

Economists welcome US efforts towards boosting Afghanistan's air exports



By Shukria Khatami

The United States Special Investigation Council for Afghanistan Reconstruction in its latest report stated that the country plans to boost the air exports of Afghanistan. The plan is made for a four-year period of 2021-2024 and is said to be using five major ways to boost the air exports of Afghanistan. Based on the plan, Afghanistan air exports will increase by 70 percent.

Afghan economists and citizens have welcomed the US step towards increasing the country's air exports of Afghanistan. They are also considering the impact of the economic development of Afghanistan.

Air corridors are considered one of the universally accepted approaches and have played a significant role in the development of world trade particularly among countries like Afghanistan, having difficulty to connect through land and seaports.

Direct access to global mar-



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The restoration process will also create up to 20,000 jobs and will boost Afghanistan's air exports by 30 percent. Since the start of exports through the airport, the war-affected country has exported \$170 million worth of commercial goods to other countries.

Afghanistan mostly exports its dry fruits and relatively large quantities of minerals and metals. The Taliban of Afghanistan is the best of its kind in the world and the country is now the largest producer and exporter of opium in the world.

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Sustained recovery: US economy grew at solid 6.5% rate last quarter



WASHINGTON: Fueled by vaccinations and government aid, the U.S. economy grew at a solid 6.5% annual rate last quarter as another sign that the nation has achieved a sustained recovery from the pandemic recession.

Thursday's report from the Commerce Department estimated that the nation's gross domestic product — its total output of goods and services — accelerated in the April-June quarter from a already robust 6.3% annual growth rate in the first quarter of the year. The quarterly figure was lower than analysts had expected, but the economy was likely held back mainly by supply shortages in goods, components and labor.

For all of 2021, the economy is expected to expand about 7%. That would be the strongest calendar-year growth since 1984. And it would mark a sharp reversal from last year's 3.5% economic contraction — the worst in 74 years — as a result of the pandemic. For economists, the recovery is a sign that the possibility of a stronger consensus view of the highly volatile global delta variant. The U.S. is now averaging more than 60,000 confirmed new cases a day, up from only about 12,000 a month ago. Should a surge in viral infections cause many consumers to spend less, it would weaken the recovery. For now, the economy is showing sustained strength.

At \$55,000 jobs, well above the average of the previous three months. And, despite hourly pay

The recovery, in fact, has been so rapid, with pent-up demand from consumers driving growth after a year of lockdowns, that some lowering risk is a potential spike in inflation that could get out of control. Consumer prices jumped 5.4% in June from a year ago, the sharpest spike in 13 years and the fourth straight month of double-digit price jumps.

Some economists have warned that by choosing not to begin withdrawing its extraordinary support for the economy, the Fed may end up providing too little and too aggressively to high inflation and possibly causing another recession.

But in a news conference Wednesday, Fed Chair Jerome Powell underscored his belief that recent inflation readings reflect price spikes in a narrow range of categories — from used cars and furniture to hotel rooms and auto rentals — that have been distorted by temporary supply shortages related to the economy's swift reopening. Those shortages involve items like furniture, appliances, clothing and computer chips, among others.

Underpinning the supply bottlenecks is the fact that at the start of the pandemic, many of the world's transportation ports in Asia that have served as a source of raw materials to shut down. Those bottlenecks could, in turn, continue to constrain the U.S. economy.

A shortage of workers, too, has made it harder for restaurants, retail purveyors and other service industries to fill out as consumer demand surges — even employees that have been staying wages. Despite the job market's strong gains, unemployment, at 3.9%, is still well above the 3.5% rate that prevailed before the pandemic struck. And the economy remains 6.8 million jobs short of pre-pandemic levels.

Should the economy's short-term growth slow, the Fed's policy of raising rates to encourage borrowing and spending.

Iran's Raisi set to focus on economy and nuclear deal

Iran's ultraconservative Ebrahim Raisi will be inaugurated on Tuesday as the new president of the Islamic republic, a country gripped in deep economic crisis and by crippling US sanctions.

He replaces moderate president Hassan Rouhani, whose last mark achievement was the 2015 nuclear deal between Iran and six world powers.

Raisi, 66, will have to tackle the nuclear talks aimed at ending the deal from which the US has largely withdrawn.

Two days after Tuesday's inauguration, the Islamic republic's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, Raisi will take the oath before parliament.

He says Raisi's election was more than half the votes staged away after many political heavyweights were barred from standing for his home rights record.

Iran's economic problems, exacerbated by the American sanctions, will be the new president's greatest challenge, according to CNN. There is a possibility that the European University Institute in Italy.

The main objective will be to improve the economic situation by softening the Islamic republic's economic relations with neighboring countries," Raisi said AFP.

"The goal would be to build a business model that would protect Iran's economic growth from American policies and decisions."



Iranian reformist economist Saied Layeh said that the outgoing president was an "obstacle" in his approach to the West.

He said Raisi would be able to solve all the country's problems quickly," said Layeh, who has been an adviser to Iranian presidents.

Layeh believes Raisi will choose a different path from Rouhani's election. Raisi made clear that his key foreign policy would be to improve ties with regional countries.

He said Rouhani had been hoped his successor could clinch a deal with US sanctions and exclude nuclear talks.

Iran's Khamenei, who will preside over Raisi's inauguration on Tuesday and whose word is final in policy matters, has warned against a "return to the West."

Raisi himself has already said he will not negotiate with the US, just for the sake of negotiations.

The government will support talks that "guarantee national interests," he has said.

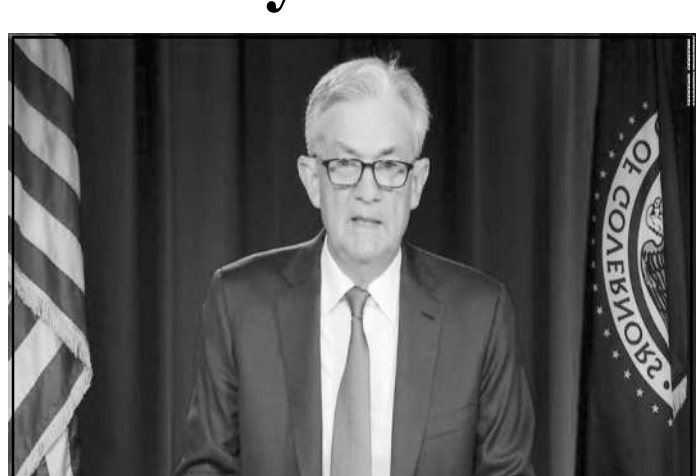
His remarks of nuclear talks between Iran and world powers were held in Vienna between April and June. The deal round concluded on June 20, and no deal has been set for another.

These Interconnected Policies Would Sustain Families, Support Women, and Grow the Economy

Individuals and families need a range of supports to thrive, lead healthy and productive lives, and participate fully in the economy. An interconnected suite of policy interventions that address economic, safety and family needs — from job quality measures to paid leave for child care to tax credits for low-income families — is essential, not only for families' economic well-being but also to grow and prosper a strong economy. These policy interventions can go a long way in addressing the inequities in U.S. workplaces, ensuring that those who are most vulnerable to economic downturns, including families, women, individuals with disabilities, and communities of color.

It is important to note that implementation of two of these interventions — one to support the needs of American families, who face complex challenges that require multiple, interconnected solutions. Consider how a suite of family interventions could help workers avoid making the tough choice between holding down a job to support their families and providing nec-

Europe's economy posts 13% growth as recovery accelerates



Ursula von der Leyen

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said that the EU economy posted a record 13% growth in the second quarter, with consumer and business confidence boosting a look promising recovery.

The Purchasing Managers' Index from IHS Markit released last week showed that business activity for the EU economy rose by 13.2% compared with the same period last year, and by 11.5% compared with the previous quarter, according to the EU statistics office. The EU economy posted even stronger growth of 15.2% and 17.5% compared with the previous quarter, according to the EU statistics office. The EU economy posted even stronger growth of 15.2% and 17.5% compared with the previous quarter, according to the EU statistics office.

To equally robust the U.S. economy, policymakers must invest in creating millions of good-paying jobs across major industries, especially those jobs most providing significant worker protections. The World Bank estimates that the EU economy posted even stronger growth of 15.2% and 17.5% compared with the previous quarter, according to the EU statistics office.

Ukraine the United States, which posted second-quarter annualized growth of 4.5% on Thursday, European GDP was yet to return to its pre-pandemic level, though economists at Deutsche Bank forecast that it could achieve that milestone before the end of the year.

Annual inflation across the eurozone also rose up, and could hit 2.2% in July, according to the EU statistics office. That's higher than the European Central Bank's target of 2%.

Accelerating price increases were driven by rising energy costs (up 14% in July), food, alcohol and tobacco (up 14%) and services (up 14%).

The resumption of non-oil export growth has seen retail sales leap back toward pre-pandemic levels, while there are signs that third-sector activity from the spread of the virus, but not the demand for goods, is returning to the level of the first quarter, but a rise in cases of the



Family members