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मनोहर पर्रिकर रक्षा अध्ययन एवं विश्लेषण संस्थान

Iran

IAEA Director urges Iran's full cooperation amidst alleged concerns

Tehran Times, March 4, 2024

Rafael Grossi, the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), has once again called on Iran to fully cooperate with the agency despite Iran's continued cooperation.

In his recent Introductory Statement to the Board of Governors, reported on the Agency's website, Grossi expressed concern about Iran's alleged increasing enriched uranium stockpile, stating, "Iran's stockpile of enriched uranium continues to increase, even though the level of uranium enriched up to 60% has fallen slightly."

He highlighted the lack of continuity in knowledge regarding the production and inventory of various nuclear components. Grossi noted, "The Agency has lost continuity of knowledge in relation to the production and inventory of centrifuges, rotors and bellows, heavy water and uranium ore concentrate. It is three years since Iran stopped provisionally applying its Additional Protocol and, therefore, it is also three years since the Agency was able to conduct complementary access in Iran."

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/495716/IAEA-Director-urges-Iran-s-full-cooperation-amidst-alleged-concerns>

Iran Navy unveils new equipment

IRNA, March 6, 2024

The Islamic Republic of Iran Navy has unveiled 42 pieces of new military equipment as part of efforts to modernize the fleet and to boost its defense

capabilities. Among the equipment unveiled on Wednesday were the improved versions of the tethered drone 305, the 12-launcher Sanjar drone, and the Bavar 5 which were added to Sahand destroyer. The Sahand destroyer now features the first medium-range Sayyad 3 air defense system and Kamand precision missile defense system. The number of cruise missiles launchers for Alborz destroyer were also increased.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/85409945/Iran-Navy-unveils-new-equipment>

Former AEOI head urges prioritization of nuclear safety collaboration

Tehran Times, March 6, 2024

The former head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) urged the AEOI to collaborate with relevant organizations concerning Iran's accession to international nuclear safety conventions, emphasizing the importance of ensuring Tehran's interests.

Addressing a seminar on Tuesday, Ali Akbar Salehi referenced three significant nuclear incidents worldwide— Three Mile Island, Chernobyl, and Fukushima. He highlighted Japan's efforts to anticipate events such as high-power earthquakes and tsunamis, noting Tokyo's prediction of an eight-meter tsunami.

Salehi noted that despite the Fukushima accident in March 2011, the safety systems at the power plants were robust enough to mitigate extensive radiation effects.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/495836/Former-AEOI-head-urges-prioritization-of-nuclear-safety-collaboration>

JCPOA resumption depends on Western action: Iran

Tehran Times, February 8, 2024

During the quarterly meeting of the Council of Governors, Iran's envoy to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) highlighted that the resumption of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) implementation hinges on specific actions from the United States and the European Troika.

Mohsen Naziri Asal elaborated on the Vienna negotiations, emphasizing that Iran and other JCPOA members engaged in discussions after the United States expressed willingness to return to the nuclear deal and lift unlawful sanctions. The negotiations aimed to establish conditions for the U.S. to rejoin the JCPOA and fulfill its obligations.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/49590/3/JCPOA-resumption-depends-on-Western-action-Iran>

Iran to preside over Conference on Disarmament

Tehran Times, March 11, 2024

The Islamic Republic of Iran will serve as chair of the UN Conference on Disarmament (also known as CD) on next Monday (March 18). The conference, which serves as the only platform for international negotiations on disarmament, will be divided into three sections in 2024: January 22–March 28, May 13–June 28, and July 29–September 13. Iran will chair the meeting twice, from March 18 to 29 and May 13 to May 24. The summit will also be presided over by the Israeli regime, Iraq, India, and Ireland. The UN Office in

Geneva released a press release stating that among other things, the conference's agenda this year includes topics such as ending the nuclear arms race and disarmament, preventing nuclear war, implementing a comprehensive disarmament program, and transparency in armaments.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/49606/9/Iran-to-preside-over-Conference-on-Disarmament>

Russian, Chinese warships arrive in Iran's territorial waters for joint drills

IRNA, March 12, 2024

Russian and Chinese warships have arrived in Iran's territorial waters to participate in joint naval drills dubbed "Maritime Security Belt 2024". A Tuesday statement from the media headquarters of the joint drills said that Russia's Varyag missile cruiser and the Marshal Shaposhnikov frigate will participate in the joint drills along with two warships and a logistics ship of the Chinese navy and 10 warships from Iran.

The Russian Defense Ministry announced on Monday that the Varyag missile cruiser of the Russian Pacific Fleet had arrived in the Iranian port of Chabahar to participate in the joint drills.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/85416320/Russian-Chinese-warships-arrive-in-Iran-s-territorial-waters>

Iran, Russia, China begin joint naval drills in Sea of Oman

IRNA, March 12, 2024

Naval forces from Iran, Russia and China have begun conducting joint drills in the

Sea of Oman, their fifth common military exercise in recent years. Dubbed “Maritime Security Belt 2024”, the naval exercise got underway on Tuesday with more than 20 ships, support vessels and combat boats from the three allies participating. The drills will continue until Friday. The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Navy has dispatched ten heavy and light vessels, two helicopters and 420 armed support personnel to take part in the joint drills. Russia’s Pacific Fleet, led by the Varyag cruiser, arrived at the Iranian port of Chabahar on Monday ahead of the drills, while China sent the guided-missile destroyer Urumqi and the guided-missile frigate Linyi to the exercise.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/85416759/Iran-Russia-China-begin-joint-naval-drills-in-Sea-of-Oman>

New IRGC warships participate in Iran-China-Russia naval drill

IRNA, March 13, 2024

The new warships of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) have participated in a joint naval drill in the Indian Ocean. Naval forces from Iran, Russia, and China have jointly launched the ongoing drill, known as “Marine Security Belt 2024”.

Martyr Mahmoudi warship, Martyr Soleimani combat patrol vessel, Martyr Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis warship, Martyr Tavvasoli frigate, and IRGC Navy helicopters are present in the exercise. Rear Admiral Mostafa Tajeddini, the spokesperson for the joint military

exercise, said the naval units of the three countries conducted the “Photo Ex” exercise and offensive formations.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/85417593/New-IRGC-warships-participate-in-Iran-China-Russia-naval-drill>

Iran to build two power plants by end of Raisi term, says AEOI chief

Tehran Times, March 13, 2024

Mohammad Eslami, head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI), announced plans for significant advancements in Iran's nuclear program on Wednesday.

Eslami highlighted the upcoming irradiation of agricultural products, a first for Iran, expressing hope for positive impacts on people's lives.

This process uses controlled radiation to eliminate pests and extend shelf life, potentially benefiting both producers and consumers.

Eslami also addressed the construction of two new nuclear power plants. He acknowledged the multi-year timeframe involved, stating that each plant would take approximately seven years to complete.

He remained optimistic, aiming for the inauguration of power plants by the end of the current Raisi administration.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/496177/Iran-to-build-two-power-plants-by-end-of-Raisi-term-says-AEOI>

Iran's arms exports grow by up to 5 times: Defense minister

IRNA, March 13, 2024

Iran has significantly increased its arms exports over the past years as the country has gained self-sufficiency in the defense industry, Defense Minister Brigadier General Mohammad Reza Ashtiani said. Exports of military equipment have seen an increase of between 4 to 5 times over the past two years, Gen. Ashtiani told reporters on Wednesday after a cabinet meeting in Tehran.

“Due to the innovations and the kind of weapons that are being manufactured, this amount will further increase in the future,” he added.

The defense minister said that Iran is now self-sufficient in making drone engines and is working on the production of heavy engines.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/85417820/Iran-s-arms-exports-grow-by-up-to-5-times-Defense-minister>

Iranian, Russian, Chinese military units intercept, destroy air targets in joint drills

IRNA, March 14, 2024

Iran, Russia and China have continued their joint drills in the northern Indian Ocean, intercepting and destroying air targets during the latest stage of the exercises. According to the spokesman of the drills, Rear Admiral Mostafa Tajeddini, the operations to fire at air targets at night and during the day were successfully conducted as part of the Maritime Security Belt 2024.

He also said that both types of operations require exact coordination and orders, adding that the nocturnal operation is among significant maritime maneuvers.

Russian and Chinese warships arrived in Iran's territorial waters on Tuesday to participate in the joint naval drills whose main phase kicked off later that day.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/85418460/Iranian-Russian-Chinese-military-units-intercept-destroy-air>

Iraq

SMC: 6 ISIS members were killed in successful air strikes in Wadi Tharthar

Iraqi News Agency, March 9, 2024

The Security Media Cell announced today, Saturday, the killing of 6 ISIS members in successful air strikes in Wadi Al-Tharthar. The cell said in a statement received by the Iraqi News Agency (INA): “With a bold, heroic effort and continuous field work in the Tharthar desert by the heroes of the First Western Mobilization Force and the Al-Qaim Regiment of the Popular Mobilization Forces, with information from the National Security Service and the Military Intelligence Directorate, and cooperation and coordination with the Targeting Cell/Operations Command.” With the aim of tightening the encirclement and chasing the defeated ISIS detachments by the units holding the Salah al-Din and Western Nineveh leaderships and the 44th Popular Mobilization Brigade, the F-16 Falcons were able to carry out four crushing strikes on a large tunnel inside which were six defeated ISIS members.”

<https://ina.iq/eng/31775-smc-6-isis-members-were-killed-in-successful-air-strikes-in-wadi-tharthar.html>

Controls for the purchase of weapons are approved by Interior Minister

Iraqi News Agency, March 13, 2024

Abdul Amir Al-Shammari, the Interior Minister, gave his approval of the controls for the purchase of weapons on Wednesday. "Ministry spokesman Brigadier General Mekdad Miri stated in a statement obtained by the Iraqi News Agency (INA) that Interior Minister Abdul Amir al-Shammari approved the controls on the purchase of weapons." "The beginning of this matter will be April 1, 2024, and these controls will be announced later," he continued.

<https://ina.iq/eng/31828-controls-for-the-purchase-of-weapons-are-approved-by-interior-minister.html>

Israel

In First, IDF Appoints Female Officer to Command Air Force Base

Israel Defense, March 5, 2024

Lt. Col. "G" is about to make history, as the first female soldier ever appointed by the IDF to command an Israeli Air Force base. Nominated by Chief of Staff Herzi Halevi, once this appointment is confirmed she will be promoted to the rank of colonel and assume command of the Ovda Airbase in southern Israel.

"G" enlisted in the IAF's prestigious pilot training course in 2003, and upon successful completion was assigned to be a transport pilot. During her career, "G" served in various operational and command positions, notably as commander of the 122nd Squadron and in IAF Operations.

<https://www.israeldefense.co.il/en/node/61414>

No Just Rafael: Major Anti-Tank Missile deal in Poland

Israel Defense, March 6, 2024

A major anti-tank missile deal is underway in Poland. Sweden's Saab will supply the Polish Ministry of Defense with thousands of Carl Gustav M4 anti-tank missile launchers and hundreds of thousands of missiles worth \$1.241 billion. The delivery of the launchers and missiles will be made between the years 2024-27. In this way, Poland becomes the largest customer of these systems after the US Army.

Saab's CEO and President, Michal Johansson, says that he is "Proud of our close relationship with the Polish armed forces and that Saab can continue to strengthen Poland's ground combat capability and national defense with our world-leading Carl-Gustaf System".

<https://www.israeldefense.co.il/en/node/61419>

Titan Innovations Launches \$50 Million Fund Focused on Israel and US Defense

Israel Defense, March 6, 2024

Titan Innovations, an unmanned systems integrator and accelerator, announced the launch of its second dedicated defense technology fund, the Israel Defense Fund. The Israel Defense Fund is an ecosystem-based venture capital fund that leverages decades of experience from its leadership in special forces ops, the Ministry of Defense, business development, and investment.

Israel Defense Fund was established in response to a surge in demand for combat-proven defense technologies, initiated by the war in Ukraine and the Israel-Hamas

war. Although Israel has one of the most advanced militaries in the world and is separated from Gaza by a highly sophisticated technological barrier, it was not enough to prevent the major terror attack that occurred on October 7, 2023.

<https://www.israeldefense.co.il/en/node/61421>

Elbit America Subsidiary Awarded \$19.4 Million by U.S. Army for Hostile Fire Detection Systems

Israel Defense, March 7, 2024

Logos Technologies LLC, a subsidiary of Elbit Systems of America, announced that the U.S. Army awarded the company a \$19.4 cost-plus-fixed-fee contract to supply, maintain, and operate Serenity hostile fire detection (HFD) systems in theater.

The five-year contract is the newest installment in a long-standing effort by United States Africa Command (AFRICOM) to employ dual-sensor Serenity HFD systems to safeguard U.S. expeditionary forces against radicalized actors.

<https://www.israeldefense.co.il/en/node/61435>

Israel Aerospace Industries and the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi Sign CSR Agreement

Israel Defense, March 12, 2024

Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) signed its first-ever CSR agreement with the prestigious Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi to collaborate on applied research.

The IAI-IIT CSR agreement demonstrates IAI's commitment to its corporate social responsibility in India. The cooperation may include collaborative projects, training, and research consultancy. This alliance between IAI and IIT Delhi demonstrates a shared vision for leveraging cutting-edge research to drive progress and technological excellence, shaping together the future of technology in India.

The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi is renowned for its academic excellence and research prowess, consistently ranking among the top engineering institutes globally. IIT Delhi, one of the premier institutions of India, fosters innovation and technological advancement, making it a preferred partner for industry collaborations.

<https://www.israeldefense.co.il/en/node/61468>

U.S. Military Reinforcement for Israel Since October Expected to Reach \$2.2 Billion

Israel Defense, March 13, 2024

The Pentagon needs Congress to approve \$10 billion to replace weaponry sent to Ukraine. Additionally, the Pentagon has not yet received the funds it invested in bolstering forces in the Middle East following Hamas's attack against Israel last October. This reinforcement is aimed at deterring a larger war with Iran or Hezbollah.

The remarks come after the Pentagon unveiled its budget request for fiscal year 2025 last Monday, although lawmakers have yet to pass an appropriations bill for fiscal year 2024.

<https://www.israeldefense.co.il/en/node/61494>

Orbit Implements AI Capabilities In Mission Critical Systems

Israel Defense, March 14, 2024

Israeli Orbit Communications Systems, a global provider of maritime and airborne SATCOM terminals, tracking ground station solutions, and mission-critical airborne audio management systems, announced the implementation of AI capabilities in its entire portfolio of SATCOM systems for land, air, and sea.

According to Orbit, the AI constantly monitors and analyzes the systems' performance, giving an alert for a malfunction that starts to form, even at a very early stage, so that the customer can arrive on time, even for a system located in a very remote area, perform preventive maintenance and repair, while connectivity continues without any interruption. Potential issues are detected long before they become critical, thus providing the utmost reliability, always ensuring peak performance and connectivity, without the need for major maintenance or significant downtime.

<https://www.israeldefense.co.il/en/node/61506>

Kuwait

Kuwait-Italy defense relations soar with Eurofighter program

Kuwait Times, March 6, 2024

Kuwait will receive 13 more Eurofighter jets from Italy over the next 18 months out of the 28 aircraft under the 'Eurofighter Kuwait' program, said Italian Defense Minister Guido Crosetto, who arrived in Kuwait on an official visit on Tuesday,

leading a high-ranking delegation. In an exclusive interview with Kuwait Times, the visiting Italian minister spoke about a wide range of topics and elaborated on the growing bilateral cooperation between Kuwait and Italy, particularly in the field of defense. Crosetto said the close cooperation between Italy and Kuwait is an extraordinary example of how bilateral relations can evolve positively over time, embracing a wide range of sectors. "Our cooperation, that has been ongoing for over 60 years, has seen significant developments in crucial areas such as defense. Strengthening bilateral cooperation, especially in the context of defense, is a fundamental pillar to guarantee peace and regional stability, while offering mutual investment opportunities and boosting our economies," he pointed out.

<https://kuwaittimes.com/article/11802/kuwait/other-news/kuwait-italy-defense-relations-soar-with-eurofighter-program/>

Lebanon

Israel threatens war on Lebanon if no deal reached by March 15: Report

Anadolu Agency, March 7, 2024

Israel has set a March 15 deadline for a political settlement with Lebanon or it will escalate the current border clashes with Hezbollah into a war, according to a Lebanese newspaper on Thursday.

Al-Akhbar newspaper said that Tel Aviv told mediators that it will go into a full-scale war in Lebanon if no deal to push Hezbollah from the border is reached by March 15. On Wednesday, Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant told US special envoy Amos Hochstein that cross-border

clashes with Hezbollah will bring Israel closer to a decision regarding military action in Lebanon. Al-Akhbar newspaper, citing Western officials, said Hochstein does not believe the cross-border clashes between Lebanon and Israel can be halted before a truce deal is reached in the Gaza Strip.

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/israel-threatens-war-on-lebanon-if-no-deal-reached-by-march-15-report/3158239>

Lebanon's Hezbollah launches drone attack on Israeli military barracks in Syria's Golan Heights

Anadolu Agency, March 11, 2024

Lebanese group Hezbollah said Monday that it had attacked with drones an Israeli military barracks in Syria's occupied Golan Heights. The group said that four drones had struck the Kilaa barracks, 15 kilometers from the Lebanese border. Hezbollah said its fighters also targeted the Jall Al-Alam site near the Lebanese border with "appropriate weapons," resulting in direct hits. There was no comment from the Israeli military on the claim. Separately, Hezbollah said one of its fighters was killed in cross-border clashes with Israeli forces. In another development, Lebanon's state-run National News Agency reported Israeli artillery shelling and airstrikes in the border towns of El-Hamames and Jibbain.

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/lebanon-s-hezbollah-launches-drone-attack-on-israeli-military-barracks-in-syria-s-golan-heights/3161579>

Israeli jets hit Lebanon's Bekaa Valley for a second day

Reuters, March 13, 2024

Israeli warplanes struck deep into Lebanon for a second consecutive day on Tuesday, hitting a facility belonging to Hezbollah in the Bekaa Valley, sources in Lebanon said.

Two Hezbollah members from the Bekaa Valley were killed, the Iran-backed group said in a statement late on Tuesday.

The Israeli military said its fighter jets had "struck two Hezbollah military command centers" in the Baalbek area, in response to Hezbollah rocket launches towards northern Israel earlier in the day.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/lebanons-hezbollah-fires-more-than-100-katyusha-rockets-onto-israel-2024-03-12/>

Report: Iran Using EU Ports to Transfer Weapons to Hezbollah

Asharq al-Awsat, March 15, 2024

Iran is reportedly using European ports to provide cover for shipments of weapons to Lebanon's Hezbollah party, The Telegraph reported on Friday. Unnamed sources told the newspaper that Hezbollah has received missiles and bombs on ships that go on to dock in ports in Belgium, Spain and Italy. Hezbollah and Israel engage in daily exchanges of cross-border fire bringing the two countries close to all-out war and causing border regions to be evacuated. The sources told the newspaper that Iran has switched to shipping weapons by sea after Israel's air force began to target consignments coming in by land into

northern Syria via Iraq. Weapons and other goods are now shipped to the Syrian port of Latakia before the vessels go on to ports in Antwerp, Valencia and Ravenna, the Telegraph reported, in an attempt to disguise the purpose of the journeys. From Latakia, the weapons are transported south to Lebanon.

<https://english.aawsat.com/arab-world/4912711-report-iran-using-eu-ports-transfer-weapons-hezbollah>

Qatar

Safran provides M88 engines to Qatari Rafale fleet

Airforce Technology, March 8, 2024

During the Doha International Maritime Defence Exhibition and Conference, Safran Aircraft Engines signed a Services Agreement with the Qatari Armed Forces.

Building on their 40-year relationship, this new arrangement will see Safran support the M88 engines powering Qatar's current fleet of 36 Rafale fighter aircraft, which GlobalData intelligence says were procured between 2019-21. In addition, the supplier will provide Qatar's Armed Forces with a wide range of services, from spares, repairs and overhauls to detailed technical on-site support, optimizing maintenance operations with the customer. The M88 engine incorporates advanced technologies such as integrally bladed compressor disks ("blisks"), a low-pollution combustor with smoke-free emissions, single-crystal high-pressure turbine blades, ceramic coatings, and composite materials.

<https://www.airforce-technology.com/news/safran-provides-m88-engines-to-qatari-rafale-fleet/>

Saudi Arabia

The United States, Britain, Saudi Arabia, and Bahrain Want to Operate USVs in the Persian Gulf

Israel Defense, March 4, 2024

Units from the navies of the United States, Britain, Saudi Arabia, and Bahrain, recently conducted two naval drills that examined the multinational operation of unmanned surface vehicles (USVs) in the Persian Gulf. These are small unmanned boats equipped with electronic equipment that sail using solar and wind energy. Larger vessels of this type are powered by diesel engines. According to the UK Defence Journal, seven warships of various types from four navies participated in the drills, which included the possibility of operating large groups of such robotic boats, serving as "eyes and ears" for large warships sailing in the Gulf waters, while the unmanned vessels gather intelligence and transmit the information directly to command ships and shore commands.

<https://www.israeldefense.co.il/en/node/61405>

'Deniable fiddle': the MoD, Saudi Arabia and a scandal half a century in the making

Guardian, March 7, 2024

The revelation that the Ministry of Defence paid millions of pounds to a firm that would later be accused of being a conduit for secret payments to high-ranking Saudi officials is the culmination of a scandal that has been half a century in the making.

The £8m paid from an MoD bank account between 2014 and 2017 was in connection

with a large defence deal, Sangcom, first struck in the 1970s.

In Geneva in the mid-90s the British government's knowledge of payments being made to Saudi officials became clear, a court heard. It was there that a senior civil servant at the MoD is said to have informed two businessmen that the British government required their company to make payments to an offshore network.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2024/mar/07/deniable-fiddle-mod-saudi-arabia-scandal>

Saudi Goals of Developing an Indigenous Arms Industry are Ambitious

Stimson, March 11, 2024

The World Defense Show is an international defense industry exhibition, organized for the second time by Saudi Arabia from Feb. 8-12, 2024. The event — intended to confirm the growing capabilities of the Saudi defense industry — did not entirely achieve its goals. But Riyadh undoubtedly has the potential to at least partially fulfill one aim of its Vision 2030 strategy by reducing dependence on arms imports.

The brainchild of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, the de facto ruler of the country, Vision 2030 seeks to reduce Saudi reliance on exporting fossil fuels by diversifying the economy. Saudi Arabia also aspires to rise from its current position as the 19th largest economy in the world to the top 15.

<https://www.stimson.org/2024/saudi-arabia-to-develop-ambitious-indigenous-arms-industry/>

Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Egypt among world's top arms importers: SIPRI

Al-Monitor, March 11, 2024

Gulf states and Egypt accounted for more than 25% of global arms sales in the past four years, according to a report released Monday. The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute's (SIPRI) quadrennial report on international arms transfers details the import and export of weapons around the world between 2019 and 2023. Saudi Arabia was the second-largest arms importer in the world from 2019 to 2023, accounting for 8.4% of imports, while Qatar was third with 7.6%. India was the largest importer with a 9.8% global market share, according to SIPRI's data.

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2024/03/saudi-arabia-qatar-egypt-among-worlds-top-arms-importers-sipri#ixzz8Ukyf4ApC>

Turkiye

Turkish defense industry sees 12% export surge in first 2 months

Daily Sabah, March 3, 2024

The Turkish defense and aerospace industry broke a new record in export figures in the first two months of the year, an official said Saturday, underscoring the importance of shipments for the sustainable growth of the sector.

Defense and aerospace exports increased by 12% in January-February, compared to the same period last year with shipments amounting to \$632.78 million, the head of Presidency of Defense Industries (SSB)

Haluk Görgün said in a post on social media platform X, formerly Twitter.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkish-defense-industry-sees-12-export-surge-in-first-2-months>

Türkiye test-fires 1st turbofan jet engine in major breakthrough

Daily Sabah, March 10, 2024

Türkiye on Saturday announced it had successfully tested its first military turbofan engine, a major breakthrough in the nation's drive to rely on domestic technologies to curb external dependency on critical equipment.

The TF6000 jet engine has been designed to help Türkiye gain capabilities and technology on its path to developing a power unit for its first fifth-generation fighter jet, KAAN, which recently performed its inaugural flight, a statement by the Presidency of Defense Industries (SSB) said.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkiye-test-fires-1st-turbofan-jet-engine-in-major-breakthrough>

Türkiye fires anti-ship missile in 1st homegrown turbojet engine test

Daily Sabah, March 11, 2024

Türkiye announced on Sunday that its first domestically manufactured maritime missile successfully hit its target in an inaugural test utilizing the nation's first indigenous turbojet engine.

The test aimed to verify the domestically developed subsystems and components within the framework of the Atmaca missile

project, which Roketsan developed under the auspices of the Presidency of Defense Industries (SSB).

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkiye-fires-anti-ship-missile-in-1st-homegrown-turbojet-engine-test>

Maldives receives renowned Turkish drones amid India tensions

Daily Sabah, March 11, 2024

Türkiye has started supplying the Maldives with its famed combat drone, Bayraktar TB2, amid high tensions between the island nation and India.

The agreement between the two countries foresees a supply of a command control station and six TB2 unmanned combat aerial vehicles (UCAVs) to meet the security requirements of Maldivian armed forces.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/maldives-receives-renowned-turkish-drones-amid-india-tensions>

Türkiye's domestic vertical launch system fires missile off frigate

Daily Sabah, March 13, 2024

The homegrown vertical launch system (VLS) MIDLAS has fired its first missile from a naval frigate, according to an official statement on Tuesday, marking another significant milestone for the Turkish defense industry.

This test, which involved the test-firing of a Turkish-made Hisar-D naval air defense missile from the TCG Istanbul, marked a crucial milestone and the completion of the National Vertical Launch System's naval acceptance trials, said the statement by

Türkiye's Presidency of Defense Industries (SSB), which supervised the test.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkiyes-domestic-vertical-launch-system-fires-missile-off-frigate>

Türkiye's Akıncı drone completes supersonic missile firing test

Daily Sabah, March 14, 2024

The Bayraktar Akıncı, Türkiye's pioneering combat drone, completed Wednesday the UAV-122 supersonic missile firing test, its maker Baykar announced through a social media post accompanied by video footage of the test.

Developed by Roketsan, the UAV-122 missile is highly precise, has rapid firepower support, low/high altitude orbit options and is highly maneuverable.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkiyes-akinci-drone-completes-supersonic-missile-firing-test>

Türkiye still pursuing F-35 refund as it eyes to buy Eurofighters

Daily Sabah, March 15, 2024

Türkiye continues its efforts to get the F-35 fighter jet funds reimbursed while working with allies to procure Eurofighter Typhoons, a senior defense official said on Thursday.

At a press briefing, the Defense Ministry's Public Relations Adviser Adm. Zeki Aktürk stated that negotiations on F-35 fighter jets were ongoing with the U.S. but there was no change in the positions of both countries.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkiye-still-pursuing-f-35-refund-as-it-eyes-to-buy-eurofighters>

NUCLEAR AND ARMS CONTROL CENTRE

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