

## **IRAN Report (6)**

### **Iranian Bavar-373 or S300; domestically-built missile defense system**

Bavar-373 is an Iranian long-range road-mobile surface-to-air missile system. It can detect targets or planes at more than 300 km, lock it at about 250 km, and destroy it at 200 km.

In the summer 2020, this system succeeded in deterring three American military aircraft from the air borders of Iran. In the maneuver of October in 2020, this system was able to successfully identify the hypothetical enemy targets that were far from its range.

<https://t.me/farsna>

### **Another part of Tehran-Shomal freeway project to be completed by the current government**

During a visit to Tehran-Shomal freeway project, head of Mostazafan Foundation said that that the construction of the 6400-meter-long East Alborz Tunnel, as the largest tunnel in the Middle East, will be completed by the end of the Iranian calendar year.

“Work on section 2 of the Tehran-Shomal freeway is being carried 24/7, without even a day off, and 800 heavy equipment, 2,000 workers and engineers are working in this area”, said Seyyed Parviz Fattah.

Fattah added, “We can proudly say today that this is a completely Iranian project and all the designs and implementation of this route with the cutting-edge technology used has been done by Iranian engineers.”

During a visit to the Eastern Alborz Tunnel in Zone 2 of the Tehran-Shomal Freeway, the head of the Program and Budget Organization announced the completion of the route in Zone 2 will be made by the current government.

<https://b2n.ir/097495>

### **Iran's petrochemical industry self-sufficient in producing gasoline**

The petrochemical industry in the Islamic Republic of Iran has made significant progress in recent years. The number of Iranian petrochemicals has increased from 56 last year to 64 this year and is expected to reach 70 next Iranian calendar year.

30% of petrochemical products are supplied inside Iran and the rest are exported. Petrochemical foreign exchange earnings are expected to rise from \$15b to \$25b by the end of next Iranian calendar year.

In gasoline production, Iran was an importer of gasoline until two years ago and imported four and a half million litres of gasoline per day, but with implementing changes to refineries during the beginning of US sanctions in the early 2011 and completion of various phases of the Persian Gulf Star Refinery, in addition to meeting domestic demand, Iran has become an exporter of this strategic product in the region and the world, earning \$1.4b in gasoline exports.

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### **Hamrahe Aval to Start Launch of 5G This Year: Official**

Hamrahe Aval (Mobile Company of Iran, MCI) has started commissioning 5G since the beginning of the current year (started March 21, 2020) and will be put into operation by yearend (to end March 20, 2021). The Director-General of Hamrahe Aval (Mobile Company of Iran, MCI) revealed the program of this operator for offering 5G technology of mobile phone.

5G program of MCI has started with utmost power and pilot project has been made according to the scheduled program and will soon be put into operation.

<https://www.isna.ir/news/99101309770>

### **Iranian vaccine for COVID-19 to be available by spring: Iran's Health Minister**

Iran's health minister said a homegrown vaccine for the coronavirus will be definitely ready for use by the end of spring.

Saeed Namaki says that Iran is following the supply of vaccine in three ways, one of which is domestic production. "We believe that we should put all our energy on domestic production,

which started with five platforms in the world, and we have no doubt until next spring, we will be a world's leading vaccine producer," Namaki added.

<https://b2n.ir/340530>

**We are like soldiers and our fingers are on the triggers. The commander should command – Salehi**

"We are soldiers of the establishment and our fingers are on the triggers," head of the Atomic Energy Organisation of Iran, Aliakbar Salehi said. "The commander must give the order. We have this readiness and God willing; we will produce [20% enriched uranium] as soon as possible."

The International Atomic Energy Agency said Friday Iran had informed its inspectors of the decision by a letter.

Last month, the Iranian parliament required the government to scale back more obligations under the JCPOA after a prominent nuclear scientist was assassinated in a sophisticated attack near Tehran.

The law requires the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran to produce at least 120 kilograms of 20-percent enriched uranium annually and store it inside the country within two months after the adoption of the law.

The law further urges the AEOI to start the installation, gas injection, enrichment and storage of nuclear materials up to an appropriate enrichment degree within a period of three months using at least 1,000 IR-2m centrifuges.

<http://www.isna.ir/news/99101309078>

**Third industrial town established - Managing Director of Anzali Free Zone Organization**

Mohammad Vali Roozbehan in a statement that the establishment of an industrial town with an area of fifty hectares is unique in the history of the region, welcoming investors from Iranian ports in order to participate in various sectors.

<http://fna.ir/f1utt9>

### **Let's join together to make 2021 a peaceful, healthy & Happy New Year - Zarif**

“As we end a year of anguish, let us hope for new beginnings in the coming year, ending the insane era of contempt for law and multilateralism—a four-year one that caused so much bloodshed, terror & cruelty. Let's join together to make 2021 a peaceful, healthy & Happy New Year,” said Iran’s Foreign Minister, Dr Mohammad Javad Zarif, in a tweet.

<https://twitter.com/jzarif/status/1344568727694544897?s=28>

### **Failure of Trump’s new anti-Iran UNSC move**

The US took yet another unrealistic move by asking the Security Council to allocate a budget for the implementation of the snapback mechanism, although the provision has not been triggered as Washington would have desired.

The unjustified nature of Washington’s latter move was verified by the opposition it was met with on the part of 110 UN members.

In the past few months, the United States had tried twice to overthrow JCPOA in the UNSC, facing strong opposition from the members on both occasions. The US recent proposal was the third attempt which failed as well.

<https://www.isna.ir/news/99101108229>

### **Iran resumes 20% enrichment at Fordow nuclear facility**

Iran's government spokesman says the country has started the process to enrich uranium to 20 percent purity at its Fordow nuclear facility.

Speaking to IRNA on Monday, Ali Rabiei said Iranian President Hassan Rouhani has ordered the implementation of a new law, dubbed the Strategic Action Plan to Counter Sanctions, which has been already approved by the Parliament (Majlis).

Later on Monday, the IAEA issued a statement, confirming that Iran had started the process of enriching uranium to 20 percent.

"Iran today began feeding uranium already enriched up to 4.1 percent U-235 into six centrifuge cascades at the Fordow Fuel Enrichment Plant for further enrichment up to 20 percent," the statement said.

"Obtaining 20-percent enrichment (uranium) is underway in two cascades" in Fordow, Kamalvandi, the spokesman for the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran said, adding that the process of production "took more than 24 hours, but with new technologies this time has now been reduced to 12 hours."

<http://www.isna.ir/news/99101511551>

### **Our measures are fully reversible upon FULL compliance by ALL - Zarif**

"We resumed 20% enrichment, as legislated by our Parliament", said Iran foreign minister, Mohammad Javad Zarif in a Tweet. "IAEA has been duly notified. Our remedial action conforms fully with Para 36 of JCPOA, after years of non-compliance by several other JCPOA participants. Our measures are fully reversible upon FULL compliance by ALL."

<http://www.isna.ir/news/99101511515>

### **Iran's IRGC impounds South Korean-flagged tanker in Persian Gulf over environmental violations**

The naval force of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) has impounded a South Korean-flagged tanker in the Persian Gulf waters for repetitive violation of maritime environmental law. The IRGC Navy said in a statement on Monday that the tanker HANKUK CHEMI had departed from the Petroleum Chemical Quay in Saudi Arabia's Jubail port before being impounded earlier in the day for polluting the Persian Gulf waters with chemicals.

The statement added that the ship, which carried 7,200 tonnes of ethanol, is now being held at Iran's southern Bandar Abbas port city.

"Like all other countries, the Islamic Republic of Iran is very sensitive about contamination of the maritime environment and deals with it on the basis of the existing laws," Saeed Khatibzadeh said later on Monday.

<http://farsnews.ir/hormozgan/news/13991015000689>

### **Significant increase in Iranian copper exports**

Iran's copper exports in 2020 have increased more than two and a half times compared to the previous year. Iran's copper export revenue in 2019 was \$1b and 2 years ago it was half a billion dollars.

In the first half of 2020, China and Turkey alone were customers of more than 90% of Iranian copper.

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### **Iran's Army stages large-scale drone drill, showcases achievements**

Iran's Army has launched a large-scale drill involving hundreds of combat drones belonging to the Ground, Navy and Air Defense Forces.

The two-day exercise, which began on Tuesday, is taking place in the northern province of Semnan.

Army Deputy Commander for Operations Rear Admiral Mahmoud Mousavi said the Islamic Republic is today one of the world's most powerful countries in the field of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs).

The commander also said that the operational part of the drill will feature the widespread use of kamikaze drones as well as the aerial interception and destruction of targets by air-to-air missiles, along with the destruction of ground targets with bombs and precision-guided missiles.

<https://tn.ai/2426353>

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