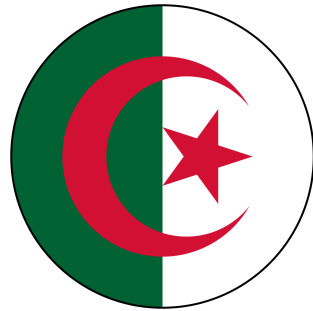


People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

Embassy of Algeria in the Republic of Namibia



Press Review

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Algerian Embassy in Windhoek

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DOMESTIC NEWS

Djerad starts inspection visit to Tindouf

TINDOUF (Algeria) - Prime Minister Abdelaziz Djerad started Tuesday a working and inspection visit to the province of Tindouf (around 2000 km southwest of Algiers), where he will inquire about many socio-economic projects, part of the province's development programme.

Accompanied by a ministerial delegation, Djerad began his visit by inspecting a cult and cultural centre project in the city of Tindouf Lotfi, in which he will also visit a cold logistics platform project with a capacity of 5000 m3.

At about three kilometres from the province's chief town, the prime minister is to inspect a project for the building of a hydraulic complex to supply the grey area "El Hikma City," where he will attend the delivery of tanker trucks to a number of municipalities to strengthen the distribution of water in grey areas.

He will also visit an urban centre made up of 1402 housing units, where he will get details on the housing program of the province.

The Prime Minister will afterward inspect a high school project in the chief town of Tindouf. During the visit, Djerad will attend the distribution, to local citizens, of flats, land plots and financial support for house building.

Prime minister inspects cultural, religious center in Tindouf Lotfi city

TINDOUF - Prime Minister Abdelaziz Djerad inspected Tuesday the cultural and religious center at Tindouf Lotfi city as part of his working and inspection visit to the province of Tindouf , accompanied by a ministerial delegation.

The project of the cultural and religious centers “is an achievement and a big monument greatly needed by the province,” said Djerad, adding that “he will make sure to follow this major project until its completion.”

He paid tribute to all people participating in the construction of this monument as well as all “those wishing good for Algeria and who participated in its building.” According to the explanations provided by the Prime Minister, the construction works of this center started in 2005 before being suspended and then resumed in 2017.

A budget of more than DZD495 million was allocated to this project. Prime minister will continue his visit in Tindouf by inspecting the drinking water pumping station in El Hikma city, a social housing and high school projects as well as an argan plantation in Oued Mya.

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Tablets to be gradually generalized in schools, announces Djerad

TINDOUF – Prime Minister Abdelaziz Djerad announced Tuesday in Tindouf, that the Government was working for the gradual generalization of the tablets in schools and high schools in order to reduce weight of school bag.

On a working visit to Tindouf, the Premier said that the Government works for the "generalization of the electronic tablets across the national territory, in order to reduce the weight of school bags."

The gradual use of electronic tablets in schools is intended to improve the quality of teaching, and adapt it to the modern world, he said.

In the same regard, Djerad said the "vital" education sector trains the future officials and executives that would run the country, by preserving "the national identity and make their way into the world through knowledge and science."

In Tindouf, the Prime Minister inspected several projects of the education sector as 19 establishments are planned to be completed ahead of the coming school year.

All resources made available to handle grey areas nationwide

TINDOUF (Algeria) - All resources have been made available to deal with grey areas across the country, Prime Minister Abdelaziz Djerad said Tuesday in Tindouf. On the sidelines of his working and inspection visit to Tindouf (around 2000 km southwest of Algiers), Djerad told reporters that "all resources are made available for the management of grey areas throughout the country".

"We need to be aware that people in grey areas live in difficult conditions, without roads and transport, among other needs," the Prime Minister said. "It is our duty, in accordance with the instructions of the President of the Republic, Abdelmadjid Tebboune, to take care of them," he said.

Stressing the need to "contain these areas in order to place them among the priorities," Djerad said a great interest is given to the improvement and development of grey areas across the country, in coordination with the ministry of Interior, Local Authorities and National Planning.

Upper House: Law establishing 8 May Day of National Memory adopted by majority

ALGIERS - The Members of the Council of the Nation (Upper House) on Tuesday adopted the law establishing 8 May Day of the National Memory.

The Law has been adopted by majority during a plenary session chaired by Salah Goudjil, Acting Speaker of the Council, in the presence of Minister of Mujahedeen and Rightsholders Tayeb Zitouni and Minister of Relations with Parliament Bessma Azouar.

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On this occasion, Zitouni congratulated the Algerian people “on this achievement” and recalled that the Massacres of 8 May “were a major historical step, once in oblivion, which reminded of the great sacrifices of the Algerian people.”

On Tuesday, the senators had raised a number of concerns while wondering about the fate of the issue of the criminalization of colonialism as a "popular demand.”

COVID-19 NEWS

Djerad: law to be "firmly" applied against those who incite non-compliance with Covid 19 preventive measures

TINDOUF (Algeria) - The laws of the Republic will be "firmly" applied against those who incite non-compliance with Corona virus preventive measures, Prime Minister Abdelaziz Djerad said on Tuesday in the province of Tindouf (extreme south of Algeria).

The "public authorities are entitled to decide coercive measures and to firmly apply the laws of the Republic ... We do not accept that malicious people seek to sow chaos," the Premier said while inspecting a medical center in Tindouf, as part of his working visit to this border city.

"People, living outside Algeria, encourage young people not to comply with prevention and protection, and to go out without face coverings," he said, underlining that "awareness and responsibility constitute the cornerstone in all efforts for the fight against Covid-19 pandemic."

"Despite the public authorities' efforts to raise the awareness of the public, we have noticed that there are two categories of citizens, the one that demonstrated responsibility in the fight against the pandemic and the other that showed indifference and caused the recent upsurge in cases, especially over the past few weeks," bemoaned the Prime Minister.

Djerad added that those who reject preventive measures, including the wearing of face coverings are indirectly responsible for the increase in contaminated cases and even deaths from the disease. "Solidarity must prevail in this situation to protect us and warn others," added Djerad.

The Government is working "tirelessly, in coordination with the medical staffs and local associations to protect Algeria," the Prime Minister said, reiterating that "health executives have proven that the country has all the skills and human resources capable of protecting the citizen from the pandemic and protecting society from its repercussions".

Moreover, Djerad listened to a briefing on the control at the entry and exit of the citizens in and from the region and the handling of Covid-19 suspected cases. At the "Si El-Houas" hospital in Tindouf, the Premier inquired about the health map of the region and the epidemiological situation relating to the Covid-19 pandemic.

He has paid glowing tribute to the security corps, police and national gendarmerie, and to the National People's Army (ANP), having combined their efforts and worked "hand in hand" under the sign of "Khawa-Khawa" (fraternity).

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He also greeted all the citizens involved in the fight against Corona virus, including neighborhood associations, firefighters, Algerian Red Crescent members who "have demonstrated unshakable social cohesion," he said.

Besides, the Prime Minister called on citizens to show responsibility in order to protect themselves and their fellow citizens.

Fight against Covid-19: Benbouzid stresses need to respect prevention measures

BLIDA - Minister of Health, Population and Hospital Reform Abderrahmane Benbouzid stressed Monday, in Blida, the need for citizens' mobilization and to respect prevention measures to fight against the corona virus.

"The citizens have to band together to protect themselves from corona virus, by wearing masks and respecting the measures of physical distancing, as this lowers, to a large extent, infection," said the minister in a statement to the press during his working visit to Blida. "The fight against the virus is not limited only to the Health sector but goes beyond the sector to be henceforth multi-sectorial," he added.

"We have recorded an increase in the number of cases, which has spread fear," he underlined, adding that "this situation concerns the world as a whole and not only Algeria."

Nevertheless, added Benbouzid, the encouraging fact for us is that the number of fatalities is very limited despite the increase in the number of infection cases.

The symptomology of 80% of patients with corona virus is nearly similar to the symptoms of seasonal flu, while 20% of the patients have acute symptoms where only 4% of whom die, said the minister.

Dubbing necessary to coexist with this virus which is likely to last for weeks or several months, the minister said that "we are obliged to live with this virus that we have, however, to combat. It shouldn't affect us, neither our economy or become a source of worry."

ECONOMIC NEWS

FCE: 171 participants shortlisted for best innovative project contest

ALGIERS - The "hack Algeria" contest for the best innovative business project, organized by the FCE, will test, from July 1 to 3, 171 projects to select five winners from three categories, the president said in Algiers on Tuesday of the digital commission within the Forum, Djaoued Salim Allal.

Allal told a news conference that this contest aims at highlighting Algerian skills in the post-Covid-19 economy. This public contest, which first selections took place between May 18 and June 18, brings together developers, innovative companies, technology players, creators and all

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those who want to join forces to find technical solutions and technological measures against the Covid-19 pandemic.

This online contest budgeted at DZD 20 million by FCE (Manager Forum), will use digital platforms as a place and fundamental infrastructure for the organization of this event, said the same official.

This competition is organized around five themes, namely digital for healthcare and post-Covid-19 management, digital support: essential for good governance and data governance, digital and post-Covid-19 society, digital for a crisis economy as well as digital and fintech.

Open to the general public, in particular to students, members of civil society, scientists and business leaders, "the contest is intended to be completely inclusive across the 48 provinces. Many applications come from grey areas and provinces in the south," noted FCE President Samy Agli.

Solar energy must be further exploited to boost investment

TINDOUF - Prime Minister Abdelaziz Djerad on Tuesday advocated exploitation of solar energy to boost investment in desert farming as a "national project."

As part of his working and inspection visit to the province of Tindouf, Djerad went to a farm reserved for argan trees where he followed a presentation on the programme to strengthen the connection of farms to electricity grids under the development of agriculture.

The PM said that solar energy must be further exploited to boost investment in agriculture. Djerad also urged agriculture officials to ensure the connection of all projects to electricity under the instructions given by the president of the Republic during the last Council of ministers meeting to connect industrial areas and farms to this grid.

"Implementing projects without connecting them to electricity is inconceivable. Desert farming is a national project that must come into fruition as soon as possible because it can boost development and create jobs," said Djerad.

The PM recalled that the creation of a ministry in charge of developing renewable energy under the last ministerial reshuffle. The Government will be taken measures to facilitate the purchase of solar panels and Algeria has factories that produce this equipment, he continued.

The PM called for the integration of universities and laboratories into the programme to develop desert farming and the use of renewable energy with a view to reducing the import bill and foreign currency transfers.

Djerad listened to the concerns raised by farmers, notably the unfreezing of deep-well drilling activities capable of boosting agriculture, and assured them of "a political willingness to support private projects in the country's South."

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The PM, who advocated fighting bureaucracy and encouraging investors in industrial and agricultural companies, stated that the State provided farmers with all the means “on condition that they comply with a moral contract between the two sides.”

Algeria determined to bolster manufacturing industry

TINDOUF (Algeria) - Prime Minister Abdelaziz Djerad stressed Tuesday the State's determination to promote investment and boost manufacturing industry.

Djerad, who is on a working visit to the province of Tindouf (around 2000 km southwest of Algiers), inspected a project relating to the building of cold storage facilities saying the State was determined to promote investment and strengthen the manufacturing industry.

"We will provide support to those facilities, which will contribute to implementing the State's strategy aimed at regulating agricultural products, encouraging farmers and enhancing storage capacity," he said.

"The authorities are also committed to making the province an agricultural region, considering the abundant wealth of the Sahara." The 5000 m³-capacity project is also meant to strengthen import-export infrastructures.

Once commissioned, it will provide 25 jobs, according to the details given to the prime minister at the construction site. The project, launched in November 2017, stretches over nearly 5.1 hectares and is 95% completed.

Tyre manufacturing plant Iris: First export sale to US

SETIF (Algeria) - Tyre manufacturing plant Iris in Setif (300-km east of Algiers) made Monday its first export sale to the United States, the head of the firm's Communication and Information Office, Meriem Bouzeboudj, said Monday.

"Algeria's first tyre manufacturer and Africa's third, private firm Iris has managed just one year after its creation to enter the US market," Bouzeboudj told APS, noting that Iris tyres have met a "resounding success" at both national and international levels, enabling it to "export to several countries."

Six months only after the start of its export operations, Iris tyres are present in the markets of 10 countries, including the US market, known for its rigour, competitiveness and requirement of high standards of quality and safety," she said.

Access to these international markets was the result of the plant's choice to use renowned international bodies for testing and certification, according to Bouzeboudj.

The export to the USA was one of the results of the participation last year of the brand Iris in one of the most important American exhibitions, namely "SEMA Show," held in November in Las

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Vegas, she added, stressing that the global dimension of a product "made in Algeria" is in itself "a pride."

FOREIGN POLICY NEWS

Covid-19: Lower House participates in joint webinar on counterterrorism, violent extremism

ALGIERS - The People's National Assembly takes part Tuesday in a joint webinar organized by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM), the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE-PA) and the United Nations Counterterrorism Office (UNCTO), said a communiqué of the Parliament's Lower House. The meeting will be on theme "the fight against terrorism and violent extremism in the context of Covid-19 pandemic," said the communiqué. The People's National Assembly will be represented by deputies Abdelmadjid Dennouni and Amar Moussa, PAM's vice-president and PAM's permanent member respectively, concluded the source.

MISCELLANEOUS

ECOLOGY

Civil Protection sets up system to combat forest blazes

ALGIERS - The Directorate General of Civil Protection has set up a system to combat forest fires across the national territory. The system which includes human and material resources will last from July 4 to October 31, said Tuesday a press release from the Civil Protection.

For 2020, "significant" material means were mobilized, said the Civil Protection. It has recently acquired "186 light fire trucks from the Algerian military vehicle manufacturing company."

With those new purchases, "11 mobile columns were renewed and 28 new mobile columns created, bringing the number of mobile columns to 65, a significant increase compared to last year (37 mobile columns). It also allowed "the installation at least one mobile column in every province and two columns in every high forest density province."

In addition to these resources, the Directorate General of Civil Protection has mobilized "505 intervention units which operate in forest areas."

Last year, 21,048 hectares were destroyed by blazes from 01 June to 31 October 2019.

SPORT

Football/Africa (coronavirus): CAN 2021 postponed to 2022

CAIRO - The final stage of the Africa Cup of Nations CAN-2021, scheduled from 9 January to 6 February in Cameroon, has been officially postponed to January 2022 due to the pandemic of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), announced Tuesday President of the Confederation of African Football (CAF) Ahmad Ahmad.

“CAN has been put off to January 2022 while the African Cup of Nations CHAN-2020 (competition for domestic players) in Cameroon has been postponed to 2021 instead of CAN. It will be a new test before CAN 2022,” stated Ahmad Ahmad.

Ahmad made these statements by videoconference after a meeting of the CAF executive Bureau to discuss the impact of COVID-19 on African football.