

## Leader Visits

## Shiraz Innovation Fair



Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei paid a visit to an exhibition of innovations and inventions in Shiraz, Fars province, on Tuesday.

The exhibition showcases the latest scientific achievements, innovations and inventions of experts and scientists of Shiraz University and Shiraz Medical Sciences University, as well as pavilions of industries and mines, agriculture, electricity, roads and transportation, defense industries, and a science and technology park, IRNA reported.

One section of the exhibition was devoted to nanotechnology of Shiraz University, which displays scientific researches and achievements in the related fields of electricity, biotechnology, chemistry, physics, materials and assessments.

Tabesh Research Center of Shiraz University, in cooperation with Iran's Atomic Energy Organization, also showcased its research achievements.

The leader also inspected the innovations and inventions of engineers from Fars province in the fields of petrochemicals, telecommunications and water-pipe manufacture.

Ayatollah Khamenei paid a visit to the special pavilion of the achievements in defense industries made by the Defense Ministry.

Leader's representative in Fars province and Friday prayers' leader in Shiraz Ayatollah Haeri Shirazi, Governor General Rezazadeh as well as Minister of Defense Mostafa Mohammad Najjar accompanied Ayatollah Khamenei during the visit.

## 5+1 Urged to Give Up Precondition



Iran on Tuesday advised Group 5+1 to give up the precondition for talks over Iran's nuclear program.

Head of Majlis National Security and Foreign Policy Commission Alaeddin Boroujerdi said members of Group 5+1 should withdraw their demand on suspension of uranium enrichment, if they wanted to make a breakthrough in nuclear talks, IRNA reported.

Boroujerdi was responding to a renewed call by the group to suspend uranium enrichment as a precondition to resume nuclear talks.

"The main problem with the package of incentives of the western countries put forward in London is that they still insist on the precondition which is not acceptable to

Iran," he said.

Group 5+1 includes the five permanent members of the UN Security Council plus Germany.

The MP added that the present deadlock on Iran nuclear talks with western states would end when they withdraw their precondition.

Asked about the tone of the London package, Boroujerdi said there is no evidence of the West's tougher attitude toward Iran.

Boroujerdi added that Iran has also presented a package of proposals that "includes nuclear and non-nuclear issues as well as major regional developments, economic cooperation and long-term projects that could be carried out by western countries in cooperation with the developing nations".



## Russia Slams British Statement on Iran

Statements made by the UK foreign secretary following the talks of Group 5+1 in London on May 2 do not reflect the opinion of all the participants, Russia's Foreign Ministry said.

The group includes veto-wielding powers—the US, Britain, France, Russia and China, plus Germany—which agreed last Friday to offer new incentives to Tehran, RIA-Novosti reported.

Miliband did not reveal details of the new offer, but hoped Iran would "recognize the seriousness and sincerity" of the new approach, declaring that Tehran's uranium enrichment program still posed a serious threat.

"David Miliband's statement reflects his own point of view rather than the collective opinion of the Iran-Six, at least it does not reflect our (Russia's) position," the ministry said in a statement.

"There was no discussion of new threats allegedly posed by the Iranian nuclear program or new approaches toward Iran during the recent ministerial meeting."

Later on Monday, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov also accused some of his other colleagues of distorting the results of talks.

"Some of my colleagues at the talks in London surprised me today... by trying to say that we agreed on some tougher stance in relations with Iran," he said.

"Moscow has made it clear already that this is an absolute distortion of what was achieved in London."

Lavrov said the London meeting yielded a package of "positive incentives", which would be handed to Tehran in due time.

He did not reveal details of the new proposals, saying Iran should be the first to know their contents.

The international negotiators proposed to Tehran in June 2006 cooperation in civilian nuclear technology, trade and other spheres in a bid to persuade Tehran to give up uranium enrichment and resume talks with the group.

The Islamic Republic has rejected the 2006 incentives. It has also defied three rounds of UN Security Council sanctions imposed over its rejection of international demands to suspend uranium enrichment, saying that its civilian nuclear program is geared toward electricity generation.

Leader of the Islamic Revolution Seyyed Ayatollah Ali Khamenei reiterated on Sunday that the country would push ahead with its nuclear program despite pressure from the West.

## All Al-Qaeda Members Extradited

Iran's ambassador to Iraq said the members of Al-Qaeda terrorist group held in Iran have been extradited to their countries of origin.

Speaking to ISNA on Tuesday, Hassan Kazemi-Qomi also confirmed what he had recently told the reputable daily Ash-Sharq Al-Awsat that Iran has not kept any Al-Qaeda member in its custody.

Asked about a possible fourth round of talks between the US and Iran over Iraq, he said, "The Foreign Ministry spokesman has already given transparent comments on this issue."

The diplomat also recalled that after an Iraqi delegation returned from Iran last week, a declaration lauding Iran's positive role in upholding security in Iraq was issued.

Qomi noted that America's claim about Iran interfering in Iraqi affairs has not been proven while the Iraqi government has also rejected the claim.

"This is an issue that the Iraqi government should examine and the comments of other entities are not credible to Baghdad," he said.

## Rice Prices...

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"Last week when I was browsing through the written notifications of legislators to executive officials, I realized that them every day a number of them pertained to people who suffered losses in the wake of the cold weather or drought... Some farmers have come to see me in person and complained about the destruction of their farms and gardens," he said.

The speaker urged the people to economize in their use of food, water and electricity.

"The government should manage the crisis. As far as I know, a central headquarters comprising ministers and related officials has been established within the Cabinet. They have had a few meetings so far. Furthermore, in some provinces where the danger of drought is serious, special headquarters have also been established," he said.

Meanwhile, Gholamreza Khankeshipour, a member of State Rice Research Institute, said, "Despite the production of over two million tons of rice in the country and rice imports, some middlemen have hoarded rice which has caused an artificial increase in the price of rice. Not to mention that reduction in global rice reserves has also led to the hike in prices of foreign rice."

The official pointed out that this year rice paddies in the north faced a 50-percent delay in plantation due to shortage of water.

Iranians expect the officials to take all measures to tackle the crisis in the shortest possible time.

First Announcement

In The Name Of God

## Invitation to International Tender

Tender No: 52244515



Khouzestan Steel Company intends to purchase 15,000 MT High Carbon Ferro Manganese with the following specifications

Mn	Min	78	%
Si	Max	1.2	%
C	Max	7.5	%
P	Max	0.3	%
S	Max	0.02	%
Fe		Rest	
Size of Pieces	20-80mm Less than 20mm	Mine 90 % Max 10 %	
Packing		Container	

Interested bidders may obtain set of documents, containing the relevant terms and conditions by submission of a written application and payment of a non-refundable fee of:

Euro 50, "Fifty Euro"  
To Account No. 02281473001  
At "Standard Chartered Bank /Dubai"

Or

Rls.500,000, "Five hundred thousand rials"  
To Account No. 010031106  
At "Export Development Bank of Iran-General Branch"

And present the payment receipt to the following address:

Raw Material & Energy Purchasing Department  
Khouzestan Steel Company (KSC)  
Km 10 Ahvaz-Bandar Imam Khomeini Road -Ahvaz-Iran  
P.O.Box: 1378  
Post Code: 61397-31398

**Note 1:** All bids must be delivered to the above office on or before the closing date (20 May 2008). The envelopes will be opened at 11:00 am on 21 May 2008 in the buyers conference room located at the head office of K.S.C., Ahvaz-Iran. The bidders or their authorized representatives can attend the meeting of the tender.

**Note 2:** All quoted prices could be on "Seller/supplying country currency" or "Euro" basis.

**Note 3:** The bid bond amount for this tender is "150,000 euro" or "2,000,000,000 rials" for 15,000 MT and may reduce in proportion with the quantity of the bidder's offer.

**Note 4:** For more details please contact the following:

Tel No.: +98 611 2279157 & +98 611 2279620  
Fax No.: +98 611 2279158

Mr. Ghorbani (Email: a.ghorbani@ksc.ir) or visit: www.ksc.ir

Public Relations of Khouzestan Steel Company

## Perspective

## On Putin's Call

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After all, he was and is aware that an economically-weak country does not command the respect of major world players.

At a time when due to his immense popularity Putin could change the constitution to remain president for a third time, he decided otherwise. Though the temptation was high and the home climate more than compatible, President Putin took the right course and called for general elections.

Even if there is any substance in the analyses that Medvedev is Putin's protégé and the latter will in actuality run the affairs of a country with 11 time zones and 142 million people, it must be stressed that Russians have ultimately learned about the pluses of peaceful power change.