

Ukraine's January exports of ferro alloy down 40.1%

Ukraine's exports of ferroalloy in January fell by 40.1% year-on-year to 50,750 mt the state statistics service reported. At the same time, revenues from exports of ferroalloy dropped by 68.9% to \$43.7 million from \$140.6 million a year earlier, the statistics service said.

In January Ukraine exported 15,500 mt of ferroalloy to Turkey, 5,980 mt to Italy, 2,660 mt to Poland, 2,580 mt to Russia, 2,540 mt to the Netherlands, 2,520 mt to Romania 2,310 mt to Finland and 1,990 mt to the US.

Ukraine exported 29,510 mt of silicomanganese in January, down from 67,980 mt in January 2015.

Exports of ferrosilicon fell to 3,150 mt



from 5,810 mt, but exports of ferromanganese, including metallic manganese, increased to 11,410 mt from 5,830 mt. Exports of ferronickel rose to 6,480 mt in January, up from 4,970 mt a year earlier, and exports of ferrotitanium increased to 200 mt from 160 mt. In 2015, Ukraine exported 811,850 mt of ferroalloy, down

16.9% from 977,530 mt exported in 2014.

Ukraine, one of the world's largest producers of ferroalloy's, output and exports of ferroalloy fell due to an armed conflict between government forces and pro-Russian separatists in the Donetsk and Lugansk regions in the East since June 2014. The conflict has also contributed to a steep economic contraction and sweeping restrictions of trade with Russia, once a major destination to Ukraine's exports.

Ukraine's third-largest ferroalloy maker Stakhanov Ferroalloy Plant, which is in the Lugansk region, has been idle since July 2014 due to the conflict. The plant is capable of producing 200,000 mt/year of ferroalloy.

Mittal signs iron deal in Iran



Global industrial giant Mittal Steel signed a contract worth €1 billion to produce iron in southern Iran.

The contract that has been signed with Mahan Industries and Mines Development Company a subsidiary of Iran's Tourism Financial Group envisages extracting iron and the establishment of a processing plant in the country's southern province of Kerman.

Mahan has not specified which specific iron mine will be the subject of the deal with Mittal but it owns a major mine near Sirjan which is considered to be one of the largest in the country with a reservoir of about 1.2 billion tons. The company last year won a deal to extract 24 million tons of iron from the same mine for 14 years.

Mittal Steel is also based on the same

deal expected to take charge of managing Mahan's Bonab steel production complex in northwestern Iran for a period of five years.

Located near Tabriz, the capital of East Azerbaijan province, Bonab complex has an annual production capacity of over 3.5 million tons and is considered the biggest private sector steel production project in Iran.

Tourism Financial Group a major holding that controls a chain of banks, financial institutions, tourism enterprises and industrial firms has announced in a statement that it expects the deal with Mittal to help transfer the technical knowledge in the steel industry to Iran. It has also said it expects the deal to help Iran export steel products to regional and international markets through partnership with Mittal.

Oman's steel rebar mill now operational



Jindal Shadeed Iron & Steel, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Indian conglomerate Jindal group, started operations at its giant steel reinforcing rebar mill in Sohar Port, Oman.

Under the auspices of Sayyid Taimour bin As'ad al- Said, the opening ceremony was attended by a number of dignitaries, and Naveen Jindal, the chairman of Jindal Steel and Energy Limited.

The complex comprises two main units namely the steel melting unit that will produce the rebars for industrial use and the iron mill that will produce rebars for construction projects.

Eng Musallam bin Mubarak al- Jabri, deputy CEO of Jindal Shadeed Iron and Steel said "The project is a turning point for steel industry in the Sultanate and GCC states, as the plant installed, has the most advanced and high quality production lines that meets all health, safety and environment requirements. The production line thus secures a safe working environment."