, crushing dozens of homes and killing 32 people.

## Over two dozen people killed in Pakistan blast

At least 26 people were killed and 30 others wounded in an explosion on the Ferozepur Road near Arfa Karim IT Tower on Monday afternoon, police said.

Lahore Police Chief Amin Wains said the "police were the target". He also confirmed that it was a suicide blast.

According to Rescue 1122, nine policemen are among those who lost their lives in the blast. The area where the explosion occurred is a busy locality near the office of Punjab Chief Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

The chief minister was in a meeting at his Model Town office when the blast took place.

"Police and Lahore Development Authority officials were busy in removing encroachments outside the Arfa Karim Tower, located near the CM's Model Town residence when a powerful blast took place," Rescue 1122 Jam Sajjad told the Daily Pakistan.



daily-pakistan.com

Three motorcycles and at least one vehicle have been reported damaged in the explosion. The identities of the victims have not yet been ascertained as of yet. Lahore's Metro Bus also passes near the IT tower.

Police and other law enforcement personnel reached the site of the incident and cordoned off the area. Forensics teams started collecting evidence from the blast site, after which the nature of explosion will be confirmed. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif condemned the Lahore suicide blast and voiced grief and sorrow over the loss of lives.

## Australia 'reneged' on refugee promise: UN

The head of the United Nations' refugee agency has accused the federal government of backtracking on an agreement to resettle some people in offshore detention in Australia.

In a strongly-worded statement issued on Monday, Filippo Grandi said UNHCR had agreed to help with the relocation of refugees on Manus Island and Nauru to the United States last November when the deal was struck, AAP reported.

But that was based on the "clear understanding" that vulnerable refugees with close family ties in Australia would ultimately be allowed to settle there.

"UNHCR has recently been informed by Australia that it refuses to accept even these refugees," the UN's high commissioner for refugees said.

That meant some with serious medical conditions or who have experienced trauma including sexual violence can't get support from family in Australia.

"To avoid prolonging their ordeal, UNHCR has no other choice but to endorse the relocation of all refugees on Papua New Guinea and Nauru to the United States, even those with close family members in Australia."

The agency claims the understanding was reached over a number of months in a series of meetings and correspondence involving government officials.

But it's unclear who exactly gave the undertaking.

UNHCR's assistant high commissioner for protection Volker Turk said Immigration Minister Peter Dutton and his department had agreed to allow compelling cases to be presented for consideration.

"It is on the basis of that understanding that we made these cases to the Australian government in the hope that, as is normally the case in such instances, those with close family links would be able to settle in Australia," he told ABC's 7.30 program.

He said only 36 people so far have been identified as having close family links to Australia.

The claim stands in stark contrast to the message the Turnbull government has been peddling publicly. Dutton's office, in dismissing the accusation, reiterated that those transferred to offshore processing centers will never settle in Australia.

"The position of the coalition government has been clear and consistent," a spokeswoman said.

On Sunday, Dutton said there was no contingency under which the government would change its mind.

"No, and people will not be coming to Australia," he told Sky News. Grandi said there was no doubt vulnerable people – already subject to four years of "punishing conditions" – should be reunited with their families in Australia, labelling it the humane and reasonable thing to do.

"The Australian government's decision to deny them this possibility is contrary to the fundamental principles of family unity and refugee protection, and to common decency," he said.

He urged Australia to bring an immediate end to the harmful practice of offshore processing, claiming it has caused extensive and avoidable suffering.

His sentiments have been echoed by Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, the Human Rights Law Centre, Refugee Council of Australia and the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre, who have all called on the Turnbull government to reunite those families who have been split up.

"That the UNHCR chief issued such a stinging rebuke of Australia's policies speaks volumes – the UN is sick and tired of Australia shirking its responsibilities under international law," Human Rights Watch's Australia director Elaine Pearson said in a statement.



## SPECIAL NEWS

Domestic Economy Desk

## South Korea focusing on small, midsize businesses in Iran: Envoy

One of South Korea's main trade strategies is to forge links with Iran's small and midsize businesses to minimize the adverse impacts of any severance of trade interaction between the two major companies, said South Korean ambassador to Iran.



Kim Sung-ho TASNIM NEWS AGENCY

Speaking at a trade meeting in Tehran, Kim Sung-ho said that Seoul is seeking to promote cooperation among Korean and Iranian small and midsize firms as a 'strategy for stability' in shaping ties with Tehran, Tasnim News Agency reported.

When thousands of Iranian and South Korean businesses work in partnership, the severance of relations by a few companies will not have a major effect on bilateral economic relations, Kim added.

Expressing dissatisfaction over the fact that crude oil constitutes 98 percent of Iran's exports to South Korea, the ambassador said cooperation between small and medium industries would greatly boost bilateral trade.

He also reminded the Korean businesspeople present in the meeting that Iran is not a market for the sale of Korean products anymore, stressing that South Korean industries should work on plans to 'transfer technology' to Iranian companies.

The Iranian administration's policy is to cut down on purchasing foreign products, Kim noted, encouraging the Korean activists to seize the opportunity and make investment in Iran. In May 2016, then South Korean president, Park Geun-hye, paid a visit to Iran with a big delegation of ministers, top officials and business people, and signed 19 agreements with Iran.

South Korea remains one of the major crude oil importers from Iran. The East Asian nation's oil imports from Iran sharply increased in 2016 immediately after anti-Iran economic sanctions were lifted under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) — a nuclear agreement between Iran and the P5+1 (Russia, China, the US, Britain, France and Germany).

## 500,000-ton rolling unit becomes operational in central Iran

Domestic Economy Desk

The rolling unit of Abarukh's Sarmad Iron and Steel Industries Company was inaugurated in the central Iranian province of Yazd on Saturday in a ceremony attended by Industry, Mine and Trade Minister Mohammadreza Nematzadeh.

The unit has an annual output capacity of 500,000 tons, according to a fax sent to Iran Daily.

Speaking at the inauguration ceremony in which a number of Yazd Province's officials were also present, Nematzadeh stressed that industry is the main propeller of the country's development.

He added establishing industrial units in deprived areas helps transfer modern technologies to these regions, leads to their rapid growth and development and generates jobs.

The minister said, "Until a few years ago, we exported 20 million tons of iron ore mined in the country in the absence of processing units in domestic steel industry. Today, however, we have managed to establish certain steel production units to process iron ore into added-value products and export them thanks to the speedy development of the steel industry."

He expressed his gratitude towards the investors of the project, particularly Chadormalu Mining and Industrial Company, whose head office is located in Tehran, which accounts for 65 percent of the investments in the construction of the industrial unit.

Nematzadeh hoped that his ministry will be able to extend credit lines to investors in domestic production and industrial sector and give them facilities after a number of problems and certain obstacles are overcome.

Addressing the same ceremony, Abbas-Qoli Samandarian, the managing director of Sarmad Iron and Steel Industries Company, said his firm was established in March 2012 with the objective of meeting a part of the country's requirements in steel products.

He said the company was jointly funded by Chadormalu Mining and Industrial Company (65 percent) and Mines and Metals Development Investment Company (35 percent).

Samandarian noted that in addition to the rolling plant, the company is constructing a steel billet factory with an annual production capacity of 600,000 tons in the proximity of the newly inaugurated unit.

Sarmad Iron and Steel Industries Company has been set up in an area of 150 hectares with the aim of establishing the rolling unit having a capacity to produce 500,000 tons of different kinds of round bar and launching the steel billet production plant with an annual output capacity of 600,000 tons.

## First Iran-Afghanistan freight train on track in two weeks

Domestic Economy Desk

The first freight train between Iran and Afghanistan will depart the Islamic Republic for the landlocked country within two weeks, said the deputy head of Islamic Republic of Iran Railways (IRIR) for planning and investment affairs.

Nourollah Beiranvand further said the East-West Corridor will officially become operational once the train leaves Iran, IRNA reported.

He added that in the first phase, the railway will transit freight but will later be used to transfer passengers.

He said the construction of the second phase of Iran-Afghanistan railway project which extends for 80 kilometers to the Afghan city of Herat will be undertaken by Iranian engineers concurrently with the completion of the project's first phase.

The official said the project will be fully funded by the Islamic Republic.

Beiranvand said studies are being conducted by Chinese experts on the third phase of the project which is to extend from Herat to Mazar-i Sharif.

He noted that the construction of this phase will complete the international section of Iran-Afghanistan-Kyrgyzstan-Tajikistan-China railway project.

The official said the international corridor will facilitate the transit of goods in the region.

Beiranvand underlined that the expansion of railway projects in Afghanistan will not only lead to the country's economic development but also to the cultural and economic growth of regional states.

On Sunday, IRIR Managing Director Saeed Mohammadzadeh and Afghanistan Railway Authority's Director General Mohammad Yamma Shams signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) in Tehran on connecting the rail networks of the two neighboring countries.

## Iran power generation capacity tops 77,000 MW

Iran's nominal electricity generation capacity has surpassed 77,000 megawatts (MW), said deputy energy minister.



Houshang Falahatian told Tasnim News Agency on Monday that in the past year, the power generation capacity has increased by about 2,000 MW.

With the commissioning of three gas units of Sarakhs power plant in the northeastern city of Sarakhs that can produce 75 MW of electricity and the Amirabad natural gas-fueled power plant, the country's overall nominal capacity reached 77,068 MW.

Speaking at a ceremony to launch construction operations of a power station in the southwestern city of Andimeshk in Khuzestan Province earlier this month, Falahatian said that the country's nominal electricity generation capacity would increase by 3,000 (MW) by next summer.

Iran is now exporting around 12 billion kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity to its neighbors each year, while imports stand at an annual level of 4 billion kWh, he said at the time.

The country's electricity industry ranks 14th in the world and first in the Middle East in terms of power generation.

## Thai investment

Iran welcomes Thai investment in oil, gas, fishery, roads and agricultural sectors, said Deputy Head of Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture Mohammadreza Karbasi.



IRNA

## Iran, France ink deal on subway car production

High-ranking officials from Iran's rail industry signed a major deal with the French rail car manufacturer Alstom to produce subway cars.

The agreement was signed in a ceremony in Tehran in which Iran's Minister of Industry, Mine and Trade Mohammadreza Nematzadeh was also present, Tasnim News Agency reported.

Officials from Alstom — a multinational company operating worldwide in rail transport markets — the Industrial Development and Renovation Organization of Iran (IDRO) and Iranian Rail Industries Development Company (IRICO) inked the trilateral agreement.

Speaking at the ceremony, Nematzadeh pointed out that Iranian rail transport industry has had a minor share in the country's development, and called for efforts to develop the industry.

He further pointed to the subway projects in seven metropolises nationwide, noting that manufacturing subway cars is one of the primary requirements for the projects.

Nematzadeh said a team of representatives from German engineering giant Siemens is scheduled to visit Tehran later this week for talks on investment and transfer of technology.

Deputy Head of IRICO Majid Talachian referred to the Alstom agreement and said that a similar deal will be signed with Siemens.

He said two other companies will be involved in cooperation with Siemens but he declined to give further details.

Siemens has perhaps been one of the most proactive German firms in pursuit of opportunities in Iran after January 2016 when Tehran and the world powers implemented a deal they had reached earlier to resolve a long-standing dispute over Iran's nuclear program.

Siemens has been cooperating with Iran's major industrial conglomerate MAPNA Group for years. It signed a contract with the Iranian giant in 2011 to supply 150 locomotives to the Islamic Republic of Iran Railways. MAPNA successfully

acquired the technology and delivered the order in time.

Now the German company is expanding its presence in the Iranian market, which is in dire need of modern equipment as thousands of kilometers of new railroads, subways and electric and high-speed routes are being laid across the country.

Furthermore, MAPNA signed a preliminary deal in October 2016 with Siemens to manufacture 50 diesel electric locomotives for passenger trains. Another agreement was signed between MAPNA and Siemens last year for joint manufacture of 70 electric locomotives to be used in the 926-km Tehran-Mashhad railroad, which is being electrified.

The IRIR and Siemens' transportation subsidiary Siemens Mobility signed several memoranda of understanding January last year to develop Iran's railroads.

The agreements concern electrification of the Tehran-Mashhad railroad and Tehran-Isfahan high-speed train, supply of 500 wagons, development of Iran's railroad infrastructure and provision of consultation and technology.

Should the new deal be signed, IDRO and IRICO will be added to the list of Siemens' major Iranian partners.

The new deals are part of a plan, based on which IDRO is tasked to manufacture 2,000 passenger wagons to be used in the subways across Iran. The company was supposed to find partners through a tender.

IDRO's Managing Director Mansour Moazzami said in the ceremony that Iran will need 8,000-10,000 wagons by the end of the Sixth Five-Year Development Plan (2017-22).

"But one of our problems is the inability to manufacture the wagons domestically, making use of our own financial resources, without access to latest modern technologies," he said. Iran has ramped up efforts to renovate its aging railroad industry by attracting foreign investment in light of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), a nuclear agreement between Tehran and the P5+1 (Russia, China, the US, Britain, France and Germany) that went into effect in January 2016.



**National Iranian Oil Company**

**Permit No: 1395.1837**  
**First Announcement**  
**TENDER No. 98/029/OF**

**INVITATION TO COMMON BID (Pre-Qualification)**  
**HIRING OF A 3-4 LEGS OFFSHORE, SELF-ELEVATING, ACCOMMODATION AND MAINTENANCE CRANE JACK-UP BARGE**

Iranian Offshore Oil Company (IOOC) intends to open Pre-Qualification for above tender with the following conditions:

Scope of work: Hiring of a 3-4 Legs Offshore Self-Elevating, Accommodation and Maintenance Crane Jack-Up Barge

Location: IOOC Oil Fields in Persian Gulf

Performance Period: 1 Year

Other items shall be considered:

- 1) Ability of submission Bid Bond as in the amount of Iranian Rial 6,002,680,000 or Euro 215,555
- 2) Ability of submission 10% of total Contract Price value as performance guarantee in case of winning according to Company's procedure.
- 3) Proposals should be submitted with no condition, incomplete, ambiguous or adverse of Package specification in deadline.
- 4) Company shall reserve the right to accept or reject any or all of proposals or part(s) thereof without giving any reason or explanation whatsoever.
- 5) The validity of the submitted financial proposals shall be 3 months from the Closing Date and extendable for one further period.
- 6) For invitation to above tender, it is necessary to achieve the determinate minimum score in the Pre-qualification. Bidders who have ability and are willing to participate in the Pre-qualification are requested to submit a written request to Contract Department, within One Week from Second Announcement by representative and collect the Pre-Qualification Forms.

Closing Date for submission of the Pre-Qualification documents shall be up to 14 days after the deadline of collecting Pre-Qualification documents. Place and time of submission and opening of proposals will be stated in Tender Documents.

Address for writing to participate and submission Pre-qualification Documents: 5th Floor, #12, Touraj St., Khakzad st., Vahid-e-Asr Ave., after Balal Mosque, before Modarres Crossroad, Tehran, Iran. Tel: +9821-23942510

Additional information is available at IOOC website address: [www.iooc.co.ir](http://www.iooc.co.ir) on the day of Second Announcement

Iranian Offshore Oil Company Public Relations



# IMF: Global recovery on firmer footing

The International Monetary Fund on Monday kept its growth forecasts for the world economy unchanged for this year and next, although it slightly revised up growth expectations for the eurozone and China.

In its updated World Economic Outlook, the IMF said global gross domestic product would be 3.5 percent in 2017 and 3.6 percent in 2018. Its last update was released in April, Reuters reported.

"While risks around the global growth forecast appear broadly balanced in the near term, they remain skewed to the downside over the medium term," the IMF said in its updated forecasts released in the Malaysian capital, Kuala Lumpur.

The IMF in June shaved its forecasts for US growth to 2.1 percent for 2017 and 2018, slightly down from projections of 2.3 percent and 2.5 percent, respectively, just three months ago.

The fund reversed previous assumptions that the Trump administration's fiscal policy plans would boost US growth, largely because details of those plans have not materialized.

The fund said growth in the euro area was now expected to be slightly stronger in 2018 and pointed to "new momentum".

It upgraded GDP projections for the single-currency area for 2017 to 1.9 percent, 0.2 percentage point higher than in April. For next year, the IMF said euro-area growth would be slightly stronger at 1.7 percent — a 0.1-percentage-point change from just three months ago.

It said the expected higher growth in the eurozone indicated "stronger momentum in domestic demand than



newsmax.com

previously expected".

The IMF revised down its 2017 forecast for the UK by 0.3 percentage point to 1.7 percent, citing weaker-than-expected activity in the first quarter. It left its 2018 forecast unchanged at 1.5 percent.

It also said it expected slightly higher growth in Japan this year to 1.3 percent from a forecast of 1.2 percent in April, citing stronger first-quarter growth buoyed by private consumption, investment and

exports. Its forecast for Japan's 2018 growth was unchanged at 0.6 percent.

For China, the IMF said it now expected stronger growth of 6.7 percent in 2017, up 0.1 percentage point from the April forecast. China's growth will still moderate in 2018 to 6.4 percent, but the IMF said that was up 0.2 percentage point from the April forecast because of expectations that Beijing will maintain high public investment.

## Greece on brink of returning to financial stability

Greece could be close to returning to sustainable economic growth at last after almost a decade of devastating recessions and crises, economists believe.

The country's government is getting closer to restoring a degree of financial stability through the latest round of talks with the EU and the International Monetary Fund. After several false dawns, UBS's chief economist for the region hopes that only a few more steps could be required to put the troubled economy firmly on the right track, wrote The Telegraph.

Gyorgy Kovacs believes that finalizing the debt relief plan combined with Greece's inclusion in the European Central Bank's bond-buying program would be one serious improvement, and that further improvements in economic sentiment, with the liberalization of capital controls, is another.

"What we have seen is that, compared to the first quarter, there has been a positive turn in the economy. If we add on top of that the closure of the review, hopefully it will bring improved confidence into Greece," he said.

"Hopefully it will allow the end of capital controls, or the easing of those."



SIMELA PANTZARTZ/EP

Fewer capital controls should give companies and individuals a greater incentive to put money into the country and its banks, as they would be free to remove it at will.

Kovacs also hopes that the repayment of arrears by the government to the private sector should boost confidence and investment further.

"The more significant fiscal consolidation is to a certain extent behind us, which suggests we should see some economic recovery this year," he said.

"The tourism season is looking at good indications, so yes I think it is going to happen."

"The big question is how big the recovery in investment spending could be — it would be the signal for a more sustained recovery."

Credit ratings agency Standard and Poor's upgraded the outlook on Greece's B-minus credit rating to 'positive' in a move which will boost the government's confidence as it looks to return to the bond markets.

"We believe recovering economic growth, alongside legislated fiscal reforms and further debt relief, should enable Greece to reduce its general government debt-to-GDP ratio and debt servicing costs through 2020," said S&P.

Athens is seeking to raise fresh cash from the private sector for the first time in three years. A careful first step back into the markets indicates that the government believes its own finances are getting back on track, and that private investors may be prepared to trust it once more.

After a series of haircuts left investors out of pocket, Greece has been reliant on public sector funds from the EU and the IMF, but needs to be able to support itself on the markets once the current bailout program ends.

A successful bond issue could promote more private investment in the economy by boosting business confidence and proving that the nation is winning over the investors which once shunned it.

S&P said that extra financial support from the Eurogroup "is likely to pave the way for Greece to successfully re-enter sovereign bond markets this year".

## Japan manufacturing growth weakens to eight-month low



businessinsider.com.sg

Growth at Japanese manufacturers softened in July to an eight-month low as output slowed and export orders stagnated.

The preliminary headline reading for the Nikkei-Markit Japan purchasing managers' index edged down to 52.2 in July from 52.4 in June, remaining above the 50-point threshold that separates expansion from contraction. The gauge was at its weakest level since November, FT reported.

Output increased during the period but at a slower pace than the previous month, while new orders also increased at a slower rate, according to the gauge's sub-indices. New export

orders were unchanged amid reports of weaker demand from markets in South-east Asia.

Paul Smith, senior economist at IHS Markit said: "July's survey data indicated a further easing of growth in both orders and output from May's recent highs. The slowdown was driven by stagnation in export orders, amid reports of weaker demand from South East Asia markets."

"Nonetheless, the sector continues to add jobs, with employment growth remaining amongst the best since the financial crisis, whilst optimism hit its highest level in five years of data collection."

## UK plans to extend digital economy to rural areas



JAY WILLIAMS/THE TELEGRAPH

Rural England and Scotland's Rural College are launching a consultation which will attempt to discover how best to support the digital economy in the UK's regions.

The aim of the report is to come up with a number of policy ideas that will help boost the growth of the digital economy in rural places. To do this, it is seeking to understand how to grow the digital economy in the countryside through e-commerce, exports and better productivity, according to The Telegraph.

Businesses, local authorities and community groups are being asked to submit their views as part of the consultation, commissioned by Amazon.

In addition, it is hoping to discover the level of digital skills in rural areas and how to further improve them; what digital business tools and services best support rural firms; what enables businesses to successfully relocate from urban areas; the sectors emerging in the countryside likely to gain most from digital technology; and the best rural locations to set up a digitally-savvy business.

Brian Wilson, chairman of directors at Rural England, said: "Considerable attention has been paid to the lack of connectivity in rural parts of Britain. Whilst that remains an important issue, we will look more at areas where there's a strong digital infrastructure."

### Main Indices of TSE

Index	Value	Change	Percent
Total Index	80933.9	(26.7)	(0.03)
Industry Index	69764.0	(9.2)	(0.01)
Free Float Index	89120.3	(19)	(0.02)
First Market Index	56422.4	(31.7)	(0.06)
Second Market Index	177974.9	15.3	0.01

### Overall Index details on 20170724

First	80670.8	Change end of year(%)	887.04%
High	81008.2	Historical highest	89500.6 (20140105)
Low	80894.4	Historical lowest	100 (1369/1/6)
Close	80933.9	Base Value	100 (1369/1/6)
Change	(26.7)		

### Industry Index details on 20170724

First	69687.1	Change end of year(%)	996.81%
Max Value	69832.1	Historical highest	75181.9 (20140105)
Max Value	67696.8	Historical lowest	1226.8 (1377/8/25)
Closing	69764.0	Base Value	
Closing	(9.2)		

### Free Float Index details on 20170724

First	88802.9	Change end of year(%)	
Max Value	85854	Historical highest	105040 (20140105)
Max Value	85767.2	Historical lowest	
Closing	89120.3	Base Value	
Closing	(19)		

### Main Board Index details on 20170724

First	56339.7	Change end of year(%)	749.85%
Max Value	56486.7	Historical highest	67441.4 (20140105)
Max Value	54241.5	Historical lowest	
Closing	56422.4	Base Value	4740.4 (1381/6/2)
Closing	(31.7)		

### Secondary Index details on 20170724

First	178001.2	Change end of year(%)	1301.54%
Max Value	178105.9	Historical highest	181353 (20170522)
Max Value	176073.1	Historical lowest	
Closing	177974.9	Base Value	4740.4 (1381/6/2)
Closing	15.3		

### Major Currencies

Currency	To USD	Currency	To USD
Turkish Lira	0.2832	Chinese Yuan	0.1481
Euro	1.1654	UAE Dirham	0.2722
British Pound	1.3043	Kuwaiti Dinar	3.3078
Australian Dollar	0.7964	Iraqi Dinar	0.0008
Japanese 100 Yen	0.0089	Saudi Riyal	0.2665

### Major Commodities

Crude Oil	\$45.99	Silver	\$16.47
Gold	\$1255.90	Platinum	\$938.40
Copper	\$2.72	Wheat	\$494.25



## Electricity shake-up could save consumers up to £40b

Consumers in the UK could save billions of pounds thanks to major changes in the way electricity is made, used and stored, the government has said.

New rules will make it easier for people to generate their own power with solar panels, store it in batteries and sell it to the National Grid, according to BBC.

If they work, consumers will save £17 billion to £40 billion by 2050, according to the government and energy regulator Ofgem.

The rules are due to come into effect over the next year.



GETTY IMAGES

They will reduce costs for someone who allows their washing machine to be turned on by the Internet to maximize use of cheap solar power on a sunny afternoon.

And they will even support people who agree to have their freezers switched off for a few minutes to smooth demand at peak times.

They'll also benefit a business that allows its air-conditioning to be turned down briefly to help balance a spell of peak energy demand on the National Grid.

Among the first to gain from the rule changes will be people with solar panels and battery storage. At the moment they are charged tariffs when they import electricity into their home or export it back to the grid.

The government has realized that this rule must change because it deters people from using power more flexibly in a way that will benefit everyone.

# Costa Rica's Caribbean coast pools efforts against climate change

Jonathan Barrantes walks between the rows of shoots, naming one by one each species in the tree nursery that he manages, in the south of Costa Rica's Caribbean coastal region. There are fruit trees, ceibas that will take decades to grow to full size and timber species for forestry plantations.

The tree nursery run by the Association of Organizations of the Talamanca Caribbean Biological Corridor (ACBTC), in the municipality of Hone Creek, is a helpful tool against the effects of climate change in Costa Rica's Southern Caribbean region, because it provides specialized solutions for specific needs, IPS reported.

Barrantes pointed out to IPS a group of saplings thirty centimeters high, explaining that this species native to the Caribbean basin, the cocoplum (*Chrysobalanus icaco*), is excellent for growing along the sea shore to prevent erosion, badly needed by beaches in this region.

"This coastal area is touristic and there are many species that we human beings have cut with the idea of making it more attractive," he added.

The nursery also grows teak (*Tectona grandis*) and beechwood (*Gmelina arborea*), two fast-growing tree species which are ideal for the forestry plantation systems encouraged in Costa Rica, and there is a row of saman (*Samanea saman*),



DIEGO ARGUEDAS ORTIZ/IPS

which are perfect for reforesting river banks.

With the association's team, Barrantes and other experts have been for years growing thousands of trees to help cope with coastal erosion, sequester carbon, restore forests that prevent landslides and protect key river basins.

In Hone Creek, more than 200km

southeast of the capital, civil society organizations from Costa Rica's Caribbean coastal region, grouped in the ACBTC, are joining forces against climate change.

As in the rest of the Caribbean region, this municipality in Costa Rica is suffering coastal erosion due to a rise in the sea level, which jeopardizes the sandy beaches as

well as the tourism-based economy of coastal areas.

At a regional level, the Association of Caribbean States is carrying out a project to adapt to the new climate change scenario, in small highly vulnerable island nations as well as mainland countries, which have in common fragile economies and vulnerable communities.

In Honduras, local communities are reporting changes in the geography of the coastline, and in Cuba scientists are racing against time to protect the country's sandy beaches.

It is a recurring pattern among Central American countries and each country is seeking its solutions.

# Pars Diplomatic Real Estate

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## Many kinds of happiness promote better health

A new study links the capacity to feel a variety of upbeat emotions to better health.

The research suggested people who experience a range of positive emotions in their daily lives — from enthusiasm to cheerfulness and calm — have lower levels of inflammation, compared to those who experience a narrower range of emotions, according to medical experts.

Lower levels of inflammation are linked to a lower risk of premature death and chronic diseases like diabetes.

The researchers drew on analytic approaches used to measure the biodiversity of ecosystems. Their study was published in the journal *Emotion*.

Lead author Anthony Ong, professor of human development in the College of Human Ecology and professor of geriatrics and palliative medicine at Weill Cornell Medicine, said, "There are many kinds of happiness and experiencing a diversity of emotional states might reduce a person's vulnerability to psychopathology by preventing any one emotion from dominating their emotional life."

Little is known about the biological processes through which emotional experiences influence health outcomes. This study sought to fill a bit of that gap.

Specifically, the study sheds light on one potential biological pathway

— systemic inflammation — through which diversity in everyday positive emotional experiences might get under the skin to influence long-term health.

Ong and his colleagues analyzed the connection between "emodiversity" — the breadth and abundance of different emotions people experience — and markers of inflammation in the body.

A person with low emodiversity feels about the same throughout most of the day, with emotions concentrated in just a few categories.

In contrast, a person with high emodiversity feels a range of emotions throughout the day, distributed evenly across the spectrum of feelings.

The researchers analyzed data from

175 people aged between 40 and 65 who reported on their negative and positive emotions for 30 days.

Each evening, they rated the extent to which they had experienced 16 positive emotions that day, from interested and determined to happy, excited, amused, inspired, alert, active and strong.

They were also asked to rate their experience of 16 negative emotions, including scared, afraid, upset, distressed, jittery, nervous and ashamed.

Their blood was drawn six months later and was tested for three inflammation markers that circulate in the blood. Their range of negative emotions — regardless of whether it was narrow or wide — had no effect on inflammation.

But people in the study who reported a wide range of positive emotions had lower levels of inflammation than those who said they felt a narrower range.

Ong said, "Emotions serve functional roles for individuals, helping them prioritize and regulate behavior in ways that optimize adjustment to situational demands."

"Our findings suggest that depletion or overabundance of positive emotions, in particular, has consequences for the functioning and health of one's emotional ecosystem."

Growing evidence from other research has linked emotional processes with systemic inflammation, which has been shown to contribute to poor health, such as atherosclerosis, diabetes, rheumatoid disease and osteoporosis and leads to a number of processes that play a major role in premature death.

How can these findings help one achieve better health?

Ong said, "Label your good feelings as you experience them."

"The simple daily practice of labeling and categorizing good feelings in specific terms may help us experience more differentiated emotions in different contexts."

## What happens if you have too much vitamin C



express.co.uk

Vitamin C is one of the most commonly taken vitamins. Also known as ascorbic acid, topping up on it provides a number of important benefits, according to the National Health Service (NHS).

These include helping to protect cells and keeps them healthy, maintaining healthy skin, blood vessels, bones and cartilage, and helping with wound healing, express.co.uk wrote.

Additionally, some studies have found it can reduce the amount of time a cold lasts for.

However, a lack of vitamin C can lead to scurvy, a condition with symptoms including muscle and joint pain, tiredness, red dots on the skin and bleeding and swelling of the gums.

In the UK it's a rare condition, but rates are on the rise.

The vitamin is naturally found in a number of fruit and vegetables.

These include oranges, red and green peppers, strawberries, blackcurrants, broccoli and brussels.

According to the NHS, adults should have 40mg a day of vitamin C. While it's possible to get it through dietary sources alone, many take a supplement if they know they will struggle to do so.

It's important to consume it every day since it can't be stored in the body.

However, while many people won't get enough of the vitamin, it is possible to have too much of it.

If you have more than 1,000mg per day of vitamin C it can cause some unpleasant symptoms.

These include stomach pain, diarrhea and flatulence.

This is because if you consume more than your body can use, the excess will be excreted, but on its way through your digestive tract it can trigger the aforementioned issues.

Symptoms should disappear once you start to consume below 1,000mg again.

## Hunt for HIV cure turns to cancer drugs

The outstanding progress in boosting the immune system to treat cancer may help unlock a cure for HIV, according to scientists meeting in Paris.

The body's normal defenses struggle to clear the body of HIV and cancer, BBC reported.

But the rapidly emerging field of immunotherapy has seen some patients with

the sleeping or 'latent' HIV hiding in the body's cells.

Nobel Prize winner and co-discoverer of HIV, Françoise Barre-Sinoussi, said, "One of the mechanisms why [latently infected cells] persist is the fact they are proliferating very similar to tumor cells."

She added, "Those cells are expressing molecules that are the same molecules that are

parallels... I think it's huge."

Cancers evolve tricks to survive an assault by the immune system.

They can produce proteins on their surface, such as PD-L1, which disable immune cells attacking the tumor.

A new class of immunotherapy drugs called 'checkpoint inhibitors' allow the immune system to keep on

and thinks immunotherapy drugs could reinvigorate an immune system that has become tired of fighting HIV.

She said, "The parts of the immune system that recognize HIV are often exhausted T-cells, they express immune checkpoint markers."

"In the laboratory, if you then put those cells in with an immune checkpoint blocker, the T-cells do regain function."

She said there was emerging evidence that the drugs also activated HIV lying dormant inside immune cells.

Lewin said, "We want the virus to wake up, any virus that wakes up gets killed [by antiretroviral drugs]."

However this is a new concept in HIV that has so far delivered nothing for patients.

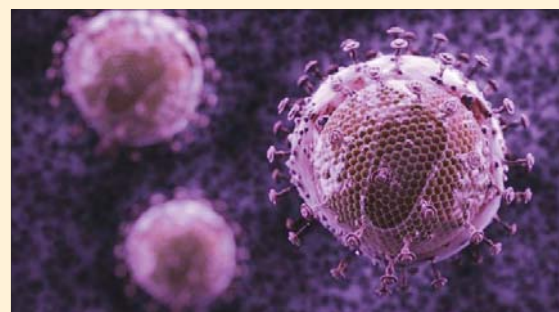
And there are important differences between the challenges of cancer and HIV immunology.

In cancer, the immune system can recognize the threat but is not powerful enough to do anything about it, but the immune system does not recognize latently infected HIV cells at all.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, the head of the US National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said that the area is "very hot" right now in cancer.

But he cautioned, "We have to be careful we don't assume that things that work in cancer are going to work in HIV."

"HIV is so different, that even though it's worth exploring, I wouldn't want people to think this is going to be equally successful in HIV."



Antiretroviral drugs are currently used in HIV treatment to kill any active virus. BBC

terminal cancer go into complete remission.

The hope is that a similar approach could clear someone of HIV, although some experts have urged caution.

HIV treatment requires daily antiretroviral drugs to keep any active virus. Left unchecked, HIV can destroy the immune system, causing AIDS.

A cure is currently impossible because drugs and the immune system fail to detect

expressed on tumor cells.

"So that raises the question whether we could develop a strategy for HIV-cure similar to the novel treatment in the field of cancer."

She is one of the scientists attending the HIV and Cancer Cure Forum in Paris.

Professor Sharon Lewin, the director of the Doherty Institute in Australia, agrees there is much to learn from cancer.

She said, "There are a lot of

fighting and the results have been remarkable.

In one trial, a fifth of patients with terminal melanoma had no sign of the disease after immunotherapy.

However, only about 50 people with HIV have been given immunotherapy to treat their cancer.

So there is little evidence of immunotherapy drugs and their effect on HIV.

Lewin has starting doing the research in the laboratory

## Researchers devise way to boost sensitivity of medical tests

Researchers at the University of Washington (UW) have discovered a simple way, by adding polydopamine to diagnostic tests for medicine and common assays for laboratory research at a key step, to raise the accuracy of these tests.

Polydopamine — a material first isolated from shellfish — could help increase the sensitivity of the tests by as many as 100 to 1,000 times, news.xinhuanet.com wrote.

Xiaohu Gao, a UW professor of bioengineering, said, "Common bioassays are the real workhorses of laboratory experiments

and medical tests."

"By boosting the sensitivity of these tests, we can enable more accurate medical diagnoses earlier in a disease or condition and enable more certainty and less waste in the research process."

More sensitive tests would allow scientists to identify pathogens, diseases and specific cellular proteins even when these

'biomarkers' are present at levels far below the detection threshold of today's standard tests.

Initial results show polydopamine boosted the accuracy and resolution of these tests for biomarkers of HIV, Zika virus and proteins on cancerous tumors.

Gao led the team that developed this modification for common medical and laboratory assays and recently published their approach, known as enzyme-accelerated signal enhancement, or EASE, in *Nature Biomedical Engineering*.

EASE centers on the addition of two biochemical components, dopamine and horseradish peroxidase, or HRP, at a key step.

HRP is a common protein enzyme used to speed up the rate of reactions in biomedical research.

Gao's team discovered that HRP can connect dopamine molecules together to form the polymer chain polydopamine.

Polydopamine, in turn, accumulates on the surfaces of reaction vessels. Once the polydopamine is present,

researchers can continue the traditional steps of their protocols, but now with a substantially increased test sensitivity.

Gao said, "Scientists have been trying to improve the accuracy of these common tests for decades, but solutions often involve entirely new protocols or costly pieces of equipment."

"Understandably, researchers can be reluctant to invest in unfamiliar protocols or expensive new equipment, but EASE is a simple addition to tried-and-true assays."



anh-usa.org

"It's like a software upgrade, instead of changing your operating system."

These assays include some of the most common medical and laboratory tests.

Some of these assays have been used for decades to help hospitals and doctors detect signatures of a disease, ailment or other conditions by looking at a patient's blood, other body fluids or cells.

Depending on the test, these telltale signs could be pieces of a bacteria or virus, a chemical, antibodies made by white blood cells, a hormone or even pieces of deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA).

If these compounds are present at extremely low levels, diagnostic tests can miss them and return inaccurate medical information.

By increasing sensitivity, EASE reduces uncertainty and increases the amount of information these tests can provide.

For example, the team used EASE to detect the presence of Zika virus in the placental tissues of primates.

EASE made the assay so sensitive that the team was able to see which types of cells within the placenta were infected with Zika.

Gao was quoted as saying in a news release from UW that he hopes this simple modification will mean that scientists and medical professionals can easily incorporate EASE into their common practices and procedures.

## UK to tighten rules on drones

British officials announced plans to further regulate drone use in a bid to prevent accidents and threats to commercial aviation.

The new rules will require drones that weigh eight ounces (226.79 grams) or more to be registered and users will have to pass a safety awareness exam, according to phys.org.



wired.com

The government acted because of concerns that a midair collision between a drone and an aircraft could cause a major disaster.

Pilots have reported numerous near-misses in the last year alone in Britain.

Earlier this month London's Gatwick Airport briefly closed its runway over safety concerns when a drone was spotted in the area and several planes had to be diverted.

The British Airline Pilots Association said independent tests show even a small drone could cause severe damage to a helicopter or an airline windscreens.

The union's general secretary, Brian Strutton, said that pilots have been warning about the rise in the number of cases of drones being flown irresponsibly close to aircraft and airports for some time.

"A new report clearly shows that readily available drones which can be flown by anyone can shatter or go straight through an aircraft windshield or shatter a helicopter rotor. And those impacts would have catastrophic consequences."

British police have also reported a sharp rise in complaints from the public about intrusive drone use.

Aviation Minister Martin Callanan said that drones are providing many useful services but that the new regulations are needed to prevent the technology from being misused.

"Our measures prioritize protecting the public while maximizing the full potential of drones."

The new rules will make it easier for the government to track drones that have been flown in an allegedly risky manner or that infringed on protected airspace. Details of the registration plan haven't yet been worked out.

# First floating wind farm emerges off coast of Scotland

The world's first full-scale floating wind farm has started to take shape off the northeast coast of Scotland.

The revolutionary technology will allow wind power to be harvested in waters too deep for the current conventional bottom-standing turbines used, bbc.com wrote.

The Peterhead wind farm, known as Hywind, is a trial which will bring power to 20,000 homes.

Manufacturer Statoil said that output from the turbines is expected to equal or surpass generation from current ones.

It hopes to cash in on a boom in the technology, especially in Japan and the west coast of the US, where waters are deep.

Leif Delp, project director for Hywind, said, "This is a tech development project to ensure it's working in open sea conditions."

"It's a game-changer for floating wind power and we are sure it will help bring costs down."

So far, one giant turbine has already been moved into place, while four more wait in readiness in a Norwegian fjord.

By the end of the month they'll all have been towed to 25km off Peterhead, Aberdeenshire, where they'll float upright like giant fishing boats.

While the turbines are currently very expensive to make, Statoil believes that in the future it will be able to dramatically reduce costs in the same way that manufacturers already have for



bbc.com

The huge turbines are currently being moved into place.

conventional offshore turbines.

Delp said, "I think eventually we will see floating wind farms compete without subsidy — but to do that we need to get building at scale."

The operation to begin shifting the first of the 11,500-ton giants happened dramatically in the half-light of a Norwegian summer night.

Crews secured thick cables to tug boats and used remote-controlled submarines to check for obstacles.

Finally the giant was on the move,

floating on a sealed vase-like tube 78m deep, its bottom filled with iron ore to weight the base and keep it upright in the water.

### Price drop

The price of energy from bottom-standing offshore wind farms has plummeted 32 percent since 2012 — far faster than anyone predicted.

The price is now four years ahead of the government's expected target,

and another big price drop is expected, taking offshore wind to a much lower price than new nuclear power.

The Hywind project is being run in collaboration with the Abu Dhabi firm Masdar.

The £190 million cost was subsidized by bill-payers under the UK government's Renewable Obligation Certificates.

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) opposed the project — not because it dislikes the technology but because it believes too many offshore turbines in the area have already been approved.

It fears thousands of sea birds may be killed by the offshore wind farms, although it admits that estimates are hugely uncertain because it is impossible to count bird corpses at sea.

The RSPB's Aidan Smith said, "Generally we are very enthusiastic about floating wind technology because it allows turbines to be placed far offshore — away from seabird nesting sites, and it helps us tackle climate change."

"We oppose the Hywind project because it adds to a situation we already believe is a problem."

Floating turbines may create a new frontier for energy — but scientists on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) warn far more investment in additional new technologies is urgently needed for governments to keep promises on reducing emissions.

## Vortex photons from electrons in circular motion

Researchers at the International Measurement System (IMS) and their co-workers have shown theoretically and experimentally that a high-energy electron in circular/spiral motion radiates vortex photons from the radio wavelength to gamma rays.

This greatly broadens application spectra of the vortex photons in the field of physical science, phys.org reported.

Moreover, the finding indicates that vortex photons are ubiquitous in the Universe. It paves the way to a completely new research field: Natural vortex photon science.

Light is sometimes called an electromagnetic

through inhomogeneous interstellar media.

About 10 years ago, researchers theoretically predicted that an undulator — a device widely used in modern synchrotron light sources — could be capable of producing vortex photons in the X-ray range.

This was experimentally confirmed several years later at a German synchrotron.

However, a majority of significant characteristics of optical vortex generation has remained unverified.

Researchers at IMS and their co-workers theoretically investigated this process and have shown that an electron in circular or spiral motion radiates vortex photons.

This process is the basis of various important radiation processes in astrophysics and plasma physics, such as cyclotron radiation, synchrotron radiation and Compton scattering and has been described in many textbooks or research papers.

However, there has been no discussion on the vortex nature of this radiation.

The wavelength of this radiation extends from radio wave to gamma rays, depending on the physical condition. This new finding indicates that vortex photons are produced in various situations in the universe, in the entire wavelength range.

Furthermore, the researchers at IMS and their co-workers succeeded in a precise experimental observation of the undulator radiation from a synchrotron light source, UVSOR-III, for the first time (see figure).

They observed the UV light emitted from an electron beam in spiral motion, and indicated that a special structure called a phase singularity exists in the center of the photon beam from the undulator. Moreover, higher energy photons have been shown to carry larger angular momenta. These measurements definitely support the theoretical prediction.

Professor Masahiro Katoh (IMS) said, "Vortex photons should be ubiquitous in the Universe. What kind of role do they play in nature? Our achievement opens up a totally new research field."



phys.org

UV radiation from a relativistic electron beam is diffracted by a double-slit. In contrast to the normal light (L), the diffraction shows a deformation in the central part (R), indicating the existence of the phase singularity, which is a definite evidence of the vortex nature.

wave, in which electric and magnetic fields are oscillating and the oscillations propagate in space.

Normally, light has a plane wave front. In contrast, an optical vortex possesses a helical wave front and carries orbital angular momentum.

Existence of such peculiar photons was theoretically predicted about 25 years ago.

Today, such photons can be readily produced in laboratories by using special optical devices, although the wavelengths are limited in the vicinity of visible light.

Researchers are exploring their applications in nanotechnology, imaging and information/communication technologies.

On the other hand, a natural elementary process capable of producing vortex photons has not been found, though there are a few theoretical proposals that normal photons may be converted to vortex photons in a strong gravitational field around a rotating black hole or as passing

## Astronauts grow cucumbers in space to help scientists understand root growth



Astronaut Ron Garan waters a cucumber seedling inside the space station's Japanese module.

Which factor is more important to root growth: Gravity or water? To find out, scientists recruited astronauts to grow cucumbers on the International Space Station.

In the soil, roots seek out higher concentrations of water. The tendency is called hydrotropism. Roots also tend to grow downward as a result of gravity, a pattern called gravitropism, UPI wrote.

But researchers haven't been able to determine which of the two influencing factors is the strongest.

When astronauts grew cucumbers in space, under microgravity conditions, the root patterns proved hydrotropism was the most important factor.

Scientists published the results of their experiments in the journal New Phytologist.

Lead author Hideyuki Takahashi said, "We will be able to utilize roots' ability to sense moisture gradients for controlling root growth orientation and efficiently growing plants in future space farms."

## Scientists measure proton's mass with record precision

A team of scientists from Germany and Japan have recorded the most precise measurement of a proton's mass.

Researchers accomplished the feat by trapping a proton in a super sensitive single particle detector developed at RIKEN's Ulmer Fundamental Symmetries Laboratory in Japan, UPI reported.

The proton is an important building block in atomic nuclei.

Thus, quantifying its mass is an essential component of particle physics. The proton's mass influences the movement of electrons, which orbit around the nucleus.

The paths of an atom's electrons determine the wavelengths of light absorbed and reemitted by the atom, which defines an element's spectral signature.

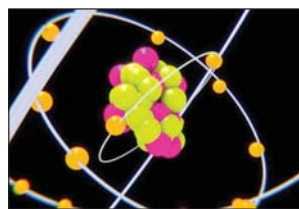
Additionally, a more accurate measure of a proton's mass could help particle physicists better understand the

relationship between the proton and the antiproton, and in turn, the relationship between matter and antimatter.

The so-called Penning traps used by researchers are capable of

can be measured and used to calculate the particle's mass.

To achieve a record-precise reading, scientists used a carbon isotope with a mass of 12 atomic mass units as a control for com-



UPI

trapping single particles, including a proton, using a combination of electric and magnetic fields.

Once inside the Penning trap, the proton oscillates. Different particles oscillated and different frequencies, and these frequencies

parison.

Researcher Sven Sturm, from the Max Planck Institute for Nuclear Physics in Heidelberg and RIKEN in Japan, said, "First, we stored each one proton and one carbon ion in separate

compartments of our Penning trap apparatus, then transported each of the two ions into the central measurement compartment and measured its motion."

RIKEN scientist Andreas Mooser said, "It allowed us to measure the proton under identical conditions as the carbon ion despite its about 12-fold lower mass and 6-fold smaller charge."

Researchers measured the proton's mass at 1.007276466583 atomic mass units — three times more precise than the currently accepted value.

Researchers described their feat in the journal Physical Review Letters.

Researcher Florian Köhler-Langes added, "In the future, we will store a third ion in our trap tower."

"By simultaneously measuring the motion of this reference ion, we will be able to eliminate the uncertainty originating from fluctuations of the magnetic field."



## Appointments with GPs

Increasing workloads, under investment in services and general practitioners (GPs) leaving the profession have led to difficulties getting appointments in the UK.

# Action urged to teach children to swim



famili.com

Almost a third of 11-year-olds in England leave primary school unable to swim, a representative sample of 1,000 parents of Year 6 pupils suggested.

And two-thirds of the parents, surveyed for Swim England, feared their child could not save themselves in water, BBC reported.

Steve Parry, a former Olympic swimmer and chairman of a report urging an overhaul of school swimming, warned, "Hundreds of people drown every year."

Ministers agreed "more must be done" to improve school swimming.

According to the survey, published alongside the report, an overwhelming 94 percent of parents believe it is important for their child to be able to swim competently by the end of primary school.

"Water safety is the only part of the national curriculum that will save children's lives, it can't be treated as an optional extra," said Parry.

The report, compiled after eight months of research, pointed out that the National Curriculum requires all children to be able to swim 82ft (25m) by the age of 11 — but says that too many schools miss

the target.

It draws on figures compiled last year by Swim England, formerly the Amateur Swimming Association, which show that only 36 percent of primary schools reach all the national curriculum swimming and water safety standards.

And worryingly, the same set of figures show that more than a quarter of schools are either not providing swimming lessons or are not monitoring children's progress. In his foreword to the report, Parry called the figures 'unacceptable'.

The independent report, by a group of sporting and educational bodies called Swim Group, was commissioned by the government.

Its recommendations for swimming and water safety teaching include:

- A new national Top-Up Swimming program to ensure all children reach statutory standards
- A new swimming achievement award for pupils
- Better swimming resources for schools
- Swimming to be included in the next national curriculum review
- Better training for staff who teach swimming

The authors said that schools tend to prioritize subjects for which they are graded and said that if school inspections paid greater attention to swimming, this could be a 'silver bullet' for standards.

The report also noted that almost three-quarters of primary schools travel to local authority pools for lessons and transport can be time-consuming and expensive.

The authors said greater use of demountable and mobile pools should be explored.

Children's Minister Robert Goodwill said, "Swimming is a vital life skill."

He said the government would work closely with the authors to review the recommendations.

Sports Minister Tracey Crouch added: "We want to see more schools stepping up and ensuring that the number of children who leave school able to swim rises."

And Paul Whiteman, general secretary designate of the National Association of Head Teachers, agreed swimming was a crucial life skill but added that schools needed more resources "to hire a pool, pay for qualified instructors and to arrange transport".

## Global warming will increase poverty in southern US

A new study estimated that southern areas of the US, many of which are already poor, could face a 20 percent decline in economic activity if carbon emissions continue unabated through the 21st century.

The study was issued by economists with the Climate Impact Lab, a consortium of experts from the Universities of California, Chicago and Rutgers and the Rhodium Group, according to pri.org.

Solomon Hsiang, a public policy professor at the University of California, Berkeley, and one of the study's lead researchers, said, "We found that the southern United States, the southern parts of the Midwest and also the Atlantic coast are some of the most hardest-hit parts of the country."

"There was a pretty good explanation for that, once we did the analysis and we understood [what] was going on."

He explained, "The economic impact of warming is much worse if you are already pretty hot. So, going from 90 to 95 degrees is a much bigger deal than going from 70 to 75 degrees."



ifscience.com

Because the southern parts of the country are already so warm, a bit of warming does a lot more harm to them than to the northern parts of the country that tend to be cooler."

In some cases, places along the North could even benefit from climate change, Hsiang said.

"This is an important finding because the northern parts of the country tend

to be wealthier today, and the southern parts of the country tend to be poorer. By hurting the South more, you're really hurting the poor population in the country relatively more, and this, we think, means inequality within the country could actually worsen."

A 10- to 20-percent loss in economic activity is a lot, Hsiang stressed.

"It's actually worse than what was

experienced during the Great Recession in the United States, and it's not that different from what parts of the Midwest experienced during the Dust Bowl."

Texas, Florida and Louisiana could be particularly hard hit, Hsiang noted, due to the combination of rising temperatures and increasingly severe storms.

"As sea level rises, storms are going to have bigger surges," he explained.

"In the future, we expect to have a changing pattern of hurricanes, where sometimes there will be more of them and sometimes they will be stronger. So, that can increase the economic losses year-over-year quite substantially."

Ironically, the regions expected to have the most economic damage from climate disruption are politically conservative strongholds where opposition to the Environmental Protection Agency and the Paris climate agreement runs high. Hsiang emphasized, however, that their lab's work began many years ago and is unrelated to the current political situation in the US.

## Women with HIV in Cameroon still stigmatized

Blandine, a 28-year-old mother of a baby girl, sits restlessly on a chair in a women's health center in Cameroon's capital, not knowing how or what to feel as she waits for an HIV test.

Blandine is HIV positive. But the waiting is not for her — it is to find out whether her one-year-old girl also has the human immunodeficiency virus, AFP wrote.

A few minutes later, she has her answer.

"I am so relieved," Blandine said upon learning that her baby's blood tests came back negative for HIV.



womenshealth.gov

"I feel like I've won a battle with my child, a battle I was unable to win for myself."

In Cameroon, more women are living with HIV than any other group, and they are also more stigmatized than their male counterparts.

Blandine, a teacher, was willing to share her story but preferred to use an alias to protect her identity and her family, including her husband, who has public responsibilities.

"I have a life to build," she said by way of explanation. "There is progress but we cannot say that the stigma has disappeared. When you have a certain role in society, you have to defend your husband and your in-laws. 'You have to protect your children'."

Blandine discovered she was HIV positive nearly two years ago, after a long illness. Her husband was the one who broke the bad news to her, as she was too weak to speak to the doctor herself.

She is still not sure how she came to contact the virus. Her husband, like their daughter, does not have it.

"It is really due to my husband's love that I was able to live through that situation," she said.

Blandine added that many HIV positive women are rejected by their husbands and families and then isolated from society as a whole.

"Some women don't even dare talk about their status for fear of being abandoned," she said. "They deal with it on their own, without even opening up to their husbands."

For Blandine and her husband, adjusting to her status meant regular visits to health professionals and an education course at the hospital.

"When you get the results, it's not obvious you can go back to a normal life," she said. "You are always afraid at the beginning."

Blandine, whose HIV positive status is "nearly undetectable" because of her continued treatment, never thought she would be able to live such a happy, normal life — with healthy children.

"I was always told that I could be a mother like any other, in spite of the HIV, and I am now just understanding that it is not a dream," she said.

Cameroon, a country of 23 million that hugs Africa's Gulf of Guinea, had a 5.75-percent HIV prevalence rate for pregnant women in 2016, making it one of the 10 countries responsible for 75 percent of new pediatric infections worldwide.

## Swine flu threat grows in India

Swine flu, the viral illness that became a pandemic in 2009, has made a comeback in India this year, claiming nearly 600 lives across the country so far this year, with close to 12,500 cases being reported.

Maharashtra, with 284 deaths, is the worst affected, followed by Gujarat (75), Kerala (63) and Rajasthan (59), government data showed, according to indianetnews.com.

In Delhi, official figures state, 241 people have tested positive for swine flu and four have died, as on July 9. Doctors said the number of deaths could be higher.

Dr. Jagdish Prasad, the director general of health services, said, "People are visiting hospitals late. This is why there have been more deaths. If patients are put on Tamiflu, the drug approved for treating swine flu, as soon as clinical symptoms appear, many lives can be saved."

Clinicians suspect the H1N1 virus, which causes swine flu, may have mutated. The disease initially spread through pigs but now transmits from human to human.

A central rapid response team has been deployed in Maharashtra to investigate the rising trend of influenza there, Prasad said.

He added that government has put Oseltamivir, marketed as Tamiflu, in schedule H1 to enable it to be sold by all licensed chemists under prescription.

The drug was earlier in schedule X, wherein only certain selected pharmacists were authorized to stock it.

The growing number of swine flu cases so early in the season has had doctors worried.

Dr. Arup Basu, senior chest physician, said, "This is surprising. Swine flu is commonly seen in winter or post-monsoon season. But we have been seeing significant number of cases of swine flu since June in spite of high temperatures that are not conducive for viral growth or transmission."

Dr. Suranji Chatterjee, a senior consultant at Apollo Hospitals, said the National Institute of Virology and National Center for Disease Control should investigate the reasons behind the sudden spurt in swine flu cases.

"As clinicians, we need to look out for characteristic symptoms of swine flu throughout the year so that timely action can save lives," he added.

## Almost half of over-65s think they targeted in a scam

More than two-fifths of older people believe they have been targeted by scammers, with single people more likely to be tricked than their married counterparts, according to a new study.

Some 43 percent of over-65s think they have been targeted. Of those who had previously been targeted by scammers, 16 percent of single older people paid them money, compared with six percent of those who were married, newstandstar.co.uk reported.

Single people were also more likely than married people to have provided scammers with their personal information, the research from Age UK found.

The findings coincide with Scams Awareness month in July, organized by Citizens Advice and Trading Standards Services.

Two-thirds (64 percent) of those targeted by scammers



newstandstar.co.uk

did not report it to an official channel, with well over a third (36 percent) only confiding in friends and family, and more than a fifth (22 percent) admitting they did not tell anyone at all because they felt too embarrassed.

Phishing (such as scam emails) was the most common scam in the survey, followed by vishing or verbal

communication, rogue traders and card fraud.

Caroline Abrahams, charity director at Age UK, said: "Everyone has the right to feel comfortable, safe and secure at home, yet there are an increasing number of sophisticated scams designed to cheat people of their money, empty their bank account or steal their identity."

"We are urging all older people, and their friends and families, to be vigilant and get up to speed on how to avoid scams."

"If there is any doubt about the authenticity of an offer or piece of correspondence, do not respond and report it to the authorities immediately."

Age UK offers free information and advice for anyone who is worried about being scammed, including free guides.

More than 1,300 people aged 65-plus took part in the survey across Britain.



## Phelps vs shark: Results of Olympic swimmer's race against shark

With 23 Olympic gold medals, swimmer Michael Phelps faced a new challenge.

And what better challenger for the most decorated Olympian in history than the ocean's most fearsome predator — the great white shark, *mirror.co.uk* reported.

The king of the pool threw down the gauntlet to the king of the ocean for a new documentary.

But did he bite off more than he could chew?

Phelps vs shark saw the American swimmer don a 'monofin' take to the open waves off Cape Town, South Africa for Shark Week.

Backed by a 15-strong army of divers underneath him for protection, he emulated the shark's shape and swimming conditions while racing over 100m.

Viewers in the US tuned in to the Discovery Channel on Sunday night to see the results of this amphibious battle to end all battles.

So did Phelps win the ultimate contest of human conditioning and skill versus pure, survival of the fittest evolution... or did he become lunch?

Well, sort of. For starters, much to the disappointment of some viewers, Phelps, 32, didn't actually race a real shark.

Instead, the swimmer was pitted against three computer-generated sharks — a hammerhead, a reef shark and, last but not least, a great white.

Phelps was given a special wetsuit to make him more streamlined as well as a fin — similar to a great white's — to put him on equal footing with the shark.

A great white's top speed hits



Michael Phelps raced a great white shark

25mph, and an average of 16, while Phelps reaches a 'mere' six (albeit compared to an average human swimmer's two).

But a shark only exercises its top speeds in bursts, when it explodes upwards from the water to snatch its prey so the Olympian, who scooped eight Golds at the 2008 Beijing Games alone, could just have made it snappy.

"It was so exhilarating," said Michael, 32. "My love for sharks has been there my whole life, this is a bucket list item."



"It is the coolest thing going into it head on. You could see how focused I was on trying to prepare myself for the cold water that I was getting ready to dive into. Because 55 degrees and 80 degrees are so different — it is so much colder. And I'm somebody that really doesn't like cold water!"

He explained they tried to set the playing field as level as possible, and admits the monofin helped him reach an awesome

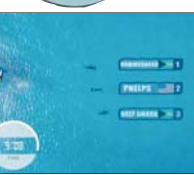
12mph.

He described: "We raced 100 meters. It's hard when you have low visibility, and we did set up a lane line to make it look like there was a pool, but it is challenging to see straight and see where you're going in water like that."

"We weren't side by side. The challenge of trying to get a

White to swim in a straight line was difficult, because when a White attacks a seal on the surface they come from under the surface to build speed to be able to get that natural breach that we all see from great whites."

"But I think with some of the tests that we were running out there on the boat, we were able to see what they can do."



"Obviously these guys are at home. They have the chance to swim in the ocean every single day in depths that some of us may never reach."

"I wasn't really expecting to absolutely win against a shark. I wanted to get in and give myself the best opportunity to see how fast I could go, to see how I could compare to the high speed of some of the animals that we have in the ocean."

Incredibly, Phelps did actually beat one of the sharks.

In his first race, the swimmer came second to the hammerhead shark, beating the reef shark by 2 of a second.

Sadly, his skills were no match for the great white, which was two whole seconds faster over 100m.

The swimmer jokingly tweeted: "Rematch? Next time. Warmer water."

For the documentary, the swimmer spent time at School of Shark in the Bahamas before the race to learn how the mammals move.

"It was so interesting watching how they are in everyday life, being able to see how they go for a regular afternoon stroll, and how they just walk around on the water, or figuring out what they would swim in a 100-metre race," he said.

"Obviously it's very different than swimming in a swimming pool. Open water swimming and pool swimming are extremely opposite. I understand a little bit about how the waves move in certain directions and how you get from Point A to Point B. It's trial and error."

## Russian couple share home with a bear

A seven-foot bear has proved that any wild animal can be trained to eat breakfast with you, star in photoshoots and even give you a cuddle on the sofa.

Stepan has been living with his owners Yuri and Svetlana Panteleenko in Moscow, Russia, since he was three months old, when he was adopted from the zoo, *mirror.co.uk* wrote.

Nearly 24 years later, the 55-stone (349.26kg) Russian bear has formed an extraordinary bond with the couple and sits down for meals with them every day.

He is now set to star in a Channel 4 documentary — "Bear about the House: Living with My Supersized Pet" — alongside a deadly nine-foot crocodile and a one-ton buffalo called Cody.

The documentary is directed by Ross Haley who travels across the world to see these very unusual choice pets.

Ross said: "For the past 10 months, I've been meeting a rare breed of animal owner, trying to find out what sort of person lives with such a deadly animal."

"With thousands of people around the planet owning dangerous animals, the rise of social media has meant a

unique global community has formed and brought the owners out into the public eye."

"Despite the obvious danger, it's clear a wild animal can become part of the family."

"Even though some make money from their pets, I can't deny that these owners have formed an extraordinary bond with the most unlikely of companions."

Stepan in the past decade alone, has starred in 32 movies — 20 more than Hollywood great Leonardo DiCaprio.

Owner Yuri said: "Our Stepan is 24 years old."

"He's been with us since he was a cub. We took him from the zoo when he was three months old and we have been raising him ever since."

"He's an animal with such weight, he can be really dangerous for a human."



COVER IMAGES

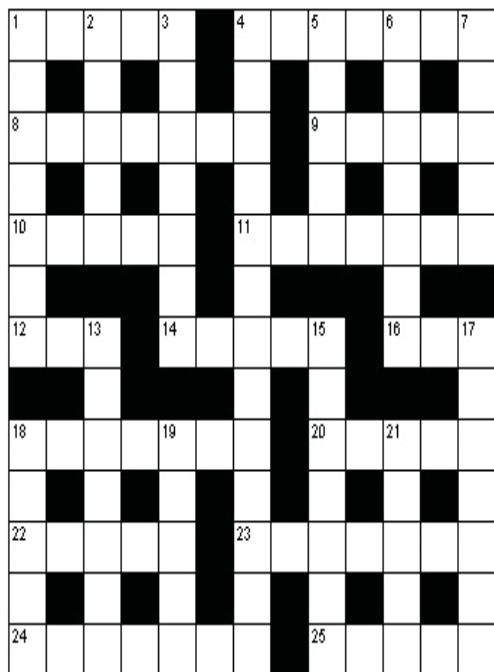
### PICTURE OF THE DAY



Three robots battle it out for the soccer ball in Sydney, Australia.

WILLIAM WEST/GETTY IMAGES

### True or False Crossword



### DOWN

- Used when sewing / Used when painting (7)
- Wet / Dry (5)
- Went in / Went out (7)
- Prominent / Not prominent (13)
- Experienced / Inexperienced (5)
- Dragged behind / Took the lead (7)
- Rises / Falls (5)
13. Multiplied by two / Multiplied by three (7)
- Drilling tool / Cutting tool (7)
- Sincere / Insincere (7)
- Artery / Vein (5)
- Head / Body (5)
- Concur / Argue (5)

### ACROSS

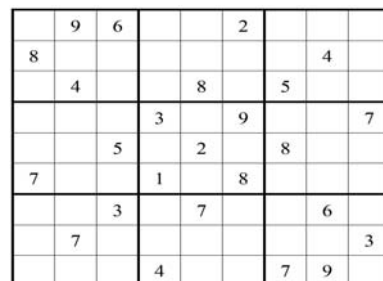
- Laconic / Garrulous (5)
- Lit / Extinguished (7)
- Sensible / Stupid (7)
- Young insect / Adult insect (5)
- Vendor / Purchaser (5)
- Sharp objects / Blunt objects (7)
- Start / Finish (3)
- Profundity / Superficiality (5)
- Male deer / Female deer (3)
18. Relating to water / Relating to air (7)
20. Type of seat / Type of table (5)
22. Measuring device / Unit of measure (5)
23. Notice / Overlook (7)
24. Easy / Strenuous (7)
25. Kind of cereal / Kind of meat (5)

### Yesterday's solution



### Sudoku

Sudoku was inspired by the table devised by Iranian mathematician Khwarazmi. Fill 9x9 grid with digits so that each column, each row and each of the nine 3x3 sub-grids that compose the grid, contains all of the digits from 1 to 9.







the-afc.com

Mohammad Zarei (R) scored twice as Giti Pasand edged Shriker Osaka of Japan 3-2 at the 2017 AFC Futsal Club Championship in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, on July 24, 2017.

# Last-gasp victory gives Giti Pasand group win

Sanaye' Giti Pasand sealed its position as Group C winner after battling to a 3-2 victory over Japan's Shriker Osaka in the final group match at the 2017 AFC Futsal Club Championship in Vietnam on Monday.

With both teams having clinched their spots in the quarterfinals, Giti Pasand and Shriker Osaka were battling for Group C supremacy. Adding to the mix, with no way of predicting the outcome of their Group D opponents which only play today, both sides knew a victory would increase their chances of avoiding competition heavyweight and current Group D leader Bluewave Chonburi, the-afc.com reported.

Giti Pasand boasts the more decorated trophy cabinet, but it was Shriker Osaka which took the lead with virtually the game's first chance through Sota Shibano inside 57 seconds.

It took Giti Pasand just three minutes to respond after Ali Asghar Hasanazadeh's driving effort was redirected by Mohammad Zarei who made no mistake from close range.

The 2012 champion was beginning to find its rhythm, reaping its reward six minutes later when Osodo gifted possession, rather uncharacteristically, to Zarei who was just meters away from the Shriker goal-frame, and the Iranian did not require a second invitation to give his side the lead.

The second half began with the same intensity as the first with Giti Pasand dominating possession, interchanging swiftly but patiently, attempting to break the stubborn Japanese formation.

Nine minutes into the second half, the Japanese side's resilience finally paid dividends after some individual brilliance by Shibano as he turned from his marker before unleashing a

powerful effort beyond a well beaten Sepehr Mohammadi.

In a last ditch attempt, the Japanese side then took the risky decision to deploy the power play with just two minutes remaining, but saw its hopes diminished when Asghar scored to secure Giti Pasand a flawless group stage campaign.

Giti Pasand's head coach Alireza Afzal praised his players' efforts, saying, "The Japanese team came here with nothing to lose. It was a high risk game with the pressure on us to deliver and I am happy with my players. We kept our composure throughout. We ran well, we cooperated and we defended as a team. We deserve our victory against a very good team."

Giti Pasand now awaits the runner-up from Group D in the quarterfinals. Second placed Shriker will battle the Group D winner, with both matches on Thursday.

## Iran's U-23 volleyballers whitewash Iraq in Asian senior men's meet



PARISA POURTAHERIAN/iranvolleyball.com

Iran's U-23 players celebrate their 3-0 victory over Iraq at the 2017 Asian Senior Men's Volleyball Championship in Surabaya, Indonesia, on July 24, 2017.

### Sports Desk

Iran started its campaign at the 2017 Asian Men's Volleyball Championship in style as the Asian giant outpowered Iraq in straight sets in Indonesia.

Iran's U-23 team which is representing the country in Asia's senior cham-

pionship faced its western neighbor in the opening match of the competition's Pool B and emerged victorious by a 25-17, 25-16, 25-21 score line.

Saeed Javaheri made the biggest contribution to Iran's triumph as he scored 17 points.

Juan Cichello's men will next face

Pakistan later today. Pakistan suffered a straight-set defeat against Chinese Taipei on Monday (17-25, 16-25, 13-25).

The 19th SMM Asian Senior Men's Volleyball Championship started on July 24 in Surabaya, Indonesia, with the final game set to be played on August 1.

### Jamaica jubilation

Jamaica's Kemar Lawrence scored the sole goal of the match in the 88th minute to shock defending champion Mexico on Sunday in the CONCACAF Gold Cup semifinal.

## Ronaldo urges Neymar to wait for United

Cristiano Ronaldo urged his rival Neymar not to quit Barcelona this summer, and only switch the Spanish giant for Manchester United.

The Real Madrid icon has a close relationship with Neymar due to their shared commitments with sponsorship giant Nike, and the Portuguese star is believed to have sent a message to his counterpart advising him on the situation, the Daily Mail reported.

become comfortably the most expensive footballer in the history of the game, PSG is also reported to be willing to pay the Brazilian star £500,000 per week. PSG is keen to get the deal over the line, and will use Neymar as a marketing tool in the future to promote its brand across the world.

But world footballer of the year Ronaldo has chosen to give his rival a little bit of useful counsel, as reported by

Ronaldo is said to have outlined only one possible destination for the Brazilian should he choose to turn his back on Barca; Manchester United.

The Red Devils are one of the few clubs in the world which match Barcelona in terms of stature, global fan base and sheer spending power.

Ronaldo spent a hugely successful six years in Manchester, from 2003 to 2009, developing into one of the finest players in world football.

The Neymar saga looks set to serve up plenty more twists and turns before the transfer window slams shut, but one man who is convinced the mercenary forward will stay is defender Gerard



JOSEP LAGO/GETTY IMAGES

Ronaldo (R) spent a hugely successful six years in Manchester United before moving to Real Madrid in 2009.

Neymar appears to be on the verge of quitting Barcelona for French side PSG, which is happy to meet the incredible €222 million (£197 million) buyout clause of the player.

In a deal which would see Neymar

Spanish media outlet Diariogol.

The title reports that Ronaldo has told Neymar it would be a mistake to leave the Catalan club, particularly to make a downward step to a smaller European side.

Pique.

The Catalan star took to social media on Sunday night to post an image of himself with Neymar, along with the caption "Se queda" – roughly translating to "he stays."

## Bonucci: 'Bond had faded'



acmilan.com

Leonardo Bonucci left Italian champion Juventus after seven years in the Turin club to join AC Milan on a five-year contract.

Leonardo Bonucci revealed that he felt "the bond had faded" at Juventus and said that was a key reason he elected to move to AC Milan this summer.

The center-back had established himself as a cult figure in Turin, playing two Champions League finals, but though Juve fell at the final hurdle again Madrid in May, he felt things had gone as far as they could for him at the club, goal.com reported.

"When you are part of a group for seven years, you leave something – I hope – beautiful inside each of your former teammates.

I had intense seven years with Juventus, in which I gave so much to

them and vice versa," he told Milan TV.

"In the last part of the last season, this bond had faded a bit on both sides and thus it was decided for us to go our separate ways. I was lucky enough to have this offer from Milan, which intensified quickly.

"From now on, I'll think only of Milan."

Additionally, there were many players at San Siro that the 30-year-old looked up to as a youngster. Alessandro Nesta, for example, was the player who inspired him to become a defender.

He pinpointed Nesta as a player who has particularly influenced him, citing the former Lazio and

Italy ace as one of his boyhood heroes.

"The players who played for Milan when I was a child are legends for what they've won and given to football. Then, when I got bigger, Nesta became my idol and I went on to become a defender," he told Milan TV.

"That being said, they've written important pages in the history of football and this club.

"I'm at the beginning of my Milan career and I hope to do my bit in helping this jersey back to its previous heights."

Having finished sixth in Serie A last season, Milan again missed out on Champions League football.



## Iran, Austria to conduct tourism training course

Iran and Austria are taking preparatory steps to hold a joint travel and tourism training course in an Austrian university.

Head of Isfahan University Houshang Talebi said, "We are currently in talks with officials from MODUL University in Vienna to hold a joint travel and tourism training course there."

He added that last year the two sides held a training workshop on travel and tourism in Isfahan for tourism and hotel managers in Isfahan, which paved the way for expanding cooperation between universities of Isfahan and MODUL, ifnews.com reported.



ifnews.com

Talebi said the decision to expand relations between the two universities was taken last year following talks with the head of Austrian Chamber of Commerce.

He also pointed out that MODUL University in Vienna is a reputable academic center affiliated with the Austrian Chamber of Commerce.

"The university is well-known for degrees it confers on in tourism, Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA), Master of Business Administration (MBA), and Commercial Management," he said, adding, Isfahan University is planning to hold a joint course in tourism at the MA level in the Austrian university.

He also said the students taking the course will receive two diplomas.

"We expect to make the arrangements by the next couple of months to register the first group of students for the next semester," he noted.

Austria has 22 public universities, 27 public colleges, 12 private universities and 21 universities of Applied Sciences.

## Armenia Film Week underway in Tehran

Armenia Film Week was inaugurated at Tehran Artists' House in a ceremony attended by a number of Iranian and Armenian filmmakers and artists.

This is the first time Iran and Armenia are coming together to hold educational workshops and screen films to introduce Armenian cinema, Head of Central Association of Cinematic Critics and Writers Keyvan Kassirian said at the ceremony, IRNA wrote.

Armenia Film Week will also be held in Shiraz and Mashhad in coordination with International Department of Iran's Art and Experimental Cinema as well as the Armenian embassy in Tehran.

Feature and short films as well as documentaries will be screened through the week, which will end July 29.

Armenian Ambassador in Tehran Artashes Tomanian said at the ceremony that given the cultural commonalities between the two countries, Iran and Armenia should prepare the ground for a better understanding between the two countries.

## Hamburg exhibition showcases Pechstein works

The Bucerius Kunst Forum in Hamburg is presenting 'Max Pechstein: A Modern Artist', the first solo exhibition in Hamburg to showcase the accomplishments of the German Expressionist, on display until September 3, 2017.

The exhibition celebrates the artist Max Pechstein (1881-1955) as a pioneer of Modernism, and illuminates his multifaceted work through the lens of key biographical and geographical highlights, artdaily.com reported.

Divided into five chronological sections, the exhibition reveals how Pechstein's style changed and developed with each of the places he lived in, including Paris, Berlin, and Dresden; Nida on the Curonian Spit; Monterosso in Italy; Palau in the western Pacific Ocean; and Leba and Rowy in eastern Pomerania.

Beyond exploring how each location influenced the motifs present in Pechstein's work, the exhibition investigates the artist's identification of pivotal trends and reforms in painting, and how he absorbed these into his own art.

Over 70 works of art give an insight into all of Pechstein's significant work cycles and creative periods between 1906 and 1932. Alongside numerous paintings, prints, drawings, watercolors and woodcuts are on display.

The exhibition is organized in collaboration with the Brücke Museum, Berlin and is curated by its director, Magdalena M. Moeller. Pechstein was one of the first German artists to take the stylistic means of expression used by French Fauvism and transform them into a unique Expressionist style.

# IRAN DAILY



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Iran Cultural & Press Institute

## Iran's filmmaker on jury duty in Venice

Art & Culture Desk

Iranian female director Rakhshan Bani-Etemad will serve on the panel of jury in the Horizons section of the Venice Film Festival, which is dedicated to more cutting-edge fare.

Italian auteur Gianni Amelio ('The Stolen Children') will head the panel which is to include Bani-Etemad, whose 'Tales' won the 2014 Venice best screenplay prize;

US director Ami Canaan Mann, whose 'Texas Killing Fields' competed on the Lido in 2011;

Irish-Scottish director Mark Cousins, best known for his 15-hour documentary, 'The Story of Film: An Odyssey';

Argentine screenwriter Andres Duprat, whose 'The Distinguished Citizen' just won multiple nods at the Platino Ibero-American Film Awards;

Belgian director Fien Troch, whose 'Home' took the 2016 Horizons best director prize; and French writer-director Rebecca Zlotowski, whose 'Planetarium', starring Natalie Portman was screened in Venice last year, Variety reported.

The festival announced the full roster of its main competition jury, which will include actress Rebecca Hall, 'Baby Driver' director Edgar Wright, and Hungarian director Ildiko Enyedi, whose 'On Body and Soul' won this year's Berlin Golden Bear.

They will decide the fest's main prizes alongside French actress Anna Mouglalis, Mexican film director and producer Michel Franco, Australian film critic David Stratton, Italian actress Jasmine Trinca, and Hong Kong-based film director and photographer Yonfan.

As announced earlier, four-time Oscar nominee Annette Bening will preside over the main jury — the first woman since 2006 to head the panel.

The festival also announced that US director John Landis will head the jury of the new Venice Virtual Reality section, which organizers tout as the first-ever competition for VR works launched by a major film fest.

Of the main competition jurors, Franco, whose latest feature as a director is 'April's Daughter', produced 2015 Venice Golden Lion winner 'From Afar' by Venezuelan director Lorenzo Vigas.

British actress Hall most recently starred in Brooklyn-set romantic comedy 'Permission', which bowed positively at Tribeca, while her countryman Wright is making a splash in the US with 'Baby Driver'.

Mouglalis ('Coco Chanel') plays the lead in upcoming horror thriller 'The Most Assassinated Woman in the World'. Stratton is a television personality and former Variety reviewer, and also the subject of the documentary 'David Stratton: A Cinematic Life', which screened recently at Cannes.

Trinca scooped this year's best actress award at Cannes for 'Fortunata'. Yonfan has written, directed and produced 13 movies, including melodrama 'Prince of Tears', which competed in Venice in 2009.

French director Benoit Jacquot will head the Lion of the Future jury, which will hand out Venice's award for best first feature.

Other members of the jury are British film lecturer and BFI film programmer Geoff Andrew; veteran Hong Kong-based producer Albert Lee; Italian actress Greta Scarano ('Suburra'); and Greek director Yorgos Zois ('Interruption').

The award recognizes the best debut feature across all competitive sections at the festival and comes with \$100,000, to be divided equally between the director and the producer.

Landis will be joined on the VR jury by French screenwriter and film director Celine Sciamma, who directed 'Tomboy' and penned 'My Life as a Zucchini', and Italian actor and director Ricky Tognazzi ('Ultrà').

Italian director Giuseppe Piccioni ('Not of This World') will preside over the jury of film students who award the Venezia Classics Awards for best restored classic and best documentary on cinema.

The 74th Venice Film Festival will run from August 30 to September 9.



ISNA

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## 'Colorful Dream of Silk Road' comes true in Beijing

Iran will take part in the 24th Beijing International Book Fair as a special guest. The Islamic Republic will attend the event this year under the motto: 'Iran: The Colorful Dream of Silk Road'.

According to ifnews.com, the 24th Beijing International Book Fair will be held from August 23 to 27, announced the Managing Director of Iran's Cultural Fairs Institute Amir-Masoud Shahramnia.



ifnews.com

He further said that a poster has been designed for Iran's pavilion "based on geometric designs in Islamic art".

He noted that Iran's pavilion covers an area of 500-square meters.

"Six authors and 12 publishers will take part independently while books by 10 publishers would be presented indirectly at the exhibition."

He continued that the Iranian literary agents will be very active at the Islamic Republic's pavilion.

"Iranian books translated into Chinese will be introduced. Likewise, some selected works by Iranian publishers in areas like Iran's history, child and adolescent, contemporary Iranian literature, and books winning domestic awards next to Iranian books printed abroad would also be put on show," he stated.

According to Shahramnia, a book called 'Chinese Iranologists', which focuses on cultural relations between Iran and China, besides a bibliography of Iranian and Chinese books will be introduced at Iran's corner.

He said projects, such as supporting Iranian books in global markets (Grant), and the week of Iranian films would also be presented to the visitors.

"Live music performance, dramatic storytelling, and experts' forum are among the other activities to be held at the Iranian pavilion in this fair," he concluded.



SHARAREH SAMEI/iranonline.ir

Directed by Peyman Yahaqi, the comedy 'Edward & Mom', is on stage at Tehran's City Theater until August 6, 2017.

## Weather



28 23

Bandar Anzali



49 33

Dezful



38 24

Yazd



37 23

Mashhad



35 22

Tabriz



37 ^ 25 v 25

Tehran



35 20

Kabul



27 17

Minsk



21 10

Stockholm



39 24

Tashkent



31 23

Tripoli