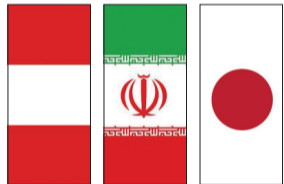


## IAU's Nano Journal Ranks 1st. in Middle East

**N**ano Structures in Chemistry journal, which is published by the Islamic Azad University's researchers and experts, has been ranked as number 1st. specialized journal of this field in the Middle East in 2015. It has also been announced as the journal referred to the most. The "Nano Structures in Chemistry", indexed in ISI databank, is published by the financial support of Shahr Ghods branch of IAU and is supervised and edited by Dr. Karim Zare, head of IAU's Elites and Young Researchers Club. About 63-percent of the journal's contributors are associates of credible foreign universities, 25-percent of them are from Iran's top universities, and the rest are faculty members of IAU branches. Three of the journal's staff writers are in the list of ISI's most-referred-to authors and three others are editors of other ISI journals. This journal has been announced as the best IAU journal in the 2nd National Nanotechnology Festival of IAU. Most of the top articles authored by the foreigners are published in this journal. Articles that are published in this journal are usually the result of several academic joint works. Some articles are even the result of joint project between universities of several countries.

## POINT OF VIEW

## Iran-Austria, Iran-Japan Cooperate for Joint Scholarships



**D**r. Hossein Salar-Amoli, assistant to the minister of Science and Technology in the field of International Affairs who is also the director of International Scientific Cooperation in this ministry, met with Dr. Stefan Zotti, director of Austria's Office of International Affairs. According to the PR Office of the ministry of Science and Research, Salar-Amoli visited Stefan Zotti and discussed issues regarding education, research, and scientific cooperation between the two countries based on the plan for economic cooperation between the two countries. Zotti appreciated Iran's ministry of Science's warm welcome and mentioned that Austria is fully prepared for development of the cooperation between the countries. A committee was formed in this meeting in order to analyze the agreement between Iran's ministry of Science and Austria's Office of International Affairs for cooperation in the fields of education and research. In another official meeting, Dr. Salar-Amoli met with Hiroyasu Kobayashi, Japan's Ambassador to Tehran. According to the PR Office of the ministry of Science, Dr. Salar-Amoli sat with Hiroyasu Kobayashi to talk about cooperation between the universities of two countries in the fields of science and technology. Scholarships for the Iranian and Japanese students in the other country, sending over professors to Japan for courses on Islam, Persian language, Middle East Studies, and also transfer of Japanese professors to Iran for the purpose of teaching Japanese language were amongst the most important issues that were raised and discussed in this meeting.

## CONTACT US

We welcome your views and memos on the related topics. You can contact us through: [english@fdn.ir](mailto:english@fdn.ir).

## 13th Sports Olympiad of Male Students Opens

# Sports Budget of Universities Should Increase 10-fold



The 13th Sports Olympiad of Male Students

**D**r. Mohammad Pour-Kiani, General Director of Physical Education Organization in the Ministry of Science, Research and Technology, says that the 13th Sports Olympiad of Male Students in the country will be held up until August 10 in Ferdowsi University of Mashhad. He said: "In this Olympiad, students will compete in 10 categories of volleyball, futsal, basketball, table tennis, badminton, swimming, track and field, freestyle and Greco-Roman wrestling, and taekwondo. More than 3,500 athlete students, coaches, supervisors and technical staff will participate in this event and considering the 2-year time given to Ferdowsi University for preparation, we are expecting great quality and results." Mentioning the budget per capita for sports activities of the universities, he said: "We believe different factors affect the development of sports, some of which are human resources, physical placement, infrastructures and facilities, also financial resources and

management. We could not solely rely on the financial resources, nevertheless a certain amount of assets is needed when investing in the physical education of the university students. Unfortunately, this has been ignored to a great extent up until now and the current budget is not nearly enough for development of sports activities in the academic field. The budget should increase to at least 10-fold of the current amount so that we could achieve our objectives with regards to sports and physical education in the country's institutions of higher education."

### Sidelines of the Olympiad

Pour-Kiani maintained: "During this event, the Comprehensive Sports Management system will be unveiled and all the students and related staff could use it in accessing the latest news with regards to technical, administrative and cultural programs of the Olympiad. Also, four educational and research

workshops in the fields of promotion of general sports through media, sports and preservation of the environment, health evaluation and the like will be held on the sidelines of this event. Also, Ferdowsi University will hold a charity bazaar in the sports village to present research achievements in the field of sports and physical education besides the local cultural and traditional handicrafts."

It should be mentioned that Dr. Mohammad Farhadi, minister of Science, Research and Technology, officially inaugurated the 13th Sports Olympiad of Male Students in Ferdowsi University of Mashhad.

He visited the Science and Technology Park of Khorasan and knowledge companies residing in the incubator center of this park and sat in a meeting with the board of directors of this park. Another plan scheduled for the minister of Science and Research is to inaugurate the Law School of Ferdowsi University and to hold a meeting with university directors of Khorasan provinces.

## Iran's News

## 33 bl. Rials Spent on Supporting Research Projects



**H**ead of the Research and Technology Fund of Sharif University of Technology says that this establishment has spent of 33-billion Rials to support of research projects in various fields such as biotechnology, IT, pharmacy and so on. Seyed Mehdi Rasoul claimed that 270 projects have already received financial support from this fund since 2009 and said: "By the end of the last year, 33 bl. Rials had been spent on supporting research projects conducted in the fields of biotechnology, IT, pharmacy and so forth. The Research and Technology Fund is a part of the entrepreneur-

ship system of Sharif University. Also, the registered capital of the Research and Technology fund amounts to over 3 billion Rials." He added: "This fund's services include granting facilities through Export Development Bank of Iran, and issuing warrants." He referred to the legal and tax affairs as the most important issues before this fund and went on: "Unlike banks and leasing which are exempt from paying the added-value tax, funds are required to pay this tax which consequently limits the range of activities and services which could be offered by these establishments to research projects."

## Top Dentistry Publishing to Open Office in Iran



**G**ermany's Quintessence Publishing Group is the most famous and credible academic publisher in the field of dentistry which is focused on publishing science books, scientific journals, holding international congresses and working in digital media. Quintessence has branches in 27 countries and presents its products to the market in 24 different languages, playing a key role in the progress of the world's dentistry field. Dr. Behnam Shakibaei, Science Representative of Asia in Quintessence Publishing, says: "Based on an agreement with this pub-

lishing house whose officials are going to visit Iran in the coming October, it was decided that an office be inaugurated here in 6 months." Shakibaei who is a specialist of microsurgical and minimally invasive Implantology, referred to his 6-year attempts to present a new concept able to gain the trust of this publication and added: "Quintessence's presence in Iran would be the first time for a globally renowned scientific publishing group to operate in our country, resolving prior obstacles such as lack of copy rights and such issues."



THE RECRUITING COUNCIL OF UNIVERSITY FACULTY MEMBERS, PART OF THE HIGH COUNCIL OF CULTURAL REVOLUTION, HELD ITS MEETING.

## IRAN UPDATES

## Italy's Saras Settles Part of Iran Debt

**I**talian oil refiner, Saras, says it has settled part of the debt it owes to Iran for crude oil bought before 2012 when sanctions were imposed on the Islamic Republic. The company has an outstanding debt of 250 million euros to Iran after paying 100 million euros in the second quarter of July, its Managing Director Dario Scaffardi said. Scaffardi said he expected, "a smooth payment over time" despite the hurdles which still exist on the banking front after the removal of sanctions on Iran in January.

Saras has been working to revive trade with the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) which provided a significant part of the Italian refiner's crude feedstock before the sanctions. The refiner took its first cargo of crude in June and was looking to "some interesting opportunities from this area in the future," Scaffardi said.

## Iran-South Korea to Trade in Euros

**S**outh Korea's media say the country's businesses will soon be able to settle their accounts with their Iranian counterparts in the euro currency instead of the local won. Reports have quoted sources from the financial industry as saying that the US government has indicated that it would allow South Korean companies to make payments to Iran in euros. The mechanism —which will be implemented from September for a trial phase— is expected to allow more convenient monetary transaction with Iran through European banks, the Pulse News reported.

It will specifically pave the way for Korean businesses to speed up \$45.6 billion worth bilateral projects that have been sealed in May during President Park Geun-hye's visit to Iran, it added. South Korea and Iran signed a series of deals during President Park's visit to Tehran.

## Russian Industrial Giant Seals Deal with Iran

**R**ussia's Technopromexport has become the country's first enterprise to win a major industrial deal from Iran after the removal of the sanctions against the country. Technopromexport, part of Russia's state industrial conglomerate Rostec, will reportedly build a thermal power plant in Iran with a capacity of 1.4 gigawatts (1.4 billion watts). The plant will be constructed in the port city of Bandar Abbas in about five years, says the business daily Kommersant in a report that was also carried by Reuters. The project is estimated at €1 billion (\$1.12 billion) and will be financed through a Russian export loan, the report added. The contract with Iran envisages the construction of four energy blocks and a seawater desalination plant with a capacity of 200,000 cubic meters of water per day.

## SPECIAL REPORTS

### Inside IAU

## Commercializing Strategic Product of Takestan



**E**reidun Hemati, Qazvin's governor, says: "We need to make use of all the capacities of the region, particularly the services of Takestan's IAU with regards to elevating the quality of products such as raisin and creating job opportunities in this field. Also, as the main producer of raisin, Takestan could benefit the province regarding exports by developing this sector further." Siavash Taher-Khani, Takestan's governor, also added: "We intend to organize the exporting activities in addition to strengthening the profitability of the product through inaugurating the Raisin Center in Takestan branch of IAU. Over 4.5 bl. Rials has been spent on this project, and hopefully it would be a significant step towards developing export and research activities."

Abbas Jahan-Bakhshi, director of Takestan branch of IAU, referred to Takestan as the main producer of grapes and raisin, announcing this university's capacity for establishing a brand for raisin product. He said: "Due to not being listed under a brand name, our raisin product would not be able to compete in international markets; this matter has caused loss and reluctance amongst the producers. I hope that inaugurating the Raisin Trade center would be of help regarding establishing a brand name as well as resolving the obstacles in the way of doing so, in addition to presenting the necessary efficiency in supporting the producers of this particular product. The building of this center is located in Takestan branch and is undergoing the final administrative procedures for its opening in the near future."

Qazvin's governor also visited the prepared building and equipped lab, which is one of the best in this field, located in Takestan branch of IAU.



NEWS PHOTOS