



Afghanistan

Ministry To Give Tax Breaks To Industrial Sector Investors



The Afghan Finance Ministry said on Friday that it would grant tax breaks for up to three years to business owners who invest in the industrial sector. Officials at the ministry said if business owners invest in the sector, they will be exempt from paying tax from the start of production for up to three years and will be exempt from paying the four percent tax on profits. The ministry officials said these adjustments are included as amendments in the Income Tax Law and have ...[full story](#)

Cost Of Internet Services Could Drop By Up To 80 Percent



The Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (MCIT) is working on a draft plan, suggested by the president, to lower the cost of internet services to the public. According to the MCIT spokesman, Najib Nangiyal, the cost of internet services could drop by between 60 and 80 percent within the next three months....[full story](#)



Azerbaijan

Registration for Caspian Energy Tourism Forum ongoing

Registration of attendees for the forthcoming Caspian Energy Tourism Forum, which will be held on October 18 with the support of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Azerbaijan, is in process", First Deputy Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Caspian European Club and Caspian American Club Telman Aliyev said. According to him, registration for the forum will be open until October 17, the registration is available on:[full story](#)



Azerbaijan to start production of 95 RON gasoline

Energy-rich Azerbaijan will not depend on the import of 95 RON gasoline, since the country is aimed at producing this type of fuel itself. Approximately in 2020, Azerbaijanis will be able to fill up their vehicles with local 95 RON gasoline. To this end, reconstruction work is underway at the Heydar Aliyev oil refinery. The conducted work at the oil refinery will also facilitate improvement of the quality of other types of the produced gasoline....[full story](#)





Iran

New avenues explored for economic co-op



Iranian Finance and Economic Affairs Minister Masoud Karbasian in separate meetings with his Italian, Indian, and Afghan counterparts discussed ways for boosting bilateral ties. The meetings were held on the sidelines of the 2017 Annual Meetings of the World Bank Group (WBG) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Washington, Shada reported on Saturday. In his meeting with the Italian Finance Minister Pier Carlo Padoan, Karbasian noted that in comparison with the same time in 2016, the Iran-Italy trade has tripled during the first half of the current year....[full story](#)

Railway cargo transport to commence between Iran, Azerbaijan in late Nov.



Azerbaijani Railways (ADY)' chairman said ADY is preparing for the beginning of rail freight transportation in the direction of Iran, ABC.AZ reported on Friday. According to Javid Gurbanov, a container terminal in Iranian Astara is expected to open in late November. "Trains in the direction of Astara (Azerbaijan) - Astara (Iran) will begin to operate in November," he said. The Azerbaijani side has rented 35 hectares of land in the territory of Iranian Astara, where 1.2 kilometers of railroad and two bridges are constructed; a third bridge is also going to be built....[full story](#)



Kazakhstan

Iranian investors to open sausage production plant in East Kazakhstan

Iranian producers are set to open a plant for non-waste meat processing in Semei, according to the press service of the East Kazakhstan region's akimat (administration). The project was discussed at a meeting attended by Akim (Governor) of the East Kazakhstan region Daniyal Akhmetov with the leadership of the Agro Portal Kazakh-Iranian company. The modern plant will be built within the Ondiris industrial zone in Semei and process the meat of small and large cattle, produce canned meat and sausage products....[full story](#)



Kazakh investor Kenges Rakishev developing blockchain smartphone

Sirin Labs company chaired by prominent Kazakh investor and businessman Kenges Rakishev is developing a smartphone and PC running on blockchain technology. Founded in 2014 by Rakishev together with Israeli entrepreneur and investor Moshe Hogeg and Tal Cohen, the company seeks to become the world's leader in "secure open source consumer electronics for the blockchain era." In 2016, Sirin Labs presented its flagship product - an ultra-secure Solarin smartphone worth \$14,000 and among other features, equipped with advanced hardware and software technology as well as encrypted messaging and calling mechanism....[full story](#)





Kyrgyzstan

Presidential elections take place in Kyrgyzstan



Kyrgyzstan hosts presidential elections today, October 15. 11 people are running for the main post of the country, but the main struggle has unfolded between Omurbek Babanov, Sooronbay Jeenbekov and Temir Sariev. Kyrgyzstanis can also vote against all candidates. 2,375 polling stations were organized for voting. They opened at 8.00 am. According to the latest data of the State Registration Service, 3,025,902 people will vote in Kyrgyzstan. Kyrgyzstanis staying abroad can vote at 37 polling stations opened on the territory of the embassies and consulates of the Kyrgyz Republic. Only those who have been registered[full story](#)

Almazbek Atambayev: Kyrgyzstan is most promising country in CIS



According to the American Gallup Institute, Kyrgyzstan is the most promising country in the CIS. The head of state Almazbek Atambayev said at the opening of FIFA Football Academy in Osh city. Information Policy Department of the Presidential Administration said. Almazbek Atambayev told that before the trip to Osh, he remembered the events of June 2010, and noted that he would always pray that such tragic events would never happen again in the country....[full story](#)



Pakistan

Pakistan needs to control water demand-supply gap

The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) has warned that the widening gap between water demand and supply has now become a major social and economic concern for Pakistan that requires a comprehensive national policy. "Any delay in reforms would only compound the concerns as the water deficit would expand on account of growing demand (stemming from population growth, urbanisation and economic development) and a decline in available supplies (owing to pollution and climate change)," the central bank said in a special section of its Annual Report on the State of Economy for... [full story](#)



Pakistani pharmaceutical companies eager to create JV in Azerbaijan

Pakistani companies are eager to enter Azerbaijan's pharmaceutical market. Pakistani Ambassador to Baku Saeed Khan Mohmand said several pharmaceutical companies currently eye partnership with Azerbaijan. "They plan to create joint venture in the Pirallahi Industrial Zone, which offers tax reliefs," the envoy said in an interview with Trend. Khan Mohmand further stressed that Pakistan's pharma industry is quite huge and owns modern technologies, further mentioning that Azerbaijan can also import surgical goods and medical instruments from Pakistan..... [full story](#)





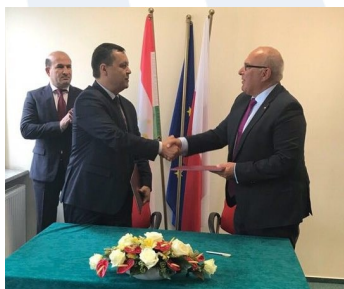
Tajikistan

The second meeting of the US -Tajikistan Business Council held in Washington



The second meeting of the US-Tajikistan Business Council was held on October 12 in Washington, DC with the participation of the official delegation of the Republic of Tajikistan – Finance Minister Abdusalom Qurboni, Chairman of the National Bank Jamshed Nurmuhhammadzoda, Ambassador of the Republic of Tajikistan to the United States Farhod Salim, Representative of the Republic of Tajikistan to the World Bank and International Monetary Fund Ilhom Rajabov...[full story](#)

5th meeting of the Tajikistan – Poland Intergovernmental Commission held in Warsaw



The 5th meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission on Economic Cooperation between Tajikistan and Poland was held on October 10-11 in Warsaw. According to the MFA Information Department, the meeting was held under the leadership of the co-chairmen of the commission – Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Trade of the Republic of Tajikistan Umed Davlatzod and Deputy Minister of Development of Poland Tadeusz Kosciński...[full story](#)



Turkey

Turkey helping young Brazilians with cancer

Turkey's state-run aid agency has donated medical equipment to help treat children with cancer in Brazil's biggest city. The Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) handed over the equipment to a children's oncology treatment institute at a ceremony in Sao Paulo, the most populous city in the Americas. The institute treats children with untreated or advanced cancer and hematological disorders. ...[full story](#)



Erdogan to visit Poland to boost trade ties

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's upcoming visit to Poland will boost trade and investment between the two countries, business leaders from both countries said Sunday. "Poland is the most important trading partner for Turkey in Central Europe, with bilateral trade reaching nearly \$6 billion last year," Kemal Guleryuz, president of the Turkish-Poland Business Council of the Foreign Economic Relations Board, told Anadolu Agency.[full story](#)





Turkmenistan

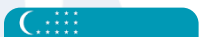
Exhibition of economic achievements of Turkmenistan opens in Ashgabat

A traditional exhibition of economic achievements of Turkmenistan has kicked off in Ashgabat ahead of Independence Day. The inter-industry exhibition has been organized by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI) of Turkmenistan. It has brought together representatives of the branch-wise subdivisions of the state sector of economy, educational, cultural, sports and tourism organizations, as well as private Turkmen businesses....[full story](#)



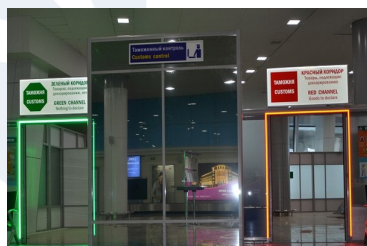
Turkmenistan presented at festival of world cultures

The Kyiv Mayor's Office was the venue of the fourth Festival of World Cultures "OUTLOOK World Culture Festival." It was organized with the support of the diplomatic missions accredited in Ukraine. The Embassies of Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, Austria, Argentina, Armenia, Bulgaria, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Germany, Greece, Georgia, India, Iraq, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Morocco, Mexico, Moldova, USA, Pakistan, Palestine, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Sudan, Tajikistan, South Africa, South Korea, Japan and Ukraine presented a whole range of national cultures at an exhibition in the Column Hall of the Kyiv Mayor's Office.....[full story](#)



Uzbekistan

Double corridor system to be introduced in Uzbek airports



Uzbekistan plans to introduce a double corridor system at international airports from 1 January 2018. The Government of Uzbekistan issued a resolution "On approval of the Regulations on application of double corridor system at checkpoints across the customs border of the Republic of Uzbekistan". According to the document, the system of double corridor will be introduced at automobile and railway checkpoints through customs border of Uzbekistan from 1 January 2021. From 1 January 2018, "green" and "red" corridors for passengers to choose how to declare ...[full story](#)

Railway to be constructed to Khiva



The President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev, during his trip to Khorezm region on 27 January 2017, gave instructions on increasing the tourism potential of the region, laying the railway and setting up the electric trains service to Khiva. In accordance with these instructions, a large-scale creative work was carried out over the past short period. Currently, the construction of 33 kilometers of railways between Urgench and Khiva, and of a modern railway station and facilities of the corresponding infrastructure in Khiva is actively continuing. According to the target program it is planned...[full story](#)