

Police Discipline Of Prime Importance

TEHRAN, Feb. 27--Security, social discipline and services are three major duties of the police, while standardizing police conduct is of prime importance, Chief Commander of Police Brigadier General Esmail Ahmadi-Moqaddam said.

Speaking in the First Conference on Standardizing Police Conduct and the Role of Education on Tuesday, Ahmadi-Moqaddam said providing security to the people is the main reason behind the formation of the Iranian police, IRNA reported.

"As against some nations, we do not protect the government more than the nation. We are obligated to ensure security for the people," he said.

Ahmadi-Moqaddam also said that standardizing police conduct is one of the most significant plans of police, adding that the IRIP should regard Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) as the exemplification of deportment.

"The IRIP acts in a speedy and efficient manner. This is while despite an increase in population and sophistication of many police issues, the police capability has not been diminished," he said.

The police chief added that public complaints against his forces have decreased from 15.6 percent in May 2006 to 11 percent in February 2007, as a result of the follow ups and efforts of officials in



Esmail Ahmadi-Moqaddam

reforming police conduct.

Brigadier Mohammad Taqi Asar, IRIP's deputy for educational affairs, said on Sunday 80 percent of public complaints against police pertain to the bad conduct of police officers.

"IRIP officers should be patient toward the nation and avoid aggressiveness," Ahmadi-Moqaddam stressed, calling on people to report any fault of police officers.

While the main task of the police, according to Ahmadi-Moqaddam, is to obtain public satisfaction, new statistics shows a 50-percent growth in public satisfaction toward police compared with the corresponding period of last year.

Inventors Are National Assets

TEHRAN, Feb. 27--Chairman of State Expediency Council Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani called for greater attention to inventors and innovators of the country.

Speaking to a group of inventors on Tuesday, Rafsanjani stressed that acknowledging their role and using their talents will enhance the country's status and lead to development, Mehr News Agency reported.

"The best way to show appreciation for inventors is by supporting their right to intellectual property," he said, "One way to encourage the productive sector is by creating a basis that would lead to mass production of their inventions."

The SEC chief pointed to the establishment of "Technology Parks" where inventions can be displayed as a means of implementing their plans and forging ties between industrialists and inventors, expressing his approval for the Islamic Azad University's idea of establishing Sci-Tech



State Expediency Council Chief Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani (2nd) talks with an inventor in Tehran, Tuesday.

progress.

He noted that knowledge is one of the most important principles of the Vision 2025 Development Plan and stressed that putting the plan into effect correctly would help the country advance.

Rafsanjani concluded that by focusing on new policies related to Article 44 of the constitution will create competitiveness which, in turn, will lead to

These policies, devised by the Leader Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei, are aimed at moving the country forward to a level where all impediments, especially in the field of industry, are removed.

Ambassadors and diplomats that host exhibitions on inventions and MPs with responsibilities toward inventors were also present in the meeting.

Persian Press Watch

Urban Trust

JAVAN: People's trust is instrumental in the success of urban management and if such confidence is absent, nothing positive will occur despite the best of efforts of city and town managers. The earnest call for "reciprocal trust" was made by Tehran city councilor Morteza Tala'ie Monday in a talk with our correspondent on the sidelines of a ceremony to honor 'model citizens' and their contributions to urban progress in District 17 of the capital. The senior councilor, a former Tehran police chief acknowledged that urban progress in the megalopolis of almost 15 million people is closely linked to the strong trust of the people in the work of municipal authorities. The Tehran Municipality is committed to and dependent on two-way trust with the population of the city now said to be over 15 million. He termed the people's trust as the "biggest asset and the greatest foundations" of TM management. To achieve this level of confidence it is essential to honestly respect the rights of the citizens. "If the people realize that their legitimate rights are being violated (then) we should not expect them to participate meaningfully in addressing the problems of the city." The time has come to understand that urbanization only for the sake of securing a dwelling place is a thing of the past, he stressed. "People living in the larger cities should have a sense of belonging."

Enhancing Growth

DONYA-YE EQTESAD: Economic growth rates are important in giving marks to governments when it comes to judging their performance in related fields. Levels of growth often linked to development form the basis of determining the increase, or for the matter, decrease, in a nation's wealth. Economic growth is actually the increase in a country's gross domestic product (GDP). Another definition of economic growth rate is seen in the increase in annual per capita income. Hence, the higher the per capita income, the more the people will be successful in their work and performances will improve. High economic growth directly affects the quality of life of the masses in more ways than one. With high growth comes prosperity and new job opportunities for the youth. It is natural that our government too should seek to enhance the facts and figures related directly to lifting the standard of life.

Not Normal

ETEMAD-E MELLI: The recent meeting of foreign ministers of seven Muslim countries in Islamabad on Middle East issues and Iran's nuclear program was strangely held without representation from Tehran. This is while the West's dispute with Iran and its nuclear program was said to be at the top of the agenda of the rare gathering hosted by the Pakistan leadership. It is not the norm that a high-profile meeting is held in a neighboring country and Tehran is not invited. Pakistani officials announced that Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki had talked to his Pakistani counterpart on phone before the Islamabad meeting convened. The decision to keep Iran away could be seen from two angles. First, Pakistani officials may have thought that Iran has lost its clout and maneuverability due to the sanctions imposed by the UN Security Council. The second possibility could be that they have given up hope on any chances that the rising western-Iran tension can be settled in the present atmosphere.

Second Thoughts

KAYHAN: Condoleezza Rice hastily reacted to some recent statements by President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad who publicly announced that Iran's search for peaceful nuclear technology is like a train without brakes or rear gear. The neocon-backed American foreign secretary said there is no need for moving backwards, but Iran should use a "stop button" in its uranium enrichment activities. Rice further said that in the meeting of 5-1 Group in London, the grounds for exerting more pressure on Iran would be paved. However, her interview with Fox TV (mouthpiece of the neocon-run Pentagon) indicated she has lost all hope that Iran will comply and stop enriching uranium. Her statements have also been interpreted as a sort of US retreat from its highhanded policy towards Iran's nuclear dossier.

OSF Access

RESALAT: One of the most effective and commendable measures taken by the government in the Third Economic Development Plan (2000-2005) was the founding of the Oil Stabilization Fund (OSF) with the specific aim of helping prevent any negative influence of oil price fluctuations on the national economy. It also sought to support activities of NGOs in the economic field. As a result of the OSF, the volume of had currency funds poured into the account considerably increased. But what is important is the manner in which the OSF is used. One of the criticisms heard often in the press and economic circles is that government withdrew money from the account at will. This is while the financial resources of the government remain limited, figures published by the Central Bank of Iran show by last September the OSF held 22 billion dollars.

Seminar to Discuss Pressure on Gov't

YASOUJ, Kohkilouyeh-Boyerahmad, Feb. 27--An official said on Tuesday the government is presently facing psychological pressures both from leftwing and rightwing political parties.

Esfandiary Afshoun, secretary of a seminar titled "Aspects of Psychological War Against the Government", told ILNA that the main objective of different political parties is to prevent groups similar to those that supported the government of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad in the last presidential election from entering the next presidential race.

Without mentioning the name of a particular political party that acts against the government, Afshoun said psychological pressures on the government are in different political, social, cultural and economic fields.

He further noted that the seminar will be held on May 6-7 in Gachsaran in Kohkilouyeh-Boyerahmad province.

"By taking the prevailing sensitive conditions of the country into consideration, holding such a seminar is inevitable," he said. Afshoun pointed out that 200 million rials will be spent on the seminar.

Serbia Favors Consultations

BELGRADE, Serbia, Feb. 27--Iranian and Serbian officials attended the joint political meeting held here on Monday.

Chaired by Iranian Foreign Ministry's Director General for Northern and Central European Affairs Ali Baqeri and Serbian Director General for Bilateral Ties Radoiko Bogoyovich, discussed ways of expanding political, parliamentary, economic, scientific, cultural

and sports relations in the meeting, IRNA reported.

The two sides stressed on increasing consultations in different fields, particularly between the deputy foreign ministers of the two countries, and called for holding the 13th Iran-Serbia Economic Commission as soon as possible.

Referring to the Kosovo crisis, the Serbian official said his country is ready to continue negotiations and find a solution.

"Serbia is willing to grant Albanian residents in Kosovo the most autonomy possible, provided its territorial integrity and the governance remain intact," he said.

The Iranian official pointed to the determination of Iranians to achieve peaceful nuclear technology and remove the prevailing ambiguities.

Commenting on Afghanistan and Iraq, Baqeri said Iran has always played an important role in

promoting stability and security in the region and is now ready to help rebuild the economic infrastructures of the two countries. Before his trip to Serbia, Baqeri met with Croatian officials in Zagreb.

UNSC Double Standards Criticized

VIENNA, Austria, Feb. 27--Iran's Ambassador to the International Atomic Energy Agency said on Tuesday the UN Security Council was applying double standards to nuclear activities, implicitly referring to the demand that Iran suspend its uranium enrichment activities.

Ali Asghar Soltaniyeh was speaking to the Austrian daily "Die Presse" a day after the 5-1 Group (US, Britain, France, Russia, China plus Germany) agreed to meet again on Thursday to discuss its next move after Iran failed to meet the UNSC deadline for it to suspend uranium enrichment, IRNA reported.

Quoting the regulations of the UN safeguards regime, he said, "Any attack or military threat against a country's nuclear facilities are strictly forbidden and will elicit an immediate response by the Security Council."

Unfortunately, this is not so with regard to threats of the US and the Zionist Israeli regime to attack Iran's nuclear facilities, he argued.

He noted that Iran has not transgressed boundaries in its peaceful nuclear program nor has it organized plans to attack other countries. On Iran's failure to comply with the Security Council resolution demanding

suspension of its uranium enrichment, he pointed out that Tehran voluntarily suspended all nuclear activities for two and a half years to build confidence in the international community but was slapped with sanctions.

Asked about the proposal of IAEA Director General Mohammed ElBaradei for a "timeout" on the nuclear dispute, Soltaniyeh said constructive and positive proposals to try to settle differences have always been welcomed by Iran.

ElBaradei proposed Iran suspend uranium enrichment concurrent along with the UN Security Council's suspension of the implementation of Resolution 1737.

He said Supreme National Security Council Secretary Ali Larjani immediately responded to the offer with an assurance that Iran would consider the proposal.

The Iranian envoy reiterated that Leader Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei and President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad have stressed that Iran was not interested in producing nuclear weapons as they run counter to its religious beliefs.

The Iranian envoy reiterated that Iran is ready to give guarantees regarding its nuclear activities and ensure IAEA control if talks were resumed.

UN Proposes Anti-Drug Plan

VIENNA, Austria, Feb. 27--Head of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Antonio Maria Costa, has proposed an action plan to improve border security between Afghanistan and its neighbors Iran and Pakistan.

"At the moment, drug traffickers cooperate better than the regional governments," he said during

a visit to Pakistan on Monday, IRNA reported.

While roughly a quarter of all opium and heroin produced in 2005 was seized, up from 10 percent in 1990, this was still well below the global interception rate for cocaine.

Costa stressed that Afghanistan needed to do more to control its sovereign territory, but added:

"There are two sides to every border and Afghanistan's neighbors have a vested interest in stopping the flow of drugs, laundered money and chemical precursors."

He noted that, during a recent visit to Iran, he had been impressed by the steps taken to prevent drug traffickers from entering that country. Afghanistan's 5,800-

km-long border is difficult to guard because of high mountains and desert terrain. Some sections are well protected while others, particularly in the South, are extremely porous, allowing drug traffickers, smugglers and insurgents to operate with impunity, a press release issued by the UN Information Center said here Tuesday.

Argentinean Elite Voice Solidarity

TEHRAN, Feb. 27--A group of Argentinean political, social, religious and human rights personalities, as well as representatives of syndicates, artists and ethnic groups have in a letter to President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad voiced solidarity with the Iranian nation and government against the US militarist, occupying regime's threats.

The letter is signed by Luis Dalian, Ebb Pasteur, D. Bona Fannie, Priest Lois Farinello, Oswaldo Bayer, Alejandro Corona, Alejandro Fernandez, Paulovski Edwardo, Carlos Aznares, Nora D. Cortinas, Fernando Solanas and Ricardo Langini.

The letter, a copy of which was faxed to IRNA on Monday, reads in part: "As Argentinean citizens, we denounced the court verdict issued on the involvement of Iran in attack against AMIA Jewish center in July 1994 in Buenos Aires.

"We believe the said verdict has not been issued to find the real culprits

behind that horrendous crime, but in a bid to serve the interests of the officials of the time and under the pressure of the United States, and that it has been highlighted today to justify a probable US attack against Iran today."

The letter noted that similar to the case of the criminal occupation of Iraq on the pretext of its weapons of mass destruction, none of which was found there and revealed the lies of US administration, the move today can be used as a new pretext for another military invasion against Iran.

The Argentinean group also said: "We strongly believe the probe regarding the death of 84 victims in the AMIA terrorist attack must be entirely led by the Argentinean people and their legal bodies. Therefore we strongly denounce the trampling upon of our national sovereignty by the Bush government and the Israeli regime by launching judiciary investigations."

The letter stresses, "How could they rely on the accusations brought up by disgraced Judge Juan Jose