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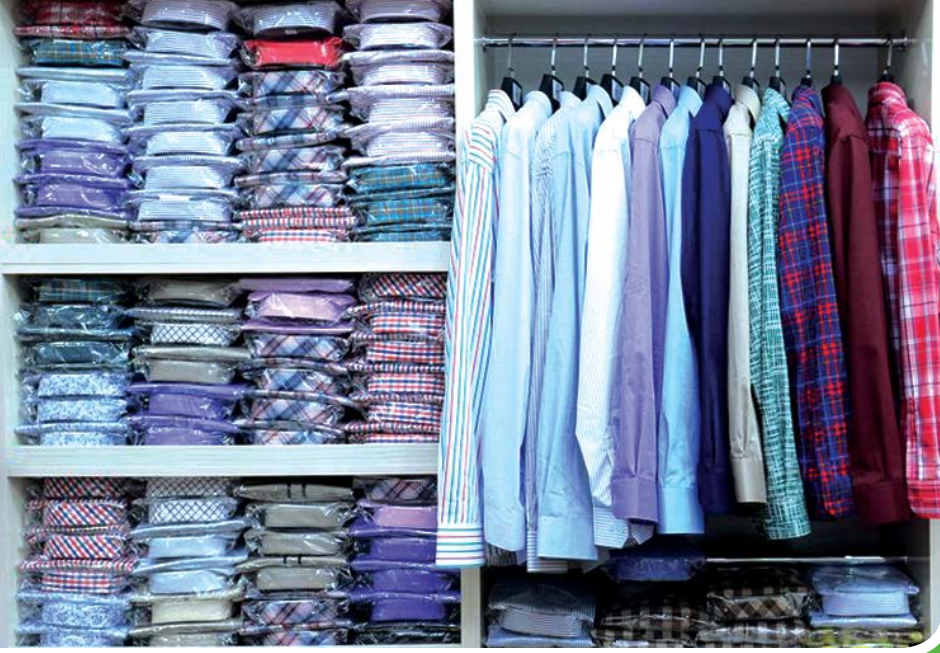


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OFFICIAL NEWS

President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov got acquainted with work progress at the new objects erected in the capital

On January 18, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov in association with some Deputy Chairmen of the Cabinet of Ministers made a working tour of the capital to get acquainted with work progress at the new objects – the Congress Center, fashionable “Arkadag” Hotel, and Government Tribune – erected in the capital by “Bouygues Batiment International” French Company.

The report on the construction progress of the Congress Center, Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers Sh. Durdylyev has bolstered with demonstration of the Center’s exterior and interior designs and decorations.

Having highlighted that the Congress Center would be an excellent gift to the 30th anniversary of the country’s independence, the Turkmen leader has ordered to provide high quality of works and their compliance with the international urban construction standards and national architecture traditions.

To strengthen Turkmenistan’s global name recognition, not the least significant is to create every condition in the Center to ensure high organizational level of the would-be top-level meetings and sessions, the head of state Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov stressed.

Further, the leader of nation headed to the new fashionable “Arkadag” Hotel, which is also planned to be opened in run-up to the 30th anniversary of the country.

Having inspected the situation at the facility, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has highlighted that according to all the criteria – starting from the quality of construction to the interior design – the building is to meet high international standards.

Wide spread adoption of the bright national coloring and elements in the exterior and interior design and decoration of hotel rooms would be an excellent opportunity for foreign guests to familiarize with the distinctive culture of the Turkmen people, the head of state noted.

The hostelry conditions in the hotel complex are to be in tune with primordial traditions of oriental hospitality, the head of state Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov highlighted, having addressed certain assignments to the officials concerned.

The Hotel (which is at the final stage of construction) is also to be efficiently employed for hosting of different measures and events, including international meetings and top-level negotiation processes.

Of great importance are also the issues of ecological aspect, neighborhoods improvement and landscaping, development in the Hotel’s neighborhoods of forest zones, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov said.

The Government Tribune, which is also planned to be opened on the 30th anniversary of the country’s independence, was the next object President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has inspected.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers Sh. Durdylyev has reported on the course of construction of the Government Tribune and its exterior and interior development and improvement.

The Tribune (over 20,000 sq m area) is built as per the Eastern palatial architecture method and includes a 2,000-visitor tribune; there will be a paved square in front of the Tribune intended for hosting parades and large-scale events, including the events on the occasion of Turkmenistan’s Independence Day.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers, State Security Council Secretary Ch. Amanov has reported on the measures undertaken for high-level organization of the anniversary military parade.

While preparing the military parades, it is necessary to create every condition for well-organized marching past the Government Tribune of the modern specialized military machinery, which demonstrates strength and power of the National Army and its modern outfit, the leader of nation highlighted.

All conditions are also to be provided for demonstrating to the numerous guests of the unique Akhalteke horses in all their beauty.

Vice-Premier M. Mammedova has reported on the preparatory work to celebrating of the glorious 30th anniversary of Turkmenistan’s independence in the running year, in particular – on the cultural and mass measures included in the Holiday Program.

Along with parades, not the least important is to envisage the conditions for conducting of large-scale cultural-mass festive measures and events at a higher organizational level.

All events are to be held at modern level, in tune with the spirit of Turkmen people, its traditions, which make up its rich national heritage. It is necessary to provide night lighting, celebration illumination, wide spread adoption of advanced technologies, the leader of nation noted in his assignments to the Vice-Premier.

Addressing to the object contractor his requirements on ensuring high quality and scheduled time spaces of construction, the leader of nation has also centered on wide spread adoption of the national architecture traditions and compliance of works with generally-admitted requirements.

Summing up the outcomes of his working round of the city, the President of Turkmenistan has highlighted that all new facilities are to harmoniously blend in with the magnificent architectural ensemble and unique natural landscape - picturesque mountainous zone of that part of the capital.

In his concrete instructions to the dignitaries concerned, the head of state has highlighted that the new objects are to meet their workability and employment purposes; their integrated social and living, engineering and technical, transport and communication infrastructures are to be well-thought and scrutinized.

The President of Turkmenistan held the meeting on the country’s socioeconomic development

On January 19, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov held an online working session

with the participation of some Deputy Chairmen of the Cabinet of Ministers, khyakims of Balkan and Mary velayats, and the Minister of Culture to give consideration to the tasks of the country's socioeconomic development, as well as to the important issues of the state life.

Opening the session, the President of Turkmenistan has come into direct contact with Deputy Chairmen of the Cabinet of Ministers Sh. Durdylyev and B. Ovezov, as well as with khyakim of Balkan velayat T. Atahallyiev.

The chief head of administration of the country's western region has reported on the situation in the region, the implementation progress of the seasonal agricultural campaigns, including attendance and treatment of the fields planted to winter wheat crops and preparation to the spring field works.

In addition, the khyakim's report covered construction paces of the objects of different purposes, the ongoing work on ensuring trouble-free functioning of heating systems in the residential areas, schools and kindergartens of the region, and on uninterrupted supply of electricity, gas and water to the population.

Having listened to the report, the head of state has concentrated on the importance of proper organization of all agricultural works in tune with agricultural standards, full readiness of agri-machinery and equipment to the sowing season, maintenance of proper conditions of fields for getting heavy yields of wheat.

Together with cotton sowing, not the least important is to cultivate other crops, the leader of nation noted. Summing up the report, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov in his concrete assignments to the khyakim has exhorted to center attention on well-timed and qualitative implementation of all works projected for the year, to launch new facilities on the basis of wide spread adoption of advanced practice and innovative technologies.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers B. Ovezov (in charge of Balkan velayat) has reported on the situation at the construction objects erected in the region, which he got acquainted with during his President-authorized working trip to the velayat.

The Vice-Premier has informed that construction of "Türkmeniň ak öýi" and the near-by building for conducting sadaqat in Balkanabat is carried out at accelerated rates; erection of the multifield and infectious disease hospitals in Turkmenbashi and the cottage complex in Avaza entrap of Turkmenbashi is ongoing.

The President of Turkmenistan has demanded to properly organize current works in the region and exercise control over construction of the objects, which are planned to be commissioned on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of sacred independence.

In this regard, concentrating attention on wide spread adoption of the elements of national architectural traditions in the interior and exterior design and decoration of new facilities, the head of state Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov gave the relevant instruction to the Vice-Premier and the khyakim of velayat.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers Sh. Durdylyev has reported on the implementation

progress of the construction objects, which are planned to be put into operation in the regions of the country on the occasion of the glorious 30th anniversary of the Motherland's independence.

Having listened to the report, the President of Turkmenistan has addressed to the Vice-Premier the assignments on exercising strict control over the paces, quality and scheduled date of the construction objects, which would be an excellent present for the glorious holiday.

Then, via the digital communication channel, the leader of nation got connected with Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers E. Orazgeldiyev and khyakim of Mary velayat D. Annaberdiyev.

The report of khyakim of velayat was centered on the general state of affairs in the region and measures taken to qualitatively implement the field works in compliance with agri-technical standards, on preparation of lands and agri-machinery to the sowing season, including sowing of vegetable and cucurbitaceous crops.

The khyakim has also reported that all structures of the region carry out their activity for successful fulfillment of the tasks ensuing from the National Rural Development Program, and for systematic improvement of social provision of the population in the region.

In his assignments to the khyakim, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has focused attention on bringing the work in the region in tune with the times, organizing trouble-free functioning of heating systems in the residential zones, schools and kindergartens, social infrastructure facilities in etraps, cities and settlements on these winter days.

Along with field works, not the least significant is to pay attention to preparation to the coming spring sowing campaign, in order to conduct this important agricultural campaign in time and at a higher level.

The outcomes of the working trip to Mary velayat and the earmarked integrated measures undertaken in the region were in the center of the online report of Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers E. Orazgeldiyev.

It was informed that the relevant work is kept going on construction of the Turkmenistan – Afghanistan – Pakistan – India gas pipeline and Turkmenistan – Afghanistan – Pakistan power transmission line, which originate in the territory of Mary velayat.

The report covered also the measures taken to accelerate construction paces of the objects erected in the velayat in the frames of the "Program of the President of Turkmenistan of the country's socioeconomic development in 2019-2025" and the National Rural Development Program.

Having heard the report, the head of state has stressed the importance of activating construction of various facilities and solving the issues of wide spread adoption and harmonic combination of advanced modern practice and traditions of national architecture during construction. In this regard, the relevant presidential instructions were given to the Vice-Premiers Sh. Durdylyev and E. Orazgeldiyev and khyakim D. Annaberdiyev.

The leader of nation has also strongly advised and gave the relevant assignments to the officials concerned to organize a working trip of velayat khyakims to Mary velayat to exchange positive experience and get acquainted with the achievements of the region in the agricultural complex and cultural life, which would serve to further optimization of their activity.

Further, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has come into direct vide-audio contact with Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers M. Mammedova and the Minister of Culture A. Shamyradov.

Vice-Premier M. Mammedova has reported on preparation of the Special Program to wnsyre wide coverage of the events to be held in the year proclaimed under the slogan “Turkmenistan – Home of Peace and Trust” and the Plan of the Program realization.

Minister of Culture A. Shamyradov has reported on the program of events and measures on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of Turkmenistan’s independence and the year proclaimed under the slogan “Turkmenistan – Home of Peace and Trust”. Bright music festivals, contests, exhibitions and various conferences will be organized on the occasion of the dates, which are to be in tune with the lofty creative spirit of the epoch.

All planned cultural events, which are very important for enrichment of the spiritual world of our nation, are to harmoniously combine national traditions and modern practice. They are to reflect large-scale achievements of the country, its success in various spheres of the economy, happy life of the people, the head of state Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov said, having highlighted the necessity of holding the holiday-associated work and events at a better and higher level in terms of organization and content.

Finishing the online session, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has wished strong health, family wealth and big success in the work to the participants of the session.

President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov visited the capital’s Olympic Village

On January 20, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov visited the capital’s Olympic Village to get acquainted with the preparedness rate to the forthcoming large international tournaments and sportsmen trainings in our country.

On arrival in the Olympic Village, the President of Turkmenistan was met by the Vice-Premier (in charge of the health, social and sport organizations), khyakim of Ashgabat administration, heads of certain ministries and core departments.

The head of state has inspected the condition of sport facilities of the unique complex, which has no parallel in Central Asia and beyond. The stadium, which meets all international standards, can be used for various high-level competitions, including football matches, athletics competitions, and cultural-mass measures.

President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has noted that the size of the stadium enables also to be employed

for conducting of the measures on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of Turkmenistan’s independence. In this regard, concrete presidential instructions were given to khyakim of Ashgabat administration and the Minister of Sports and Youth Policy.

The leader of nation has highlighted that the would-be festivities are to be in tune with the spirit of Turkmens, demonstrate the success achieved by our country in the development of sports and Olympic Movement and in assertion of principles of healthy life style in the society.

The head of state has also noted that having achieved record-high victories, Turkmen sportsmen are to apply every effort so that the Turkmen flag waved proudly in the wind.

In 2021, our country will host the cycling track racing, qualification matches of the Davis Cup International Tennis Tournament. The report of the Minister of Sport and Youth Policy to President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov covered the preparation progress to the within-named competitions.

The Minister of Health and Medical Industry has reported to the head of state that all necessary resources are available in the country to vaccinate the foreign sportsmen against infectious diseases on their arrival to our country.

Worth of noting is the fact that at present, many countries have started to produce vaccine against the severe virus infection. For example, we can use “Sputnik V” vaccine, which Turkmenistan has officially registered.

Foreign sportsmen may express willingness to be vaccinated by other vaccines or medicines, the head of state noted. In this case, we have every opportunity to meet their choice and render gratuitous services. In this context, the head of state gave a number of instructions to the dignitaries concerned.

Then, the head of state visited the indoor complex of the Olympic Village, which would host the World Track Cycling Championship.

According to foreign experts and specialists of the International Cycling Union, the venue of the would-be Championship meets all requirements and has necessary equipment and facility base; the country’s road infrastructure is also adapted for conducting cycling races.

The roads, which have been built in the Kopetdag foothills, are used for conducting of numerous national competitions. These days, they turned into the place for training sessions of sport masters.

Having examined the racing tracks and 6,000-spectator stands of the indoor track cycling complex, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has appreciated at their true value the conditions for sportsmen, referees and spectators.

The report of the Ministers of Sports and Youth Policy to the head of state has covered the issues of preparation rate to the World Track Cycling Championship. Participation of sportsmen from almost 40 countries of the world is expected in the Championship; the competitions will be held in 10 nominations; taking into account that competitions will be held separately among the men and women, 20 races would be organized in total.

Summing up the report, the head of state has reiterated that the competitions are to be held at a high level, in tune with international standards. The bicycles, which would be used by Turkmen sportsmen, are to be decorated with national symbols, and above all – our sportsmen are to triumphantly spread out and bear the Turkmen flag.

The President of the country has also stressed that at the would-be World Championships, it is necessary to pay the utmost attention to the issues related to sportsmen's health and exercising doping control in tune with the generally-admitted international requirements. Our Doping Control Center's possibilities are to be used in full, the head of state added.

At present, not the least important is to maintain the structures of the Olympic Village in due conditions. Each of the facilities is to be used strictly according to its designation; it is necessary to take measures for attraction of young people to use training devices and implements of the complex. In this regard, a number of presidential instructions were given to the head of Ashgabat administration.

The head of state Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has also exhorted to provide high level of live broadcast of competitions in the Olympic Village by the International Live Broadcast Center.

While examining the indoor tennis court of the Olympic Village, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has evinced interest in the preparation works unfolded in the complex, having focused on the necessity to take all indicators into account.

The capabilities of the indoor tennis court of the Olympic Village meet in full international standards, the head of state Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov highlighted. Same like in other sport facilities, all technical standards of the International Olympic Committee were taken into account and implemented in the course of the project designing and construction.

President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has stressed that conducting in our country of the coming Davis Cup Tournament round will have great impact on the upward development of different sports in our country. It will become a landmark event, which would raise yet higher sport authority of Turkmenistan.

The results of competitions would have to visually demonstrate high level reached by Turkmenistan in the sport sphere, national culture, rich heritage, hospitality, cordiality and openness of our people. The guests, who will visit our country, are to have unforgettable impression of the national affinities, the head of state said.

We use significant investments to promote the development of mass physical culture, sports, and Olympic Movement in our country, the head of state noted, having highlighted that in the years ahead we will apply all efforts to make this work effective and successful.

The President of the country has exhorted the dignitaries concerned to promote wide spread adoption of the experience of conducting large international competitions by Turkmenistan, notable for its first-class sport infrastructure, which meets

high international standards, and wished success in fulfillment of the tasks set.

Having performed sport exercises in the gym of the Complex, the leader of nation has placed accent on the importance of the measures aimed at strengthening of the principles of healthy life style in the society. Then, the leader of nation has departed from the venue of event.

Chief heads and specialists of the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry of the country have discussed the directions of implementation of the program aimed at provision of the appropriate organizational level of the coming World Championship and embarked on the relevant preparatory works.

Presidents Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov and Ilham Aliyev welcomed signing of the important document

On January 21, Ashgabat hosted the ceremony of signing the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Turkmenistan and the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan on joint exploration and development of hydrocarbon resources of the offshore "Dostluk" field in the Caspian Sea. Presidents Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov and Ilham Aliyev have welcomed the adoption of the important document, which reflects the by-now high level of the long-established neighborly and friendly interstate relations.

Prior to the signing ceremony, the head of state Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has received the Foreign Minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan Jeyhun Bayramov.

The contentious opinion exchange during the meeting was centered on the present situation and prospects for partnership advancement in the bilateral and multilateral formats in a number of key directions, including in the fuel-energy, and transport-communication spheres.

The sides were pleased to note a great deal of many-year work accomplished for strengthening of cooperation in the FEC and realization of large-scale projects, which importance is reflected in the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Government of Turkmenistan and the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan on joint exploration and development of hydrocarbon resources of the offshore "Dostluk" field in the Caspian Sea.

While signing this important document, which will mark the startup of a new phase in the development of bilateral relations, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov and the Azeri MFA Minister D. Bayramov have expressed confidence in further enhancement of the interstate dialog.

Further, the delegation of the friendly country headed to the Foreign Ministry of Turkmenistan to sign the within-named Memorandum.

The heads of states Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov and Ilham Aliyev took part in the signing ceremony in the online format.

After an exchange of pleasantries, grateful to his Azeri colleague for participation in the online meeting, the head of Turkmen state has noted the significance of

the event in the context of further upward development of the traditionally friendly and fraternal relations between Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan. Then, the Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation between the Government of Turkmenistan and the Government of Azerbaijan on joint exploration and development of hydrocarbon resources of the offshore “Dostluk” field in the Caspian Sea is signed.

“This document is the result of large long-term work accomplished by our countries aimed at strengthening of cooperation and reciprocal understanding in the energy sphere, at unleashing of huge untapped potential of the two large energy powers, creating in the Caspian Sea region of advantageous conditions for development of stable energy, broad and mutuality-based international partnership”, - the leader of nation highlighted.

The head of state Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has reminded that the possibilities of bilateral cooperation in the energy sphere in the Caspian Sea were in detail discussed and analyzed together with President Ilham Aliyev during official visit of the Turkmen President to Baku in March 2020.

As a result, the agreements on joint work at one of the biggest fields of hydrocarbon resources in the Caspian Sea have been reached. Therefore, our common decision to name the field as “Dostluk” (“Friendship”) was deep-symbolical, the head of Turkmenistan noted.

The Turkmen leader has stated that signing of the Memorandum marks a fundamentally new stage in the energy cooperation of Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan in the Caspian Sea. It opens new opportunities for joint work on the solid international-legal base; creates serious stimuli for the inflow of large foreign investments in the region on the systemic and long-term basis; and it will have a catalytic effect on the upward development and dynamic growth of national economies, opening of new workplaces, raising of the level and quality of the peoples’ life.

It was noted in the speech that the by-now relations between Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan are advancing consistently and dynamically.

We work successfully on the international arena, standing for strengthening of the universal peace, stability and security. Our countries share the approaches to such principally important issue of global agenda as energy security, vision of the configuration of international energy flows, and the architecture of the global energy sphere in general, the head of Turkmenistan stressed.

It was highlighted that cooperation in the Caspian affairs is an important direction of Turkmen-Azeri cooperation.

Worth of mentioning is the fact that the multilateral long-term work of the leaders of five coastal states resulted in signing in August 2018 of the Convention on legal status of the Caspian Sea, which signaled the beginning of a new phase of cooperation in general, and in the energy sphere inclusive.

Not the least significant in the interaction between the two countries is the transport sphere.

Together with Afghan, Georgian and Turkish partners, Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan today work actively over efficient operation of the “Lapis-

Lazuli” transport corridor, which is to become an important continental route between Europe and Asia. Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan are also among the initiators of establishing of the Caspian Sea – Black Sea transport communication system.

- Together, we embark on the large-scale, important and potentially-rewarding project, the head of Turkmenistan stressed. I am confident that joint work of Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan at the “Dostluk” field will be successful and efficient. I am sincerely grateful to you for support of this historical document, understanding and personal contribution to the development and strengthening of friendship, fraternity and cooperation between our nations and states, - the Turkmen leader said.

In turn, the head of the friendly state Ilham Aliyev has also highlighted an exclusive importance of the current event.

“I am strongly confident that signing of this document would not have been possible without close political collaboration between our countries at all levels, and first of the first at the Presidential level”, - the Leader of Azerbaijan highlighted.

“To compare, I’d just say that for the entire history of our relations, more than 100 documents have been signed, half of which were signed for the last three years alone. The most important thing is that at present they all are being implemented, including the agreements, which we have reached on cooperation in the energy sphere”, - the President of Azerbaijan highlighted.

As the Azeri Leader stated, signing of the within-named document opens a new page in the development of the Caspian hydrocarbon resource. The project will invest in strengthening of energy security of our countries and their neighbors.

President Ilham Aliyev has placed particular emphasis on the Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov’s personal meritorious work in strengthening of Turkmenistan’s transport-logistics infrastructure, having highlighted thereto that it is impossible to reach a result in transit-associate issues without close interaction with neighboring countries.

It was noted that exactly the Turkmen leader’s wise investment policy in regard to neighboring Afghanistan has enabled to implement the project of construction of the railroad in neighboring Afghanistan, which provides delivery of cargoes from the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan through Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan and farther.

In support of the Turkmen leader’s words that the Caspian Sea is the sea of good neighborliness and cooperation, President Ilham Aliyev has noted that the Memorandum, which our independent energy states sign today, is yet another input in strengthening of cooperation in the Caspian Sea.

I believe that being a natural border between the two countries, the Caspian Sea in the years ahead will, nevertheless, unite our states and peoples, the Leader of Azerbaijan highlighted.

After the speeches of the heads of two states, the signing ceremony of the important document between Turkmenistan and the Republic of Azerbaijan was held.

Foreign Minister of Turkmenistan R. Meredov and Foreign Minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan D. Bayramov have put their signatures under the Memorandum.

After the signing ceremony, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov addressed his closing speech to the participants of the ceremony.

Having congratulated President Ilham Aliyev and all Azeri brothers on signing of the historical document, the head of Turkmenistan has highlighted that the ceremony is a true landmark event in the life of our countries and peoples aimed at strengthening of peace and cooperation.

President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has highlighted that the document opens a fundamentally new phase in the partnership of Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan in the strategically important direction – the energy sphere.

President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has made special mention of the contribution and mutual intent of Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan to establish the atmosphere of solid peace, good neighborliness, understanding and cooperation in the Caspian region.

It was stated that exactly high political and diplomatic activity of the two countries over the last decade has enabled to conduct on a regular basis the summits and other top-level forums of the Caspian states.

Modern international regulatory framework has been created, which meets the current and future requirements of coastal states, determines the main parameters of the multilateral cooperation in the Caspian Sea in such important spheres as security, economics and ecology.

“On the whole, I highly appreciate the state of the Turkmen-Azeri relations and want to highlight the efficiency and positive dynamics of the bilateral partnership”, - the Turkmen leader said.

In turn President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev has noted that the current ceremony is a result of the two countries’ long-term insistent efforts in strengthening of independence, sovereignty, and their economic potential. Today, Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan in the international arena are the countries, which can with good reason speak of their independent foreign and home policy. Unfortunately, it does not happen often in the world today, President Ilham Aliyev highlighted.

“Today, we sign not just a Memorandum on joint exploration and development of the hydrocarbon field in the Caspian Sea, but make an important step toward future successful development of our relations”, - the Leader of Azerbaijan highlighted.

After completion of the online ceremony, the heads of two states have said warm goodbye to each other, having addressed the peoples of Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan sincere wishes of peace, goodness and prosperity.

That same day, the Foreign Ministry of the country hosted also the Turkmen – Azeri ministerial political consultations on the current situation and prospects for further development of the traditionally friendly interstate relations.

Consideration was given to enhancement of the interest-based cooperation in such strategic directions, as trade-economic sphere, oil/gas and transport-communication complexes and to the issues of practical implementation of the Memorandum signed, which opened a new phase in the energy cooperation of both countries.

A number of certain measures were also projected on efficient use of the capabilities of the Afghanistan – Turkmenistan – Azerbaijan – Georgia – Turkey international transit and transport corridor (Lapis Lazuli) with its outlet to Europe.

At the same time, the importance was stressed of further strengthening of the traditional humanitarian dialog, motivation of fruitful relations in the spheres of education, science and culture, sports and tourism.

Session of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan

On January 22, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov held an online session of the Cabinet of Ministers to discuss the topical issues of the state life and consider the drafts of a number of documents aimed at further socioeconomic development of the country.

The Vice-Premier G. Mushshikov reported on the draft Resolution “On privatization of some buildings in Ashgabat City”, as well as on the work carried out by the Precious Metals and Stones Committee of the Central Bank.

In this regard, another draft Resolution on direct (address) privatization by IEUT members of shops, a restaurant, and Trading House located in Ashgabat on conditions of leaving unchangeable their specialization and workplaces was submitted for consideration of the leader of nation Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov.

The report covered also the activity of the Precious Metals and Stones Committee, which provides formation, accounting, storage, selling of precious stones and metals, and processing of their sweepings. The Committee also exercises control over natural and legal persons – manufactures of jewelry and other production from precious metals and stones.

The proposal on renaming of that state-run organization into the Precious Metals and Stones Fund of the Central Bank was presented to the head of state for consideration.

Summing up the report, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has noted that the country’s by-now dynamic growth of socially oriented economic sphere is based on various forms of ownership and envisages phased transition to the market relations.

Measures undertaken in this direction facilitate an increase of the NGO’s share in the national economy, the leader of nation said. Having signed the Resolution on privatization of the witjin-named facilities in Ashgabat, the head of Turkmenistan sent the document and relevant instructions to the Vice-Premier via the electronic communication channel.

President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has approved the proposal on renaming the Committee into the Precious Metals and Stones Fund of the Central Bank, having exhorted the Vice-Premier in

association with sectoral agencies to carry out the relevant work.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers M. Meredov has reported to the leader of nation Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov on the measures taken for increasing of the oil/gas enterprises' production potential, volumes of production and processing of hydrocarbon raw materials. A draft Resolution on procurement of well pipes has been presented to the head of state for consideration.

The reporter has also informed about keeping work going on construction in Akhal velayat of the second plant for production of gasoline from the natural gas.

In addition, the Vice-Premier has reported on advancement of construction of the Turkmen section of the TAPI gas pipeline, as well as on the state of affairs at the objects scheduled for commissioning on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the Motherland's independence.

In comments to the report, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has focused on the tasks of the oil/gas industry's further upward development. In this regard, the leader of nation has noted the appropriateness of designing by our specialists and scientists in association with Japanese partners of the second plant for production of gasoline from the natural gas to be built in Akhal velayat. The officials concerned were given the relevant instructions.

Having signed the Resolution "On purchasing of various well pipes by the "Türkmennebit" State Concern", the head of state redirected the Resolution and relevant instructions to the Vice-Premier via the electronic document circulation system.

President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has made special mention of the importance of the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Government of Turkmenistan and the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan on joint prospecting for hydrocarbon resources, exploration and development of the "Dostluk" field in the Caspian Sea.

The head of Turkmen state has highlighted that as a landmark event in the life of our countries and peoples, the event marked a new phase in the energy cooperation between Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan.

At present, additional stimuli for large foreign investments inflow to the Caspian region are being formed, and a strong impulse would be given to the upward development and dynamic growth of national economies, opening of new workplaces, improvement of the level and quality of peoples' life, the leader of nation Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov noted.

The President of Turkmenistan has also imposed a task on Vice-Premier M. Meredov (in charge of Lebap velayat) to take tight control over construction of new industrial and social objects.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers Sh. Durdylyev has reported on the situation in the spheres under his supervision, in particular in the power engineering and construction spheres, and informed about the work on revamping of the Turkmen capital.

On the occasion of the remarkable date, the Ministry of Energy also plans to commission such important facilities, as: the 432 MW gas-turbine power plant in Lebap velayat; the Turkmen section

of the aerial power transmission line Turkmenistan – Afghanistan – Pakistan; the first stage of ringed energy network to bridge the Akhal – Balkan and Balkan – Dashoguz directions; and the complex of substations in the Akhal – Balkan sections. The Vice-Premier has presented to the head of state for consideration the draft Resolution on making additional agreements.

President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has noted an exclusive importance of work for further modernization of the country's energy system in strict compliance with the tasks enshrined in the Program of Turkmenistan's socioeconomic development in 2020-2025.

Having signed the Resolution on making additional agreements on purchasing of necessary equipment, materials and machinery for improvement of the country's energy system reliability, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov sent the document and instructions to the Vice-Premier via the electronic document managing system.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers B. Ovezov has reported on keeping work going on the development of the State Program for the digital economy advancement in Turkmenistan in 2021-2025, as well as the Plan of Measures on the Program realization.

Adoption of the new Program presupposes introduction of amendments and addendums into the existing legal acts in the digitization sphere, identification of the tasks of the "Electronic Government" system, improvement of the digital education and health sphere, training of the personnel, as well as phased distribution of digital services at a single portal of state services – e.gov.tm.

The Vice-Premier has also reported on the situation at the facilities of transport-communication complex and construction paces of the objects erected in Balkan velayat, opening of which is timed to the 30th anniversary of the Motherland's independence.

The head of state has exhorted the Vice-Premier to accelerate the rates of construction works to ensure timely commissioning of the anniversary objects erected in Balkan velayat.

Further, Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers Ch. Gylyjov has reported on the work ongoing for opening of the online textiles shopping platform.

To this end, the work is ongoing to develop the electronic base, which will post the relevant information about textile brands, market services, and help in online ordering of various textile production made in the country.

At first, it is planned to organize the delivery of textiles orders in the country, and in the future – to foreign countries.

The project is planned to be realized by joint efforts of "Altyn Asyr" marketing center of the Textiles Ministry and the Industrialists and Entrepreneurs Union.

The Vice-Premier has also informed the leader of nation about the rates of works at the anniversary objects of the trade complex of the country and in Akhal velayat.

Having pointed to the importance of quality, salable condition, richness of the gamut of home-made

textiles, and further advancement of the servicing and marketing spheres, the leader of nation has demanded to accelerate the works for establishing of the textiles trade electronic platform and directed concrete instructions to the Vice-Premier.

Having noted that the forthcoming early-in-the-spring opening of hothouse farms built by local entrepreneurs in various parts of the country would support the provision of foodstuff abundance, the head of state has highlighted the advisability of organizing the exhibition of agricultural production on that occasion.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers M. Geldinyazov has reported to the leader of nation Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov on the work accomplished for development of the Program of support and development of physical culture and sports in Turkmenistan in 2021-2025 and the Plan of Measures for its realization.

On approval of the document, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has signed the Resolution and redirected it and the relevant instructions to the Vice-Premier via the electronic document circulation system.

Minister of Health and Medical Industry N. Amanepesov has reported on the relations established with foreign partners in the health sphere, including with leading clinics of Germany and their proficient professor-doctors.

In the frames of the report, particular emphasis was placed on the fact that Turkmenistan has become the first state in Central Asia to officially approve the use of “Sputnik V” vaccine in its territory and entered in the top ten countries that have registered the vaccine. It was informed that test of the vaccine has started these days.

Having highlighted the importance of the Turkmen-German forum, the head of state gave a number of the relevant assignments.

Speaking of the Russian “Sputnik V” vaccine registered in Turkmenistan, the head of state has focused on the importance of taking measures for prevention and combating the infectious diseases.

In this context, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has ordered the Minister of Health and Medical Industry to keep work going on registration in Turkmenistan of new “EpiWakKorona” vaccine, which is developed in the Russian Federation, as well as preventive medicines and vaccines from other partner-countries.

Strengthening of people’s health, creation of advantageous conditions for labor and comfortable rest of the people will always be a trend of priority of the state’s policy.

Further, Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers M. Mammedova has reported on the work for organization of creative contests on the occasion of the 30th of Turkmenistan’s independence.

One of them is the international contest for performing of a famous Turkmen song by foreign crooners, as well as the contest of young designers of Central Asia.

To ensure high level of broadcasting and commenting on the international sport competitions

to be held in 2021 in the Turkmen capital, it is planned in May to announce the contest among sport reporters of the country.

Summing up the report, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has highlighted the importance of conducting the earmarked reviews for revealing of new talents. In this regard the presidential instructions were concentrated on holding the relevant measures at a better and higher level in terms of organization and content.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers E. Orazgeldiyev has reported on the progress of seasonal works ongoing in the regions. For consideration of the head of state the Vice-Premier has also presented draft Resolution, according to which in the running year, it is planned to produce 1,250,000 tons of cotton planted to the 620,000-hectare land area.

The Vice-Premier has also reported on the situation in the AIC and Mary velayat, at the facilities under construction. In particular, he informed about construction of the Center of the International Akhalteke Horse-Breeding Association and International Association «Türkmen alabaý itleri», complex of buildings of the International Association «Türkmen alabaý itleri» in Ashgabat and its branches in all regions of the country, as well as on preparation to celebrating at a higher level of National Turkmen Horse Day, which will be celebrated in Mary velayat in the running year.

Summing up the report, the President of the country has demanded to pay special attention to observance of agri-technical standards, quality and timing of field works. Special accent was placed on wide spread adoption in agriculture of the latest achievements of science and modern technologies of land farming, which promote raising of the level of yields of wheat, cotton and other crops.

Having signed the Resolution “On production of heavy cotton yield in Turkmenistan in 2021”, the President of the country sent it and concrete instructions to the Vice-Premier via the electronic document circulation system.

The head of state has also ordered to exercise strict control over realization of the National Rural Development Program, including construction works implemented in the AIC, as well as the important construction objects erected in Mary velayat to be commissioned on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the country’s independence.

The Turkmen leader has focused attention of the officials concerned on making of all conditions for breeding of Akhalteke horses and Alabay-breed dogs, which are the pride and national heritage of our people.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers, Foreign Minister R. Meredov has reported on execution of BOMCA and CADAP programs of the European Union.

In interaction with the EU, special attention is paid to the long-term programs and projects realized at the regional and national level for provision of peace and security, sustainable economic development, health, education, science and culture.

It includes the Central Asia Border Management Support Program (BOMCA) and Central Asia Drug

Action Program (CADAP), which are implemented since 2003.

In the next five years, in the frames of the BOMCA program, the measures planned include the following directions: rendering support to strengthening of cooperation between the Central Asian countries and Afghanistan in enhancement of the border and customs security; improvement of social conditions of the population in the border zones via the economic growth; wide spread adoption of advanced international practice and information-technical methods in the border management sphere; assistance to law enforcement structures in detection and investigation of transnational crime; improvement of digital operations related to cargo traffic across the border; and strengthening of the regional trade in this sphere.

The activities, which are planned to be carried out under the five-year CADAP program, are aimed at intensification of cooperation in the improvement and implementation of the national legislation related to combating illegal drug trafficking based on the international practice; prevention of illegal drug trafficking for strengthening of the public health security; establishment of the unified regional information system for combating illegal drug trafficking; formation of the national information networks; expansion of cooperation of our country with the EU, the UN Drugs and Crime Control Department, WHO, and other international organization.

The Vice-Premier has presented the projects of financial agreements on the 7th phase of CADAP program and 10th phase of BOMCA program for 2021-2025 to the head of state for consideration.

President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has highlighted the importance of positive dynamics of the relations development between Turkmenistan and the European Union and approved the presented proposals. In the context, the relevant presidential assignments were given to the head of the Foreign Ministry.

The report of the Mejlis Speaker G. Mammedova was centered on the current activity of the National Parliament aimed at updating of the legal base of social and economic reforms ongoing in the country, improvement of social and living conditions of the population, and advancement of foreign initiatives of the President of Turkmenistan.

The Chairperson of the National Parliament has also informed about keeping work going to ensure well-organized elections of members of Halk Maslakhaty.

President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has highlighted the importance of furthering the law-making activity in the light of the tasks aimed at the dynamic promotion of social and economic reforms, democratization of the Turkmen society, and innovative development of the country.

Speaking of the coming election campaign of members of Halk Maslakhaty, the head of state has strongly advised to ensure high organizational level of the campaign.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers, the State Security Council Secretary Ch. Amanov has

reported on the activity for maintaining in the country of public stability and on the implementation progress of the large-scale military reform.

It was also reported to the head of state on the preparedness rate to the celebration of the Motherland's Defenders Day observed in the country on January 27.

Highlighting an exclusive importance of steadfast strengthening of the defense potential of the country's Armed Forces – a guarantor of peaceful, tranquil life and creative labor of our people, the President of the country has noted that sovereign Turkmenistan was and will always be committed to its neutral status.

Addressing the members of the Government, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has noted the importance of the year 2021, which is marked with the glorious 30th anniversary of the Motherland's independence.

Over the 30-year period of independence, much has been done with wide support of the native people; many actual tasks have been solved; and the cities and villages of the country were improved, revamped, and modernized.

Having noted that each and every one of the officials has much invested in these achievements, the head of Turkmenistan has highlighted that it would have been advisable to appreciate their meritorious labor and award them state decorations in run up to the holiday.

In this regard, the leader of nation gave an assignment to prepare the potential awardees' testimonials about their labor activity and concrete input to the development of our neutral state.

At the session, consideration was also given to other important issues of the state life, and the relevant Resolutions were adopted.

ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS REVIEW

• The President of Turkmenistan signed the Resolution on authorizing the Ministry of Finance and Economy to realize the relevant shops, a restaurant, and Trading House through direct (address) sales in accordance with the established procedure to members of the Industrialists and Entrepreneurs Union on condition of leaving unchangeable their major specialization and workplaces.

• The President of Turkmenistan signed the Resolution on authorizing the "Türkmennebit" State Concern to make a contract with "Honghua International Co. Ltd." Company (the People's Republic of China) for purchasing of well pipes of different sizes.

• The President of Turkmenistan signed the Resolution on authorizing the «Türkmenenergo» State Energy Corporation of the Ministry of Energy to make additional agreements for purchasing of the necessary equipment, materials and machinery for construction of the high-voltage power transmission lines «Akhhal-Balkan» and «Balkan-Dashoguz», and the stations.

• The President of Turkmenistan signed the Resolution on approving the Program for Support

and Development of Physical Culture and Sports in Turkmenistan for 2021-2025 and the Action Plan for implementation of the Resolution.

• The President of Turkmenistan signed the Resolution on authorizing the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment Protection, khyakimliks of Akhal, Balkan, Dashoguz, Lebap and Mary velayats to ensure countrywide production of the appropriate volumes of cotton in 2021 through well-organized work of tenants, land users and landowners.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Online meetings with foreign partners

Organizational issues on launching of a new joint project “Strengthening of the institutional, statistical and information-technical potential of the State Statistics Committee of Turkmenistan” were discussed in the frames of the online meeting with representatives of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in Turkmenistan.

Within the framework of the new project, during 2021-2023, implementation of the work is projected aimed at further strengthening of our country’s information-technical potential, conceptual transition to the SNA-2008 methodology, as well as at awareness- and knowledge-raising in the sphere of making statistical reporting for measuring of the SDGs.

Also, within the framework of the three-year project, the work will be kept going on the development and installation of software programs on the statistical business-register.

An online meeting with representatives of the International Monetary Fund was held to discuss the macroeconomic development of the country, as well as development of some branches of the national economy that have a positive impact on the GDP growth dynamics.

As was noted, despite the negative impact of the global coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19), which has amended the development of the economies of all countries of the world, due to the preventive measures and timely decisions of President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov, the national economy complex of Turkmenistan works in the same mode, which enables to keep up the higher paces of the GDP growth rate in relation to other countries.

This is largely facilitated due to commissioning in the last years of large, medium and small job-creating enterprises, which produce various products and goods intended for the domestic market and export.

Private entrepreneurship plays an important role in the sustainable development of the national economy and implementation of the state programs oriented to increasing production of import-substituting and export-oriented industries.

HEALTH

Turkmenistan has registered “Sputnik V” vaccine

On the past week, the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry of Turkmenistan registered the Russian “Sputnik V” vaccine developed by the Gamaleya Research Institute of Epidemiology and Microbiology with the support of the Russian Direct Investments Fund.

Thus, Turkmenistan has become the first country in Central Asia to officially approve the use of “Sputnik V” vaccine in its territory, and accordingly – is in the top ten countries, which have already registered the vaccine.

The fact is yet another step in combating the infectious diseases and strengthening scientific-medical multilateral interaction, to the development of which the Turkmen leader pays great attention, putting forward international initiatives in this area, maintaining active cooperation with specialized structures of the United Nations, including the WHO.

Turkmenistan treats with great respect the experience of other states that have already created a solid base in the fight against the new threat and share valuable experience in overcoming the negative consequences of the pandemic. Turkmenistan is also ready to share its successful developments in order to achieve the maximum level of efficiency of joint efforts with other countries and international organizations.

This experience was set forth in the letter addressed by President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov to the WHO, which was distributed as an official document of the 74th session of the UN General Assembly.

Disease-prevention efficiency of licorice root is in the focus of discussion between the Turkmen and German specialists

The International Training Center of the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry hosted an online working meeting with the participation of the chief head of the Infectious Disease Research Center under the Essen University Hospital (the Federative Republic of Germany) Adalbert Krawczyk and Turkmen specialists of the “Türkmenersenenagat” Association, the Academy of Sciences, and other departments of the health sphere.

The meeting agenda was focused on key issues of cooperation in the infectious diseases treatment, and the medicinal use of licorice roots and glycyrrhizinic acid they contain.

As was emphasized in this context, since time immemorial, licorice roots were used in the scientific and folk medicine to treat cough, kidney disease, upper respiratory tract infections, and duodenum disease. Licorice was proved to have positive effect on the human immune system.

It was also noted during the meeting that unlike chemical medicines, the herbal products are easily digested by human organism and have no side effects.

The meeting has also considered the issues of intensifying bilateral cooperation in the science diplomacy and creating the conditions for regular opinion exchange between medical scientists, experts, and specialists.

IX Turkmen-German Health Forum

IX Turkmen-German Health Forum was held at the International Research-Training Center of the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry of Turkmenistan in the online-TVbridge format.

The TVbridge brought together the famous scientists-professors of the Großhadern Clinic of the University of Munich and heads and representatives of our country's state medical institutions, clinical-research centers, the Turkmen State Medical University, and of the regional and Ashgabat city's health departments.

At the online forum, special attention was given to the issues of urology and gynecology (including infantile forms of diseases).

Application of slide-presentations and videos was a good way to demonstrate a number of new innovations introduced in the medical clinics in Turkmenistan and Germany that help save people's lives and restore them to health.

ECONOMICS

Placing of work experience at the service of the regions' comprehensive development

On the past week, on behalf of the President of Turkmenistan, the khyakims and senior officials of velayats made a working trip to Mary velayat to get acquainted with the operational experience in different areas.

During the trip, the officials visited in Mary the building of the "Türkmeniň Ak Öýi". Its architecture embodies the idea of revived image of the ancient Turkmen home in combination with modern designing solutions.

On the initiative of the nation's leader, "Türkmeniň Ak Öýi" Centers are being built countrywide. In this context, of particular importance is the experience of architects and entrepreneurs, who have built this imposing building in Mary and are ready to share their experience with their counterparts in implementing of similar projects.

Then, in Sakarchaga etrap, the delegation got acquainted with operation of the greenhouse specialized in production of tomatoes. The head of the facility told that he had taken advantage of a concessional loan offered by the state to small and medium-sized businesses to build the greenhouse and tool it with modern equipment.

The activity of the private enterprise "Erkin Gurluşyk" is yet another example of successful tackling of large and program tasks set by the head of state on ensuring foodstuff abundance in the country.

The farm is also notable for producing heavy yields of apples. During his last year's visit to the farm, the President of Turkmenistan rated high the activity of the farm.

The President-initiated working trip to Mary velayat was, undoubtedly, an important measure, which promotes exchange of positive experience in the organizational management policy applied in different development-favored spheres of velayats.

COMMODITIES EXCHANGE NEWS

Last week, 35 transactions were registered at the State Commodities and Raw Materials Exchange of Turkmenistan.

In the foreign currency, entrepreneurs from the UAE and Afghanistan contracted purchasing of the jet kerosene and hydrofined diesel fuel produced at the Turkmenbashi Refinery Complex. Businessmen from the UAE, Afghanistan and Scotland made the deals for purchasing of ECO-93 gasoline ("Turkmengaz" State Concern) and representatives of business circles of Hong Kong and Switzerland – for purchasing of carbamide ("Turkmenkhimiya" State Concern).

The deals in the foreign currency also included clear sheet glass, cotton yarn, plain dyed and jacquard terry textiles, and denim fabric. They were concluded by the traders from the UAE, Turkey, Russia, and Kyrgyzstan. The sum total of the transactions exceeded US \$25, 554,000.

In local currency, entrepreneurs from Armenia, the UAE, Turkey, and Great Britain purchased cotton yarn. The sum total of the deals was over 13,413,000 manats.

For the domestic market, local businessmen bought cotton fiber (over 232,000 manats).



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- ✓ Ýük daşamagyň wagtynyň azaldylmagy;
- ✓ Ýük daşalanda ýokary derejedäki howpsuzlyk we töwekgelçilikleriň azlygy;
- ✓ Çeýelik we möçberlilik;
- ✓ Uglarod serişdeleriniň az möçberdäki zyňyldylar

Первая Контейнерная Линия в Туркменистане

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- ✓ Снижение времени перевозки;
- ✓ Больше безопасности и меньше рисков при транспортировке;
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- ✓ Lower transit time;
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