

۱۴اطلاعات

روز پنجشنبه مسابقات يك چهارم نهایی باشگاههای غرب آسیا در شهرالعین امارات آغاز شد. تیم استقلال نماینده باشگاههای ایران در اولین مسابقه خود برابر تیم الهلال عربستان سعودی به میدان رفت.

دوندگی حیدان شده مردان استقلال برابر این تیم را همه ستودند و شایستگی های آبی پوشان بر همگان ثابت شد.

قبل از شروع مسابقه، ذهنیت جامعه فوتبال نسبت به استقلال منفی بود، به ویژه نرفتن هاشم حیدری به مسابقات. آسیب دیدگی علی موسوی و عدم جلوگیری کفدراسیون آسیا از بهره گیری یاران کمکی این ذهنیت منفی را تشدید می کرد. اما استقلال ساکت بود و تمرین می کرد.

تیم استقلال در آغاز بازی، با حمله آغاز کرد و از همان دقایق اول الهلال را تحت فشار قرار داد و نتیجه این حمله گل فرهاد مجیدی در دقیقه ۱۳ و گل سیروس دین محمدی در دقیقه ۲۹ بود.

استقلال در خط میانی -تیرومند، فکور و بابرنامه بود و عناصر دوندۀ این تیم مثل فکری و دین محمدی در طول ۹۰ دقیقه يك لحظه از جنگ و گریز دست برنداشتند. گل فرهاد مجیدی را بسیاری يك گل فنی و زیبا قلمداد کردند، اما گل دین محمدی را اشریات امارات به صاعقه‌یی برالهال تعبیر نمودند. این گل از فاصله‌یی نزدیک به خط میانی زمین شوت شد که مستقیماً به دروازه الهلال رفت در پایان وقت اول داور زمین به علت آن که حسن زاده پس از سوت زدن او به توب ضربه‌زد وی را از زمین اخراج کرد. در نیمه دوم تیم ایران ده نفره به بازی ادامه داد، الهلال از نبود دفاع آخر تیم استقلال بهره گرفت و در دقایق اولیه هفتمام دوم يك گل توسط بنشار عبدالله به استقلال زد، اما بعد از آن تیم استقلال دیگر اجازه خوندمایی را به بازیکنان الهلال نداد و سرانجام این بازی را ۲ بر يك برد.

در تیم استقلال پرویز برومند در دروازه ایستاده بود دیگر بازیکنان عبارت بودند از محمد تقوی، جواد زرینچه، سهراب بختیار ی زاده، جواد حسن زاده، محمد نوازی، سیروس دین محمدی، فرهاد مجیدی (از دقیقه

۴۶ کاظم محمودی) محمود فکری،

محمد مؤمنی (علیرضا اکبرپور)، فرد ملکیان (محمد خرماگی)

مریی: ناصر حجازی

✽ حساب حجازی دقیق بود

استقلال در بازی با العین نسبت به قبل دو تغییر داشت، محمودی از لحظه اول به جای حسن زاده محروم بازی می کرد و اصغر خانی در کمال تعجب جانشین مجیدی شده بود، با توجه به شش گلی که العین در مسابقه قبلی به تیم کویکتنداق زده بود، حجازی بازی را با احتیاط شروع کرد.

بازی با حملات پیاپی تیم اماراتی شروع شد، حملات این تیم حول دو مرد محوری با تجربه تیم، عابدی یله غنایی و رشید داودی مراکنشی حرکت می کردو سعی داشت که با تیسواری



علی رضا اکبرپور گل اول استقلال راواردروازه کرد

داودی و حرکات فریبنده یله به گل برسد.

دوندگی خط فایک استقلال که از کمه‌هو در مهاجم خود بر خوردار بود، مانع از شکل گیری حملات آنها می شد. چرا که دفاع استقلال

خونسرد و سختگیر حریف را می کوبید.

اولین خطر بازی در دقیقه ۱۲ روی دروازه استقلال ایجاد شد، ساتنر از جناح چپ و ضربه سر عابدی یله در شرایطی که مدافعان استقلال در هم ریخته بودند، برای العین سودی نداشت.

هافبکهای استقلال که مثل بازی قبلی خوب می دویدند، به همراه مردان مثلث دفاعی سدی به وجود آورده بودند که گذشتن آن برای اماراتی‌ها هیچ گاه میسر نشد، در دقیقه ۱۶ در اوج حملات حریف شوت فکری به دروازه العین اولین زنگ خطر را زیر گوش العین به صدا در آورد و نشان داد که استقلال به بردن نیز می‌اندیشد.

دو شوت خوب داودی و عابدی یله در دقایق ۲۳ و ۲۵، نشان از عطش



حریف به برد داشت، اما در دقیقه ۳۰ بازی در العین خستگی به چشم می خورد، در حالی که بازیکنان استقلال هم چنان سر حال نشناس می دادند. حجازی وقتنی از آفساید اعلام کرد… اما هرچه بود در روحیه حریف اثری منفی داشت.

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✽ مریی جدید نال مادرید

«جسان توشاک» اهل ولز به مربیگری تیم فوتبال رئال مادرید اسپانیا انتخاب شد.

توشاک به زودی رهبری این تیم را بر عهده می گیرد وی روز شنبه آینده این تیم را مقابل رئال بتیس هدایت خواهد کرد.

توشاک در سالهای ۸۹ و ۹۰ نیز رهبری این تیم را بر عهده داشت.

✽ تیسوکاسل، در بی کانتی و تاتنهام صعود کردند

تیمهای نیو کاسل، در بی کانتی و تاتنهام به مرحله ششم مسابقه‌های فوتبال حذفی باشگاههای انگلیس راه یافتند. تیم نیو کاسل با يك گل میزبان هامپتون را مغلوب کرد، در بی کانتی در زمین خود ۳ بر يك هادرسفیلد را شکست داد و تاتنهام با دو گل بر لیزلر یونایتد چیره شد.

ورزشی – حوادث

«استقلال» با شکست دو تیم عربی به نیمه نهایی راه یافت



لحظهبدل اول استقلال توسطمجیدی (پیراهن سفید) وارددروازه الهلال عربستان می‌شود

جای اصغر خانی به میدان فرستاد و این یعنی میل به حمله… به هر حال نیمه اول بدون گل بازی به اتمام رسید. اماراتیها نیمه دوم را نیز با حمله

آغاز کردند و در دقایق ۴۹ و ۵۱ عابدی یله و خمیس جمعه خطرهایی روی دروازه استقلال ایجاد کردند اما استقلال نشان داد که در این بازی، «گل بخور» نیست!

مردان حجازی کم کم به سبب برتری فیزیکی بر بازی مسلط شدند، در دقیقه ۵۵ دین محمدی از فاصله ۴۰متری توپی را به دروازه العین شلیک کرد که توب به هیچ کس اصابت نکرد، اما به دلیل آن که دو نفر از بازیکنان استقلال جلو دویندداور اعلام آفساید کرد و اگر این دو بازیکن بی جهت حرکت نکرده بودند و متوجه تله آفسایدگیری العین می‌شدند، صاعقه‌یی به برالهال وارد شده بود بر العین نیز وارد می‌شد.

بعد از این گل بزینفته نشده یاران استقلال خود را به حریف تحمیل کردند، در دقیقه ۶۴ علیرضا اکبرپور به جای محمد مؤمنی به بازی آمد در لحظاتی که بازی روی دروازه العین متمرکز شده بود و بازیکنان العین مرتب توب را به بوت و کسرت می‌فرستادند نوازی برای سومین بار از جناح چپ ضربه کرتر را روی دروازه فرستاد که اکبرپور با ضربه سر توب را به تور دروازه نشاند و حجازی مزد برنامهریزی صحیح و تعوضهای درست خود را گرفت و این در دقیقه ۷۰ بازی اتفاق افتاد.

شوت سلطان مجید در دقیقه ۷۶ از گوشه محوطه جریمه را برومند به زیبایی به صورت دراز کش مهار کرد،

✽ سرمربی جدید تیم فوتبال صنعت نفت آبادان تعیین شد

مدیریت باشگاه صنعت نفت آبادان، روز چهارشنبه پاتریک خاجاطوریان را به عنوان سرمربی جدید تیم فوتبال این باشگاه برگزید. خاجاطوریان پیش از این مربی تیم فوتبال ادرات تهران بود. وی اهل کشور ارمنستان و مدتهاست مقیم ایران است. علیرضا فیروزی سرمربی پیشین این تیم اختیرا افتاد.

فدراسیون والیبالیان اتریش از تیم ملی والیبالی ایران برای شرکت در يك دوره رقابت‌های بین المللی والیبالی که نیمه دوم خرداد ماه سال آینده در این کشور برگزار می‌شود، دعوت به عمل آورده است.

فدراسیون والیبالیان اتریش که میزبان رقابت‌های والیبالی قهرمانی خواهد کرد.

رویا در سال ۱۹۹۹ است، خود را برای حضور هرچه قوی‌تر در این مسابقه‌ها آماده می‌کند.

فدراسیون والیبالی ایران پس از بررسی‌های معمول درباره اعزام تیم ملی والیبالی ایران به این مسابقه‌ها تصمیم‌هایی خود را متعاقبا اعلام خواهد کرد.

ساعات بامداد روز جمعه طعمه حریق شد.

به گزارش بخش عربی رادیو یونان، گارد ساحلی یونان اعلام کرد: این کشتی مسافری بری در منطقه دریای «کایستو» در حال حرکت بود که آتش گرفت.

گاردساحلی تاکید کرد گروه‌های امداد بلافاصله در محل حادثه حاضر شدند و توانستند تمام دویست و نود مسافر و هفتاد پنج تنم که این کشتی را نجات دهند.

هوایممای حامل سناتورها مجبور به فرود اضطراری در عربستان سعودی شد

تهران-واحد مر کزی خبری: يك هوایممای لهستان حامل هیاتی از سناتورهای این کشور روز پنجشنبه گذشته در عربستان سعودی مجبور به فرود اضطراری شد.

به گزارش خبرگزاری فرانسه از ورشو، سخنگوی وزارت امور خارجه لهستان با اعلام این خبر تصریح کرد که کلیه سرنشینان این هواپیما سالم هستند.

وی گفت: هوایممای دیگری برای بازگرداندن سرنشینان این هواپیما به عربستان اعزام شده است.

تعدادی از سناتورهای لهستان برای دیدار رسمی از قطر به این کشور رفته بودند که هوایممای آنها هنگام بازگشت دچار نقص فنی و مجبور به فرود اضطراری در عربستان، در نزدیکی مرز اردن شد.

گوریل باغ وحش ژوهانسبورگ، زندانی فراری را حسابی مشت و مال داد!

يك زندانی فراری که قصد داشت خود را از پلیس پنهان کند وارد باغ وحش ژوهانسبورگ (پایتخت آفریقای جنوبی) شد.دو تاریکی شب از حصارهای یکی از قفس‌ها که از همه کو تاختر بود، پرید و وارد قفس شد. «بیزاک موفوکنگ» هرگز تصور نمی کرد این قفس متعلق به يك گوریل باشد. گوریل مشهور باغ وحش که «ماکس» نام دارد، بی درنگ به «بیزاک» حمله کرد و او را زیر مشت و لگد خود گرفت. صدای دادو فریاد «بیزاک» موجب شد نگهبانان به موقع او را از جنگل گوریل نجات دهند.

«بیزاک موفوکنگ» به آنها زد و سلسلانه از خانه‌ها و مردم در بازداشت پلیس به سر می‌برد و این بار پس از دستگیری مجدد، آزاد دان «ماکس» نیز به اتهاماتش اضافه شد!

4ETTELA’AT

کویکتدق با الهلال آغاز کرد. در این دیدار که در ورزشگاه القظاره شهر بیدار برگزار شد الهلال حریف خود را ۴ بر ۲ مغلوب کرد.

در این دیدار لیسانا در دقیقه ۱۷، نواف التمیاط در دقیقه ۲۲، عبدالله شریدهدر دقیقه ۴۱ و سامی العجار در دقیقه ۶۱ از روی نقطه‌بالی گل زدند. گل‌های کویکتدق در دقیقه ۱۴

توسط عزت کوجزف و در دقیقه ۳۱ توسط ولادیمیر برایموف به ثمر رسید.

✽ الهلال هم کویکتدق را برد

اولین دیدار دومین روز بازی‌ها را

تیم	تعدادبازی	برد	باخت	زده	خورده	امتیاز
۱.استقلال	۲	۲	-	۳	۱	۶
۲.العین	۲	۱	۱	۶	۲	۳
۳.الهلال	۲	۱	۱	۳	۳	-
۴.کویکتدق	۲	۲	۲	۵	۱۰	-

خوانندگنیا

جمعه سیاه هوایممای چینی پیدا شد

تهران -واحد مر کزی خبر: پلیس جمعه سیاه هوایممای مسافری بری «تویوف ۸۵۴» را که چندروز پیش در نزدیکی «اوشود» در شرق چین سقوط کرد و تمامی ۶۱ سرنشین آن کشته شدند، پیدا کرده است.

به گزارش خبرگزاری فرانسه از بکن، دلایل سقوط این هواپیما هنوز مشخص نشده است. عده‌ای که این باورزند که این هوایمپاس از بر خورد با زمین منفرج شده است، در حالی که شاهدان و مقامات محلی اعلام کرده‌اند که هواپیما در هو امنفرج شده است.

انتظار می‌رود که با پیداشدن جمعه سیاه این هواپما علت سقوط آن نیز مشخص شود.

رقم بیکاری در فرانسه پایین آمد

تهران -واحد مر کزی خبر: مسئولان فرانسوی روز جمعه با انتشار آمار وارقامی خبر از کاهش بیکاری در این کشور دادند.

به گزارش شبکه پنجم تلویزیون فرانسه، میزان بیکاری در فرانسه در ماه ژانویه سال ۱۹۹۹ نیز یک دهم درصد کاهش یافت.

این درصد حدود چهار هزار نفر بیکار را شامل می‌شود.

معدنچیان در اسپانیا دست به اعتصاب زدند

مادرید- ایرنا: بگنجهار و یافصد تن از کارگران معادن آهن در ایالت کاستیلائون اسپانیا برای تأمین حقوق صنفی خودروز جمعه دست به اعتصاب زدند.

معدنچیان در این اعتصاب خواهان بازگشت یازده تن از کارگران اخراج‌شده، معادن، افزایش حقوق و بهبود شرایط کاری و امنیت شغلی شدند.

خبرگزاری اسپانیا اعلام کرد: معدنچیان در نظر دارند در صورت عدم تأمین درخواست‌های شغلی، يك اعتصاب نامحدود در معادن آهن این ایالت برپا نمایند.

مدت سرپازی در قزاقستان به علت کسری بودجه کاهش یافت

آلماتی- ایرنا: وزیر دفاع قزاقستان گفت: مدت خدمت نظامی سرپازان در قزاقستان به يك سال کاهش می‌یابد.

«مختار یئنیبایف» افزود: میزان مدت خدمت سرپازان از دو سال به يك سال کاهش می‌یابد اما به کیفیت کار افزوده خواهد شد.

وی با اشاره به کمبود بودجه نسبت به سال ۱۹۹۸ گفت: نگهداری نفقات، ضرر غیروظیفی است و از تنش باید به سوی حرفه‌ای شدن حرکت کند که این امر در سال ۲۰۰۰ عملی خواهد شد.

ژاپنی‌ها روایتی به شکل ماهی ساختند

تهران -واحد مر کزی خبر: یکی از دانشمندان ژاپنی شاغل در شرکت صنایع «میتسوبیشی» روز جمعه روایتی را که به شکل ماهی طراحی کرده است، به نمایش گذاشت.

به گزارش شبکه تلویزیونی «بی.بی.سی» این ماهی قرمز آکواریومی دو کیلو و نیم وزن دارد و با سرعت نیم گرم در یابی حرکت می‌کند.

انهدام موشک‌های هسته‌ای اوکراین

تهران -واحد مر کزی خبر: سفارت آمریکا در کی‌یف اعلام کرد: اوکراین با همکاری ایمرکاروز جمعه آخرین موشک استراتژیک هسته‌ای (اس-اس-۱۹) را که از شوروی سابق به میراث برده بود، منهدم کرد.

اوکراین در مجموع ۱۱۱ فرودند موشک (اس-اس-۱۹) در اختیار داشت.

به گزارش خبرگزاری فرانسه، اوکراین براساس موافقتنامه سه جانبه‌ای که در ۱۴ ژانویه ۱۹۹۴ میان این کشور، روسیه و آمریکا منعقد شده، متعهد شده است کهزادخانه هسته‌ای خود را منهدم کند.

در آن زمان اوکراین هنوز با اختیار داشتن ۱۴۰۰ کلاهک هسته‌ای و ۱۷۶ موشک استراتژیک از جمله ۱۳۰ موشک (اس-اس-۱۹) و ۴۶ فرود موشک (اس-اس-۲۴) سومین زرادخانه بزرگ هسته‌ای جهان را در اختیار داشت.

اوکراین هیچکدام از موشک‌های (اس-اس-۲۴) را منهدم نکرده‌و ممکن است برای برتاب ماهواره از آنها استفاده کند.

راهپیمایی علیه قوانین جدید پناهندگی در انگلیس

تهران -واحد مر کزی خبر: پیش از ۲۰۰۰ نفر، روز شنبه در اعتراض به قوانین جدید پناهندگی- که آنها معتقدند باعث تشدید زائیرستی علیه پناهندگان می‌شود. در خیابان‌های لندن به راهپیمایی پرداختند.

به گزارش خبرگزاری فرانسه از لندن، گروه انبوهی از فعالان ضدژنژاد پرستی و منتقاضبان پناهندگی و گروه‌های طرفدار حقوق بشر، ضمن راهپیمایی در خیابان‌های لندن در میدان «افت‌الکالگر» اجتماع کردند.

«سایوز» از «میر» جدا شد

تهران-واحد مر کزی خبر: دو فضانورد روسی و اسلواک در اولین ساعات بامداد روز یکشنبه سفینه «سایوز»، «تی-ام-۲۸» خود را به طور موفقیت آمیزی از ایستگاه فضایی «میر جدا کردند و عازم زمین شدند.

«گنادی پادالکا» از روسیه و «یوان بلا» فضانورد اسلواک، سرنشینان سفینه سایوز هستند.

«پادالکا» از ماه اوت در ایستگاه میر به سر می‌برد، اما مدت اقامت «بلا» در فضا کمتر از يك هفته بود.

عامل سوء قصد به جان پاپ: مرا غفوکنید

رم- ایرنا: «علی آق‌جا» تروریست پیشین که در سال ۱۹۸۲ «پاپ ژان پل دوم» را هدف سوءقصد نافرجم قرار داده بود، خواستار غفو خود شد.

به گزارش روز جمعه خبرگزاری ایتالیا، «علی آق‌جا» از زندان شهر «آنکونا» با ارسال نامه‌ای به عنوان رهبر واتیکان با اشاره به «فراسیدن» سال ۲۰۰۰ مسیحی «خواهان مانیجگری یازد نظ مقامات ایتالیا برای آزادی از زندان شد.

«علی آق‌جا» در سال ۱۹۸۲ در میدان کلیسای سن پیترو واتیکان (رم) با شلیک گلوله به جان پاپ سوء قصد کرده بود، او فوراً دستگیر و به حبس ابد محکوم شد.

دولت هند از خطر سقوط نجات یافت

دهلی نو- ایرنا: دولت ائتلافی هند به رهبری حزب «بی. جی. پی» جمعه شب با تصویب پیشنهاد برکناری دولت ایالتی بیهار در پارلمان هند از خطر سقوط نجات یافت.

دولت هند چندین شب با برکناری دولت ایالت بیهار به خاطر حوادث قتل و جنایت، خسواستار برقراری قانون «داره ایالت زیر نظر رییس جمهوری» شد. در چنین شرایطی، باید تصمیم دولت هند به عنوان يك پیشنهاد به تصویب پارلمان هند برسد. حزب مخالف کنگره و برخی از احزاب منطقه‌ای اعلام کرده‌بودند که علیه این پیشنهاد رأی خواهند داد.

يك قاچاقچی ۱/۳ کیلوگرم هروئین را بلعید

تهران- ایرنا: مقام‌های گمرک آمریکا اعلام کردند پلیس يك قاچاقچی موادمخدر از کلمبیا را اجندی پیش هنگام ورود از مکزیك به ایالت تگزاس و پس از بلعیدن ۱۰۴ کیسه محتوی ۱۷۳ کیلوگرم هروئین، بازداشت کرد. «وچر مایر»، سخنگوی اداره گمرک آمریکا روز جمعه گفت: «این بیشترین مقدار موادمخدری است که تاکنون در دست‌گاه‌هاضمه يك انسان کشف کرده‌ام».

وی توضیح داد معمولاً از طریق بلع حدود ۰/۴۵ کیلوگرم تا ۰/۹ کیلوگرم موادمخدر قاچاق می‌شود.

حمله به رادیو ملی اسپانیا در باسک

مادرید- ایرنا: يك گروه هفت نفری ناشناس بامداد روز شنبه با بمب‌های آتش‌زاه به ساختمان تاسیسات رادیو ملی اسپانیا در منطقه باسک این کشور حمله کردند.

پلیس ایالت باسک «ارچانجا» اعلام کرد، در جریان این حادثه، ده‌ها بمب آتش‌زاه به سوی ساختمان تاسیسات رادیو ملی پرتاب شد، که فقط خسارات مالی بر جای گذاشت.

این رادیو گفت: گروه‌های خرابکار در سال ۱۹۹۵ نیز به تاسیسات رادیو ملی در باسک حمله کردند که بر اثر آن خسارات مالی به بار آمد.

جدایی طیلان باسک اسپانیا «تا» چندی پیش با تهدید رسانه‌های خبری اسپانیا از این منابع خواستند تا از انتشار مطالب غیرواقعی دربارهٔ باسک خودداری کنند.

مرد مصری مبتلا به ایدز، خون فروشی می‌کرد

تهران- ایرنا: يك مرد مصری از طریق فروش خون خود که حامل

ویروس ایدز بوده، امر از معاشی می‌کرد.

به گزارش خبرگزاری فرانسه از قاهره، این مرد ۳۳ ساله مصری به هنگام بازی جویی به افراد پلیس گفته که به علت بیکاری اقدام به فروش خون خود به چهار بانک خون خصوصی و يك مرکز دولتی در قاهره کرده است.

روزنامه «الاهرام» چاپ قاهره نیز چهارشنبه هفته گذشته با انتشار خبری به نقل از وزیر بهداشت این کشور نوشت که این پنج مرکز بانک خون بسته شده‌اند.

این خبر در حالی منتشر شد که گفته می‌شود طی روزهای گذشته خون این مرد مصری به دو زن بیمار تزریق شده و آنها نیز به بیماری ایدز مبتلا شده‌اند.

Supreme council discusses promotion of non-oil exports

TEHRAN - The supreme council for promotion of non-oil exports held a session on Saturday presided over by President Mohammad Khatami. Addressing the meeting, Minister of Commerce Mohammad Sharatmadari reported on the country's non-oil exports over the past 11 months. The council then agreed that a commission be formed to supervise the abidance of the exporters by their obligations and provide security for investment. Different departments such as Ministry of Commerce, Central Bank of Iran, Export Promotion Center of Iran, Iran's Customs Administration and Chamber of Commerce will be represented in the commission. The council instructed the Ministry of Commerce to prepare a list of the goods which are banned to be exported in the next Iranian year.

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Dutch delegation inspects Iran's caviar production facilities

TEHRAN - A senior Dutch delegation, led by director of Dutch fisheries organization Roel Bol, inspected caviar production facilities in the northern port city of Bandar Anzali as well as the local Anzali pond. Bol said that he is visiting Iran to get further acquainted with its fisheries industry. He said there are many grounds for cooperation between Iranian and Dutch fisheries industries and his country is ready to purchase Iranian shrimp. Praising the "high standard" of Iran's caviar as well as its fisheries organization for attaching importance to saving extinct prone species of sturgeon, Bol called for an economic and ecological balance in production of caviar.

Massive turnout in Iran reviews ties, cooperation with D-8 countries

TEHRAN - Millions of Iranian voted Friday in the country's first local elections and biggest experiment in decentralization. Over 300,000 candidates competed for 197,000 seats in Islamic village-city councils elections. According to the officials the turnout was so high that they had to extend the polling by six hours to 22:00 p.m. local time. The Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, Friday morning called on all Iranian people to participate in the councils elections. Having cast his vote a few minutes after the opening of the polls, Ayatollah Khamenei expressed delight over the fact that the great number of candidates has greatly helped to clarify the importance of the elections for the people, stressing that the nation should regard participation in the elections as a duty, IRNA reported. He further pointed to the important responsibility of people in electing the right persons for the city councils and underscored the need for their further vigilance in picking up responsible, pious

and competent candidates. The Leader said people should not vote for any candidate before making sure about their virtue, commitment and faithfulness. The Leader hoped that the elections will go on smoothly and without any disturbances as was the case with other elections during the past two decades. President Mohammad Khatami on Friday said that he was delighted by the fact that he was able to fulfill one of the major promises he made to people upon his appointment to the presidency less than two years ago. He made the remark at a polling station after he cast his vote. Describing the present elections as a symbol of people's contribution to administration of their own affairs, he said the case of people's rule over their own destiny was a manifestation of one of revolution's biggest ideals. Pointing out that the Islamic Republic has always relied on public opinion in running its affairs, he noted that what differentiated the present elections from the previous ones was the fact

of the scope of the present polls stretched from the remotest villages to the very heart of the biggest cities. The president said that the elections will trust the administration of cities and villages to public hands, adding that the government was honored to transfer parts of its authority to the people. Believing that the government represented the nation, he went on to say that further contribution of people will strengthen the Iranian society. Khatami further called on the Iranian nation and the young in particular to turn out in the elections because it was an important step towards decentralization. He termed differences over the procedure of the elections as inevitable for the reason that the city council elections was a fresh experience in the field. The first ever polling for city and village councils elections started all over the country at 8:00 hours Friday morning. The elections were the 20th nationwide polling during the 20 years after the victory of the Islamic Revolution in Iran in 1979. Iran's constitutional law permits all Iranian citizens above 15 years old to participate in the elections. According to the elections headquarters of the Interior Ministry, Khorasan province with 11.9 percent and Qom Province with 0.5 percent stand at the top and bottom of the list of the number of candidates respectively. The largest number of female candidates belongs to Tehran Province with 18.3 percent while the lowest figure goes to Qom Province where only 0.6 of candidates are women. Close to 200,000 permanent and substitute members will be elected for the city, town and village councils.

cern over the Muslims tragic situation in Kosovo, and also the hardships of the Iraqi people. Kharrazi and Mousa condemned the expansionist policies of the Zionist regime, and further called for expansion of Tehran-Cairo cooperation in trade and industry, as well as in the international arena. Also on the sidelines of the D-8 gathering, Kharrazi met with his Indonesian counterpart Ali al-Attas. Expressing concern over the slumping oil prices, Kharrazi called for Iran-Indonesia cooperation in the upcoming OPEC meet. Al-Attas announced his country's readiness to lower its crude output in an attempt to boost oil prices in the world markets. He further welcomed expansion of Indonesian cooperation with Iran and also convening the two countries joint economic commission in the near future. Meanwhile, Kharrazi and his Bangladeshi counterpart Abdus Samad Azad in Dhaka Friday night called for promotion of Tehran-Dhaka ties. Kharrazi who arrived in Dhaka Friday afternoon to attend the meeting of the foreign ministers of the eight developing Islamic countries (D-8) said that the D-8 meet is very important to Iran. D-8 groups Iran, Egypt, Turkey, Nigeria, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Malaysia and Indonesia. The objective behind setting up this group is to improve the economic conditions of the people living in member countries. Expressing satisfaction with the present level of Tehran-Dhaka ties, he stressed on expansion of economic cooperation and

called for implementation of issues mentioned in the letters of understanding of Iran-Bangladesh joint economic commission. Kharrazi also voiced Iran's readiness to build industrial projects in Bangladesh including those of cement, refinery and railways. He also referred to Persian language training in Bangladesh as one of the important factors behind consolidation of relations. Turning to President Mohammad Khatami's proposal on dialog among civilizations, he expressed hope that dialog among world Muslims will further strengthen in future. Abdus Samad Azad termed Iran's participation in the D-8 meeting as very important saying it will help strengthen relations among member states. He described Tehran-Dhaka ties as very good saying the spread of the rich Persian culture will contribute greatly to this cause. He also voiced his country's willingness to boost the volume of bilateral trade exchanges and to start cooperation in the field of fisheries. He also called for further contacts between the private sectors of the two countries. Kharrazi also met with his Pakistani counterpart,

Sartaj Aziz, Saturday on the sidelines of the D-8 conference, and discussed topics of mutual interest with him. Kharrazi hailed the visit of Indian prime minister to Lahore and hoped the two countries will get closer to each other. He further talked about his visit to India and stressed the importance of building Iran's gas pipeline to India through Pakistan. The foreign minister also expressed concern over the current state of affairs in Afghanistan and, pointing to the significant role of Afghanistan's neighboring countries in establishing peace there, believed that the Afghan groups should be encouraged to negotiate with each other because the continuation of the present situation will aggravate arms and narcotics trafficking and violence. Kharrazi stressed the need for punishing the murderers of Iranian diplomats and reporter in Pakistan and called for Islamabad's serious action in this regard. Sartaj Aziz briefed his Iranian counterpart on the visit of Indian premier to Lahore and, stressing the significance of building Iran's gas pipeline to India, said his country was ready to continue negotiations with Iran on the issue.

TEHRAN - Iran and Egypt have called for further activation of the Islamic contact group on Muslim affairs in the Balkan region. The call was made in a meeting of Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi with his Egyptian counterpart Amr Mousa on the sidelines of the D-8 meet in Dhaka on Saturday, IRNA reported. The two expressed con-

cern over the Muslims tragic situation in Kosovo, and also the hardships of the Iraqi people. Kharrazi and Mousa condemned the expansionist policies of the Zionist regime, and further called for expansion of Tehran-Cairo cooperation in trade and industry, as well as in the international arena. Also on the sidelines of the D-8 gathering, Kharrazi met with his Indonesian counterpart Ali al-Attas. Expressing concern over the slumping oil prices, Kharrazi called for Iran-Indonesia cooperation in the upcoming OPEC meet. Al-Attas announced his country's readiness to lower its crude output in an attempt to boost oil prices in the world markets. He further welcomed expansion of Indonesian cooperation with Iran and also convening the two countries joint economic commission in the near future. Meanwhile, Kharrazi and his Bangladeshi counterpart Abdus Samad Azad in Dhaka Friday night called for promotion of Tehran-Dhaka ties. Kharrazi who arrived in Dhaka Friday afternoon to attend the meeting of the foreign ministers of the eight developing Islamic countries (D-8) said that the D-8 meet is very important to Iran. D-8 groups Iran, Egypt, Turkey, Nigeria, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Malaysia and Indonesia. The objective behind setting up this group is to improve the economic conditions of the people living in member countries. Expressing satisfaction with the present level of Tehran-Dhaka ties, he stressed on expansion of economic cooperation and

Fateh-77 war games launched in Persian Gulf

TEHRAN - 'Fateh-77' (Victor-77) maneuvers were launched in the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman Saturday morning, a military source announced. Spokesman of the maneuvers Admiral Fariborz Fazel said that the nine-day military exercise will be jointly conducted by the air and naval units of the army in an area of 25,000 square kilometers. He further told IRNA that 11 vessels, two submarines, eight fighter planes and helicopters and three teams of frogmen as well as 10 teams for special operations are taking part in the war games. Navy and air force units for surface, underwater, reconnaissance and special operations will conduct the maneuvers in five stages, Fazel said. He added that loading special consignments, testing communications circuits and sailing equipment, organizing an orientation session and performing specialized and emergency operations are among programs of the first stage. Fazel added that fire fighting exercises, defense operations and underwater checking of frogmen's equipment by their trainers are other operations to be conducted in the first stage.

Iran calls for removal of German economic restrictions

TEHRAN - Head of Iran's Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Mines Alinaqi Khamoushi, called on Germany to remove the economic and trade restrictions against Iran. He said in a press conference in Bonn that he had asked the German officials to avoid creating restrictions for Iran in exporting its important industrial items, IRNA reported from Bonn. He stressed that Iran had already signed all contracts banning proliferation of

chemical, biological and nuclear arms and was practically abiding by them. Therefore, he added, Tehran cannot accept Germany's continued refusal to export the goods Iran requires on the pretext that they could be used for other purposes. Khamoushi also referred to the health care services Iran rendered to the Third World countries and asked Germany not to impose further restrictions against Iran by refraining from exporting medicine, vaccines and health care items to the country. Pointing to the progress Iran has made in its oil products, petrochemical, gas industries as well as its machinery items, vehicle parts, building parts, building stones and agricultural goods, he said Iran could even have close cooperation with Europe in agricultural area.

Head of Iran's Chamber of Commerce further stressed that Iran's main problem was its lack of access to European markets, adding that Germany can help Iran achieve this goal. Noting that the German officials were willing to invite Iran's President Mohammad Khatami to visit Germany, he said Khatami could visit the country days after his visit to

INCB praises Iran's anti-narcotics campaign

TEHRAN - President of the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) Hamid Ghodse praised Iran's anti-narcotics campaign and said that efforts made by the Islamic Republic in this regard have been very successful and admirable. In an interview with IRNA in Vienna, he said that the amount of drugs seized by Iran in 1998 was more than the amount of narcotics hauled by other countries in the same period. The country's decisive anti-narcotic campaign has made smugglers look for other routes to transfer drugs to Western markets, he said adding that Iran is still the shortest possible way for transfer of drugs. Welcoming Iran's programs to reduce drug addiction in the country, he said that planning for struggle against drug addiction is a very hard and complex job. On Iran's punitive policies regarding drug campaign, Ghodse said the INCB believes that the policies should be based on each country's cultural and social conditions.

UK's Lasmoo seeks second contract in Iran

TEHRAN - UK oil independent Lasmoo is optimistic that its joint 18-month study of the Iranian sector of the Caspian Sea will be fruitful and is tendering for further work in Iran, according to its chief executive Joe Darby. The company is also hoping to conclude merger talks with fellow British explorer, Enterprise, which reportedly is also interested in investing in Iran, IRNA reported from London. Announcing a pre-exceptional loss of Pnds 48 million for 1998, Darby said Thursday that the past year had presented one of the most challenging business environments ever for exploration and production companies due to the collapse in oil prices. Lasmoo's strategy, he said, remained "one of accessing material fields in areas where costs are low and economics are robust, even at today's oil prices." Among areas where the company was positioning itself was the Middle East. This included the signing with Anglo-Dutch Shell of an 18-month study agreement over the Iranian sector of the Caspian Sea, the chief executive said. He said that this award was "expected to result in the selection of up to six substantial blocks for exploration activity, which could deliver material longer term production." Lasmoo, Darby said, was also seeking to secure another contract from Iran's latest buy-back round. His company was also well positioned to participate in the opening up of Kuwaiti oil and gas to foreign investment, he said.

Iran, Pakistan to hold joint ministerial commission

TEHRAN - The Iranian Ambassador to Pakistan, Serajeddin Mousavi called on Pakistani Finance Minister, Muhammad Ishaq Dar met in Islamabad Friday and discussed matters relating to the forthcoming joint ministerial commission (JMC) between Pakistan and Iran. He proposed that an experts meeting may be held prior to JMC on various projects and trade aspects which would be of great help for the forthcoming JMC meeting, IRNA reported from Islamabad. Both sides agreed that there was a need to further promote contact between the private sectors of the two countries for enhancing economic activities. The Iranian side expressed interest in participating in both project for Gawader motorway.

He added that all the hard currency required for implementation of the projects will be fully provided from foreign resources. Half of the sum has been met and the projects are hoped to be fully commissioned by 2001, he continued. Nemtazadeh said the U.S. sanctions have not left any drastic impact on Iran's petrochemical industries. He said that no direct investment has yet been made in petrochemical industries on the part of foreigners and it is expected to be made following convention of an international session of investment in Iran's petrochemical investment in Tehran from April 19-20. He said the annual meeting is to be co-sponsored by his company and a consortium, comprised of the Middle East infrastructure development congress, the cultural research institute and the company of capital link. Representatives from well-credited banking institutions and petrochemical companies as well as representatives of Iranian companies are to take part at the meeting, he added. Nemtazadeh said that more than 160 people, including a number of representatives of American companies, have announced readiness to attend the meeting.

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Major petrochemical projects underway in Iran

TEHRAN - Some 13 Petrochemical projects are under implementation at a total cost of Dlr 3.5 billion, said Managing Director of National Iranian Petrochemical Industries Company Mohammad-Reza Nemtazadeh at a press conference here on Saturday. Nemtazadeh said that contracts have been signed

with foreign countries for implementation of seven projects and talks are underway with foreign parties for conclusion of more contracts. He predicted that Dlr 4 billion worth petrochemical products would be produced under the projects. He said that Dlr 3.5 billion is required to implement the projects.

He added that all the hard currency required for implementation of the projects will be fully provided from foreign resources. Half of the sum has been met and the projects are hoped to be fully commissioned by 2001, he continued. Nemtazadeh said the U.S. sanctions have not left any drastic impact on Iran's petrochemical industries. He said that no direct investment has yet been made in petrochemical industries on the part of foreigners and it is expected to be made following convention of an international session of investment in Iran's petrochemical investment in Tehran from April 19-20. He said the annual meeting is to be co-sponsored by his company and a consortium, comprised of the Middle East infrastructure development congress, the cultural research institute and the company of capital link. Representatives from well-credited banking institutions and petrochemical companies as well as representatives of Iranian companies are to take part at the meeting, he added. Nemtazadeh said that more than 160 people, including a number of representatives of American companies, have announced readiness to attend the meeting.

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More free trade zones to be set up

TEHRAN - The high council of commercial-industrial free trade zones announced that special trade zones for production and export of goods are to be set up within the framework of the economic rehabilitation plan. The session also debated the bill for the establishment and administration of special trade zones. The project will be enforced after the Islamic Consultative Assembly (Majlis) approval. The council also ratified establishment of a 71 hectares of free trade zones in Dorud and Azna (Lorestan Province) for processing and production of varying types of stones and minerals under Rls 2,000 billion domestic and foreign investment.

Second stage of polio vaccination launched

TEHRAN - The second stage of polio vaccination plan for children under five years old is to be launched today, according to Dr. Parviz Vazirian, the official in charge of the nationwide program. He told IRNA that about 17,000 healthcare personnel of the Health Ministry will carry on vaccination of 1.5 million under-five children by going door to door in different parts of the country. Dr. Vazirian said border areas and regions where refugees are most concentrated are among areas which will be covered in the second stage of the vaccination plan. He termed the first stage of the plan which was conducted last month as "successful", adding that it was fully implemented.

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