

IRAN Report (4)

Latest achievements of Iran in COVID-19 Vaccine

In a statement, the chairman of Iran parliament's health committee said the Covid-19 vaccine produced by Barekat Foundation has received a license for late December human trial. Also, the vaccine made by Razi Vaccine and Serum Research Institute will receive the required approvals to conduct the first phase of its human trial within the next few days.

The first phase of the trial on 56 people is scheduled to begin soon at the Eram Hotel. Volunteers should stay in the hotel for a week to a month to see the results or any possible side effects.

In this regard, the Vice Chancellor for Research and Technology of Alborz University of Medical Sciences has announced the results achieved so far have been promising and Iran can be one of the producers of Covid-19 Vaccine. Iranian researchers have also been able to develop a type of Covid test kit, which detects the virus through the serum and is more reliable.

Regarding the latest situation of Covid-19 in Iran, Advisor to the Minister of Health, Alireza Vahabzadeh in a Tweet said, "After a long time, we have no red spots of Covid-19 in the country and the number of confirmed cases is low in all cities."

<https://b2n.ir/134365>

<https://b2n.ir/573695>

Iran produces brain, breast cancer vaccines for 1st time in West Asia

"Researchers of the Biotechnology Research Center of Urmia University have for the first time in West Asia succeeded in developing a vaccine for brain cancer and breast cancer," Head of the Research Center Norouz Dalirej told Fars News Agency.

He further explained that during the injection of the vaccine to the brain cancer patient, he witnessed improvement, was fully treated, his immune system was strengthened and he is now alive and well.

<http://fna.ir/f1svxe>

Iran among top six countries producing infertility treatment equipment

The researchers of Pardis Technology Park succeeded in producing the "first complete product package" of IVF unveiled by the Vice President of the Islamic Republic of Iran for Science and Technology, including Iran in the list of countries producing equipment and consumables needed by infertility treatment centers.

This success, which was the result of 7 years of effort by the specialized teams of this knowledge-based Centre, also unveiled 30 finalized key consumer products required in infertility centers.

<https://b2n.ir/910204>

Iran, Pakistan open new border gateway

Iran and Pakistan on Saturday opened a new border crossing point, in a move to bolster business and trade between the two neighbouring countries.

On Friday, Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh said the new border crossing point will "increase economic and trade exchanges" between the two countries. Located in Iran's southeastern Sistan-Balochistan province, about 130 km from the strategic Chabahar port, Rimdan crossing point is suitably located for import and export of goods between the two sides. Earlier, following the inauguration of Herat-Khaf railway, the first shipment from the Islamic Republic of Iran containing 500 tonnes of cement was exported to Herat.

<https://b2n.ir/681474>

IRGC unveils second long range crude tanker

Iran's elite military force the IRGC has unveiled a second long range crude tanker built by its engineering and construction headquarters.

"The ceremony to unveil the oceangoing oil tanker developed by the Iranian experts was a goodbye party for the gambler Trump," General Saeed Mohammad, the commander of IRGC's Khatam Construction Headquarters told reporters.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/media/13991002000973>

Iran ready to rebuild water and electricity sectors In Azerbaijan

Iran is ready to rebuild the water and electricity sector in Azerbaijan, says the Islamic Republic of Iran's Minister of Energy, Reza Ardakanian.

Ardakanian mentioned his discussions with Azerbaijan's Minister of Energy and said during these negotiations "extending the energy trade agreement was agreed upon and expanding the electronic communications will be is in the works."

<https://www.isna.ir/news/99100201559>

The latest situation of Iran's oil industry

Minister of Oil of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Bijan Namdar Zanganeh, in a report to the First Vice President, described the latest situation of the country's oil industry as follows:

- The capacity of the country's refining products has increased from 1.8 million barrels per day in 2012 to about 2.2 million barrels per day.
- Gasoline and gas oil production has increased from 49.8 and 94 million liters per day in 2012 to 107 and 113 million liters per day in 2019, respectively.
- Gasoline production capacity with Euro 4 and 5 quality has increased from zero in 2012 to more than 76 million liters per day in 2019.
- Production of the South Pars gas field has increased 2.5 times.
- Exports of petroleum products have increased 4 times from 5.9 million tons in 2012 to about 23 million tons in 2019.

<https://b2n.ir/083106>

Talks to reopen Tabriz - Nakhchivan railway

Iran and Azerbaijan on Tuesday held talks on the details of a preferential trade agreement (PTA) between the two countries.

Earlier in the day, Iranian Minister of Roads and Urban Development Mohammad Eslami said Iran is planning to reopen the railway to Azerbaijan's Nakhchivan Autonomous region.

The railway network of Iran's northwestern city of Tabriz is a very convenient route to connect the European and North Caucasus railways, Eslami said, adding according to a tripartite agreement between Iran, Russia and Azerbaijan, the Nakhchivan railway line could be reopened for trade exchanges.

<https://b2n.ir/757333>

Iran home appliance industry defeats sanctions

The home appliance industry of Iran is facing a successful experience of easing sanctions these days. Under the most severe sanctions, production has increased by 45%, domestication increased by 90% and foreign exchange expenditures decreased by \$3 billion. 60% of the foreign market in Iran is now back to domestic producers.

<https://tn.ai/2410944>

Goreh-Jask oil pipeline project completely domestic

Head of Mostazafan Foundation said that in the past even the materials to use for construction projects were imported from overseas but the Goreh-Jask oil pipeline project is completely domestic without the involvement of any foreign personnel.

<http://tn.ai/2412210>

EU foreign ministers pave way for revival of Iran nuclear deal

EU foreign ministers have agreed not to set fresh preconditions on a revival of the Iran nuclear deal, believing Tehran and Washington should be able to come back into full compliance with the agreement without at this stage needing to accept to extend or strengthen it.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/dec/21/eu-foreign-ministers-pave-way-for-revival-of-iran-nuclear-deal>

Iran ranks 9th in the world in UNESCO

Following the registration of 24 cultural, historical and natural sites in the World List of The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), The Islamic Republic of Iran is ranked ninth in the world.

<https://b2n.ir/923797>

Switzerland returns smuggled antiquities to Iran

“A collection of glazed bricks, which are attributed to Qalaichi [archaeological site] in Bukan, dating back to the 7th or 8th centuries BC, have been returned home from Switzerland,” Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts Minister Ali-Asghar Mounesan said on Sunday.

“49 pieces of glazed bricks, which were smuggled out of Iran on the advent of the Islamic Revolution, were recuperated with a great deal of efforts made by the cultural heritage ministry, and the ministry of foreign affairs,” Mounesan explained.

https://www.isna.ir/amp/99093023101/?_twitter_impression=true

Iran unveils new home-made car

Iran’s minister of industries Alireza Razm Hosseini was at a production plant of the Iran Khodro Company (IKCO) on Saturday to unveil Tara, a sedan that some 92 per cent of its parts will be manufactured by Iranian suppliers.

Tara, which means star in Persian, will kick mass production in February, according to the IKCO. Its basic versions will come with a TU engine while other models will be equipped with an EF7 engine and an automatic transmission, said the company.

The unveiling of Tara comes amid a boom in Iran’s domestic car manufacturing as a government report published on Thursday showed that car production in the country had surged by 27.3 per cent year on year in November.

<http://fna.ir/f1d8z3>

Yalda Night

Iranians celebrate Yalda Night, an ancient cultural festival marking the arrival of winter and the longest night of the year (December 21).

Yalda Night is one of the oldest Persian traditions and its history dates back to thousands of years ago. Ancient Persians believed that on this night, the sun was saved from the claws of darkness thus materializing the triumph of good over evil.

Iranians celebrate Yalda by gathering at the home of the elders until after midnight and eating dried fruits, nuts, and winter fruits like pomegranates, which symbolizes the red color of dawn in the sky.

They also practice bibliomancy with poems of Persian poet Hafez, who is believed to have had the ability to see the future and his collection of poems have been used by Iranians as a source of mystic foresight.

25 December 2020