### Preface

The 44-day Patriotic War put an end to the protracted occupation of Azerbaijan's lands. The liberated territories are now being revived and regenerated under the direct leadership of President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev.

The nearly 30-year occupation of 20 per cent of Azerbaijan's territories had disastrous consequences for our historical and cultural heritage. Analysis shows that the Armenian side destroyed Azerbaijan's monuments on an even greater scale in the period after the fighting had ended, in other words, during the 26 years that followed the 1994 cease-fire.

The Armenian side began a large-scale war against Azerbaijan at the end of 1991 in order to realize their illegal and baseless territorial claims. As a result, Armenia occupied a significant part of Azerbaijan's territory, which was rich in natural resources and cultural heritage. Tens of thousands of people lost their lives in the war, and cities, towns, and villages were destroyed by Armenian vandalism. Over 700,000 Azerbaijanis were ethnically cleansed from the occupied territories as a whole and the region's infrastructure was severely damaged.

More than 700 historical monuments, 22 museums including 100,000 museum exhibits, 927 libraries, 58 archaeological sites, 26 fortresses and fortress walls, and other cultural monuments were appropriated, looted, and destroyed.

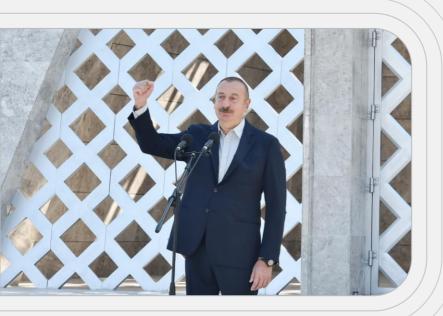
The policy of the deliberate destruction of heritage during the occupation struck a blow to both Azerbaijan's culture and world civilization, and the damage has yet to be repaired. Armenia deliberately changed the cultural appearance of residential areas in the occupied territories, destroyed monuments, changed architectural features, and conducted archaeological digs with the aim of eliminating all the signs that these belong to Azerbaijan.

However, on 27 September 2020, the Azerbaijan Army counterattacked along the front in order to prevent Armenia's aggression and began to liberate the territories occupied by Armenia during the First Karabakh War in the early 1990s. The war lasted 44 days and was named the Patriotic War. Led by the Azerbaijan Republic's President, the Victorious Supreme Commander Ilham Aliyev, the Glorious Azerbaijan Army showed its strength and achieved victory for Azerbaijan. Immediately after the Azerbaijan Army liberated the city of Shusha, considered Azerbaijan's capital of culture, on 10 November 2020, a trilateral statement was signed by Azerbaijan, Armenia, and Russia, and, as a result, Azerbaijan's territorial integrity was restored on 1 December.

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev confirmed a new Karabakh and East Zangazur economic region by decree on 7 July 2021. The Karabakh part of the region consists of the city of Khankandi and districts of Aghjabadi, Aghdam, Barda, Fuzuli, Khojaly, Khojavand, Shusha, and Tartar. At the same time, East Zangazur is made up of Jabrayil, Kalbajar, Gubadli, Lachin, and Zangilan districts. A rapid process of revival and regeneration is underway in Karabakh and East Zangazur.

The information bulletin Since the Victory provides an official record of the revival and regeneration process in our liberated territories.

Each issue of the bulletin is published in four languages – Azerbaijani, Russian, English, and Spanish – and covers six months, coming out twice a year in January and July.



About 40 years ago, my father was standing here. It was the opening of Vagif's mausoleum in frosty and snowy weather. On July 29, 1982, I visited Shusha for the second time with my father. At that time, the Vagif Poetry Days were held. Today we are celebrating the opening of Vagif's mausoleum for the second time. My father was 59 when the Vagif Poetry Days were held. Today, I am 59. I think there is great symbolic meaning in that. History repeats itself. The black page of Azerbaijan's history is behind us, and we start to breathe again.

Ilham Aliyev President of the Republic of Azerbaijan





## Groundbreaking of the Tunnel on the Toghanali-Kalbajar Highway

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva during their visit to Kalbajar and Lachin districts on August 16, attended the groundbreaking ceremony for an 11.6-kilometer tunnel to be built on the Toghanali-Kalbajar highway in Murovdagh. During the ceremony, the head of state laid the tunnel's foundation.

The projected length of the highway that connects the Goygol and Kalbajar districts is 81 kilometers. According to the order of the President, the highway is being built in accordance with the first and second technical levels. Taking into account the development plan of Karabakh, the highway will have 2-4 lanes. The Murovdagh Range starts from the 16th kilometer of the project and increases from 1,900 to 3,260 meters to the top of Murovdagh. Considering the rugged terrain and security issues, constructing an 11.6-kilometer tunnel under the Murovdagh Range was considered expedient.





## Acquaintance with the Progress of Works at the Kalbajar Small Hydroelectric Power Station

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev during his visit to Kalbajar and Lachin districts on August 16, viewed the progress of works at the Kalbajar Small Hydroelectric Power Station.

The Kalbajar-1 Small Hydroelectric Power Station with a capacity of 4.4 MW on the Lev River in the Kalbajar district is being completely reconstructed; the station's machine room, unit, generator, control panels, and transformers are being upgraded. The 1.3km section of the destroyed plastic water pipe, which transfers water to the hydraulic unit, is being replaced with 1.8 diameter metal pipes. Work has been completed on the station's engine room and 110/6 kilovolt substation. The Kalbajar-1 Small Hydroelectric Power Station, which was destroyed and burned by the Armenians, is being completely rebuilt, and the work is to be completed in the coming months.





#### Opening Ceremony of the "Kalbajar" Substation

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva during their visit to Kalbajar and Lachin districts on August 16, attended the opening of the 110/35/10 kV "Kalbajar" substation. During the ceremony, the head of state launched the substation.

New transformers with 80 MVA capacities have been installed at the new substation in Gamishli village of Kalbajar district. It is fitted with modern equipment. 110 kilovolts outdoor, 35 and 10 kilovolts indoor switchgears have been installed at the substation. The "Kalbajar" substation has been remotely connected to the SCADA Dispatcher Control System, and a new control building has been built for this purpose. The latest digital technologies have been used here.

A 110 kV high-voltage two-circuit power transmission line was laid over 70 kilometers from Dashkasan to Kalbajar district, where the Armenians completely destroyed the power system. Some anchors of the line, which crosses Mount Murov, have been installed at an altitude of 3,400 meters above sea level.





### Groundbreaking of the Tunnel on the Kalbajar-Lachin Highway

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev laid the foundation for a 3.4-kilometer tunnel to be built on the Kalbajar-Lachin highway on August 16.

The length of the Kalbajar-Lachin highway is 72.8 kilometers. The width of the carriageway, which will be built in accordance with the first and second technical categories, will be 9-16 meters. Underpasses and bridges will be built on the road, which will have two and four lanes. The construction of three tunnels will be carried out on the road as well. The total length of the tunnels will be 9,450 meters.





## Groundbreaking of the Lachin International Airport

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva during their visit to Kalbajar and Lachin districts on August 16, laid the foundation for Lachin International Airport.

The airport to be built in Gorchu village of the Lachin district will be the highest airport above sea level in Azerbaijan. It is planned to build 6 airfields at the airport, which will have 3 kilometers length runway.





# Acquaintance with the Restoration and Reconstruction Works to be Carried out at the "Istisu" Sanatorium

During their visit to Kalbajar and Lachin districts on August 16, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva viewed the restoration and reconstruction works to be done at the "Istisu" sanatorium.

A sanatorium of the same name was built around the famous mineral spring "Istisu" in the village of Istisu in 1928. Kalbajar district is known worldwide for its Istisu mineral resources and the sanatorium. According to sources, Istisu mineral springs appeared as a result of a strong earthquake in 1138. Due to its chemical composition and other properties, the Istisu water has no analogs in the world. The water temperature here is 58.8 degrees. The water temperature can reach 74 degrees on the surface and 90 degrees at depth. Istisu mineral springs consist of 12 springs.





### Acquaintance with the Works Carried out at the Istisu-Minkand Road

During their visit to Kalbajar and Lachin districts on August 16, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva inspected the construction of the Istisu-Minkand road.

The 51-kilometer-long Istisu-Minkand road connects the Istisu settlement of Kalbajar with the Minkand village of Lachin. This will be the second link between Kalbajar and Lachin districts. Currently, work is underway along this road, and earthwork has already been completed. After that, the asphalt coating will be applied.





## Acquaintance with the Completion of Works at Ahmadbayli-Fuzuli-Shusha Victory Road

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev viewed the completion of works at Ahmadbayli-Fuzuli-Shusha Victory Road on August 29. The two and three lane road is 101km in length. A total of 92 km of the road has already been asphalted. Work is underway in other parts. Underpasses and bridges have been built along the roads.

Ahmadbayli-Fuzuli-Shusha road was named Victory Road by President İlham Aliyev in honor of perpetuating the path that our glorious army used while liberating the city of Shusha, the cultural center of Azerbaijan, under the leadership of Victorious Commander-in-Chief.





## Acquaintance with the Works Done at the Fuzuli International Airport

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva viewed the construction progress at the Fuzuli International Airport on August 29. Fuzuli International Airport, known as the air gateway to Karabakh, is being built at the most modern level. The commissioning of the passenger terminal will be completed by the end of September while considering the launch of luggage conveyors, check-in, and other systems.

A 3,000-meter-long and 60-meter-wide runway has been put into operation at the airport. The airport will be able to receive any type of aircraft. A platform was also built here. The construction of the Air Traffic Control (ATC) tower equipped with automated systems has been completed. Due to this, it will be possible to start flights to Fuzuli airport in accordance with ICAO and IATA standards. A parking lot for 150 cars has been built in front of the terminal to ensure the comfort of passengers. Building the road to the Fuzuli International Airport entrance, as well as landscaping work at the airport, is underway.





### Opening Ceremony of the "Garabagh" Hotel

The opening ceremony of the newly reconstructed "Garabagh" hotel in Shusha, the cultural capital of Azerbaijan, was held. On August 29, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva attended the ceremony.

The hotel, which was built in 1980, ceased operations in May 1992 as a result of the occupation of Shusha and has fallen into disrepair due to neglect. After the liberation of Shusha from the Armenian occupation, the restoration and reconstruction work started in the hotel in 2021 on President Ilham Aliyev's instructions. All conditions have been created in the hotel that has been brought to a modern level for the comfort of the guests who will visit the city of Shusha. There are different room categories in the hotel. The restaurant and bar in the building will be available for guests. A conference room has been set up at the hotel for business meetings and events. A parking lot has also been built in the hotel area. The park area close to the hotel has been landscaped, fountains have been built, and the park has been restored to its pre-occupation appearance.



# Acquaintance with the Restoration Works in the Administrative Building of the Special Representative Office in Shusha

The restoration works in the administrative building of the Special Representative Office in Shusha are underway. On August 29, during their visit to Shusha, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva got acquainted with the restoration works in the administrative building.



29 AUGUST 2021

## Inauguration of the Bust of Molla Panah Vagif in Shusha

The inauguration of the bust of genius Azerbaijani poet Molla Panah Vagif took place in Shusha. On August 29, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva attended the inauguration.

The bust of Molla Panah Vagif, which was made of bronze in 1957, was installed on territory close to the Jidir Duzu as an over-grave monument in 1958. Later, in 1976, it was moved to the area close to the poet's home in Shusha. In 1982, before the inauguration of Vagif's mausoleum, the bust and the surrounding area were renovated, and the bust's pedestal was changed. In 1992, the bust was subjected to Armenian vandalism and destroyed during the occupation of Shusha. Following President Ilham Aliyev's instruction, this year, the monument, based on a preliminary design by Honoured Person of Art Hayat Abdullayeva, was created again. The bust, which was made out of bronze with the support of the Heydar Aliyev Foundation, was returned to its previous place and installed near the house of Molla Panah Vagif in Shusha.





### Inauguration of the Museum-Mausoleum Complex of Molla Panah Vagif

After the restoration and reconstruction works, the inauguration of the museum-mausoleum complex genius Azerbaijani poet and public figure Molla Panah Vagif took place in Shusha. On August 29, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva attended the inauguration ceremony and became familiar with the carried out works.

The inauguration of the grandiose mausoleum erected over the grave of Molla Panah Vagif in the city of Shusha, the cultural capital of Azerbaijan, took place on January 14, 1982, with the initiative and participation of Azerbaijani people's National Leader Heydar Aliyev. It was within the framework of this trip that the National Leader Heydar Aliyev gave instructions to hold the Vagif's Poetry Days, and from July 29 to August 3 of that year, this event was held for the first time in Shusha.

The museum-mausoleum complex had been constructed over the grave of the genius poet in an area close to the Jidir Duzu. While deciding to construct the four-cornered mausoleum decorated with marble, the compositional structure of the tower-shaped mausoleums of Azerbaijan was used, considering the surrounding landscape and town-building features. Local traditions of popular architecture, monumental and decorative, and applied plastic were used to construct the mausoleum. A bust of Molla Panah Vagif, made by sculptor Albert Mustafayev, was installed inside the mausoleum. As a result of the occupation of Shusha in 1992 by Armenia, the building of the complex and all exhibitions in the complex were destroyed. After the liberation of Shusha, restoration and reconstruction works were launched here, based on the instruction of President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev given during his visit to Shusha on January 14th- on the same day as the inauguration of the mausoleum 39 years earlier- at the time of visiting the mausoleum.

The restoration and reconstruction works on the mausoleum were carried out by the Heydar Aliyev Foundation. Starting from March 2021, the mausoleum was subjected to structural examination in the primary stage, and reinforcement works were carried out on the required parts and working designs developed within this framework. Based on the working designs, structural restoration of the parts was carried out using the chemical materials recommended by foreign specialists, taking additional measures against corrosion. Using the data obtained as a result of topographical works, together with acquiring broken and destroyed facing materials by carrying out search works on the territory, architectural working designs were developed to restore the monument's preliminary dimensions. Based on these designs, the walls of the interior parts and the façade were covered with marble, returning the monument's historical appearance.

Moreover, all ornaments and decorative patterns, including the entry door, were made of aluminum by casting method-based on the working designs developed on the basis of cast aluminum ornament samples found on the territory, keeping the original dimensions - and were installed according to the design, after they were brought to Shusha city. A tombstone made of black marble was placed over the grave in the center of the salon, and a bust was prepared of white marble, considering the preliminary form's restoration. The historical form was maintained in every detail of the monument. All the infrastructure of the monumental complex was rebuilt, and rainwater gutters and electricity lines were built. The supporting walls and the square on the landscape were covered with granite keeping their historical appearance. At the same time, rose bushes of different types- as depicted in pictures of that time-were planted.







### Inauguration of the House-Museum of Bulbul

Inauguration of the house-museum of People's Artist Bulbul, who has provided great services to the development of Azerbaijan's music culture and played a significant role in the formation and development of the professional vocal school, took place on August 29 in Shusha city after the restoration. President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva attended the inauguration ceremony.

The house where the eminent musician was born has been acting as a house-museum since 1982. Following the instruction of National Leader Heydar Aliyev, the Executive Committee of the Shusha City People's Deputies decided on August 31, 1982, to turn the house where Bulbul was born and lived into a house-museum. The building was repaired during 1982-1983, a museum exposition was built there, and an administrative building was constructed in front of the museum. Photos related to Bulbul's childhood years and some of his personal belongings, including his gaval, had been showcased in the museum. Over 9000 documents reflecting Bulbul's creativity, research, and pedagogical and public activities were collected here. Materials proving Bulbul's long-year efficient creative works associated with the creation of Azerbaijan's new vocal school, as well as studying and promoting popular music were also demonstrated in the house-museum.

During the First Karabakh War, the house-museum was subjected to Armenian vandalism and stopped its activity in 1992. Repair and reconstruction works that were carried out on the museum following President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev's instruction at the time of his visit to the house-museum during the trip to Shusha city on 14 January 2021 have been already completed. While carrying out restoration works, two scripts in Arabic and a picture describing the Sun's symbol were discovered under the plastering. There was an ayah from Koran in one of the scripts, another showing the date of construction of the house. The newly discovered script on the wall shows that the building was constructed in 1788. By its typological origin, the building embodies features of historical residential buildings of Karabakh and Azerbaijan, with the rooms' interior structure being characteristic of Azerbaijan's traditional homes.

During the occupation of Shusha, the house was made useless, cracks were formed in load-bearing walls, and the walls sank. The foundations of all load-bearing walls were reinforced during the restoration works, and reconstruction works were carried out on the walls with cracks. Rotten wooden floors in the rooms were replaced with new ones. The roof, doors, and windows had rotten and become useless. Therefore, they were replaced with new ones, maintaining the building's historical appearance. The yard related to Bulbul's house-museum was renovated, keeping its primary shape. Bulbul's museum exposition has been built in the building. Bulbul's newly made bust was erected in the house-museum's yard. Bulbul's former bust, which had been subjected to Armenian vandalism during Shusha's occupation, is also kept in the yard to demonstrate Armenian barbarism.





## Inauguration of the Statue of Uzeir Hajibeyli

The inauguration of the statue of the eminent composer of Azerbaijan Uzeir Hajibeyli, took place in Shusha city. President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva participated in the inauguration ceremony held on August 29 and unveiled the statue.

A statue of Uzeir Hajibeyli was erected in Shusha city in 1985 to celebrate the composer's 100-year jubilee. Made by sculptor Ahmad Salikov, the statue was subjected to Armenian vandalism during the First Karabakh War and was completely destroyed in 1992. A new statue of the composer was made following the instruction of President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev. As no model of the statue was left, the new statue was created based on the photos published in that time's press and kept in archives. With the support of the Heydar Aliyev Foundation, the statue was made of bronze and erected in its previous place in Shusha city. The statue was made by sculptors Aslan Rustamov, Teymur Rustamov, and Mahmud Rustamov.





### Acquaintance with the Works to be Carried out in the House-Museum of Uzeir Hajibeyli

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva got acquainted with the works to be carried out in the house-museum of Uzeir Hajibeyli in Shusha on August 29.

The house-museum of eminent composer, founder of our professional music art and national opera Uzeir Hajibeyli, operated until the occupation of Shusha by Armenia. About 100 out of the 1700 exhibits in the museum associated with the composer-genius were saved, and the rest were subjected to vandalism of Armenian occupants and destroyed.

A project of works to be carried out in the house-museum has been developed by the Heydar Aliyev Foundation. After the works to be carried out in the house-museum, it is planned to place the exhibits of the museum here, which were taken to Baku in 1992. These are Uzeir Hajibeyli's photos, letters, the score of his works, and personal belongings.





## Groundbreaking Ceremony of the Hotel and Conference Centre in Shusha

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva attended the groundbreaking ceremony of the Hotel and Conference Centre in Shusha on August 29. President Ilham Aliyev laid the foundation of the Hotel and Conference Centre. Taking the concept of caravanserai as the basis, the 5-star Hotel and Conference Centre, located in the center of Shusha city, on the Victory Road, has been designed using a synthesis of modern and national architectural styles.

The Centre will cover 2.8 hectares of area. Ornamental compositions and national architectural elements will be applied to the external view, reflecting architectural traditions. Local stone used in the construction of historical buildings in Shusha will be used on the facing of the façade. Moreover, balconies, north and south facades of the center will be made of wood-containing materials that were used in the construction of historical buildings of Shusha — the house of Zohrabbeyov, related to the 19th century, and the house-museum of Uzeir Hajibeyli. Consisting of five stories and 150 rooms, the Hotel and Conference Centre will have also other types of rooms, restaurants, conference buildings, and courtyards.





### Master Plan of the Shusha City and Groundbreaking Ceremony of the First Neighborhood (mahalla)

The master plan of the city of Shusha was presented to the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva on August 29, and President Ilham Aliyev laid a foundation stone for the first neighborhood.

The preservation of the historical grandeur of the Shusha city was taken as a basis while preparing its master plan. All the projects implemented in our cultural capital will be based on the combination of history and modernity. The construction of various residential buildings, the location of the city center, new historic buildings, and monuments in Shusha find their reflection in the presented master plan.

Along with the existing 36.2 km of roads in the city, it is also planned to build 17.6 km of new roads. The location of public parking has also been determined in the city master plan. The construction of green corridors for preserving and developing greenery and landscape in accordance with the city's topography is also planned. The new housing estate, with a total area of 46,765 square meters in Shusha, will consist of 6 neighborhoods. The population for the neighborhoods is estimated at 2020 people. It is planned to have 25 buildings in the residential area. The 3, 4, and 5-storey buildings in the first neighborhood that was laid on August 29 will be built in the typical architectural style of Shusha.





## Opening Ceremony of the Vagif Poetry Days

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva attended the official opening ceremony of the Vagif Poetry Days.

After the liberation of Shusha from occupation, Vagif Poetry Days were restored and organized for the first time on August 30 by the Heydar Aliyev Foundation in front of Molla Panah Vagif's mausoleum.

President Ilham Aliyev said during his speech at the opening ceremony: Dear friends, about 40 years ago, my father was standing here while I was standing right over there. It was the opening of Vagif's mausoleum in frosty and snowy weather. Then I came to Shusha for the second time with my father on 29 July 1982. At that time, the Vagif Poetry Days were held. Today we are celebrating the opening of Vagif's mausoleum for the second time. My father was 59 years old when the Vagif Poetry Days were held. Today I am 59 years old. Some may think that this is a coincidence. However, I think that there is great symbolic meaning in that. History repeats itself. The black page of Azerbaijan's history is behind us, and we are able to breathe again.

While sharing the good news about Shusha with the people of Azerbaijan on 8 November, I said that Shusha is now free, this is the truth. We are gathered in a free Shusha. I said that we had returned to Shusha. That was also true. Festivals, poetry days, cultural, and many other events are already held and will continue. I said that we would revive Shusha. It is happening because we are reviving Shusha.

Long live Shusha! Long live Karabakh! Long live Azerbaijan!







## The Exhibition "Karabakh is a Pearl of Azerbaijani Culture"

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva on August 30, got acquainted with the exhibition "Karabakh is a pearl of Azerbaijani culture" organized by the Heydar Aliyev Foundation within the framework of the Vagif's Poetry Days in Shusha.

More than sixty paintings and sculptures presented at the exhibition take visitors on a journey into a joyful and sad, real and fantastic, open and secret, colorful and monochrome world. The primary source of inspiration in the works presented here is Karabakh. A wide space is given to such topics as landscapes, writers, carpets, horses, the mugam of Karabakh, and victory in the Patriotic War.



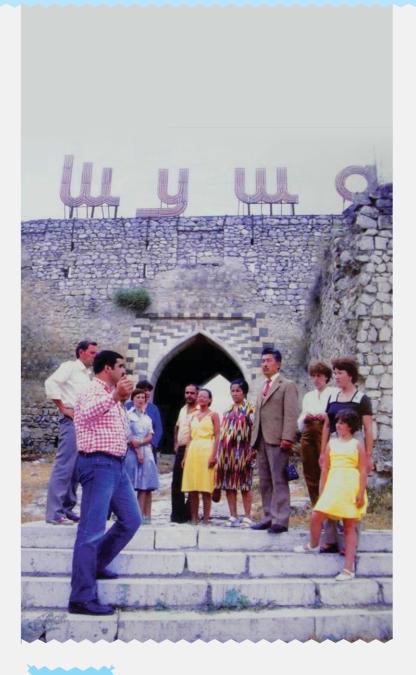




### The Exhibition "Again, in the Native Land: Pearls of Karabakh Art"

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva got acquainted with the exhibition "Again, in the native land: Pearls of Karabakh art" on August 30, organized by the Heydar Aliyev Foundation within the framework of the Vagif's Poetry Days in Shusha.

Pile and lint-free carpets, carpet products, national embroidery and costumes, and art samples of metalwork were displayed at the exhibition presented by the Azerbaijan National Carpet Museum in the Carpet Gallery in Shusha. The carpet samples included in the National Museum of the History of Azerbaijan collection were also displayed at the exhibition. Most of these exhibits, re-exhibited in their native land, had been brought to Baku from the Shusha branch of the Azerbaijan National Carpet Museum during the First Karabakh War. It was possible to see samples of Karabakh carpets at the exhibition related to different regions, which have been highly valued for centuries and are among the unique exhibits of foreign museums and personal collections.



## The Exhibition "Memory. Photographic history"

The exhibition entitled "Memory. Photographic history" was organized by the Heydar Aliyev Foundation on August 30. The photo exhibition embodies Azerbaijan's old history, rich culture, beautiful nature, and traditions. Armenia has committed an act of vandalism against our cultural heritage, historical and architectural monuments on the territories they had once kept under occupation, historical and cultural objects, religious shrines were destroyed by the enemy, and many districts and cities were razed to the ground.

Visitors are also shown photos related to savagery and destructions committed by Armenians in the districts and cities liberated from occupation. There are also photos at the exhibition reflecting the crimes committed by Armenia against civilians during the Patriotic War.





SEPTEMBER

#### The March to Pay Tribute to the Memory of Azerbaijani Martyrs of the Patriotic War

On the Day of Remembrance on September 27, a march was held in Baku to pay tribute to the memory of Azerbaijani soldiers and officers that died in the battles for the country's territorial integrity, killed civilians, and missing Azerbaijanis during the Patriotic War. Victorious Commander-in-Chief, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva attended the march.

The head of state laid the foundation for the Patriotic War Memorial Complex and the Museum of Victory, and then President Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva visited the Seaside Boulevard paying tribute to the memory of heroic martyrs of the country.

At 12:00 o'clock local time, the memory of the martyrs was commemorated throughout the country with a minute of silence, there was a continuous whistling sound from the warships lined up in the coastal waters of the Caspian Sea, and volleys of artillery were fired.







### Opening Ceremony of the Highways Leading to Sugovushan Settlement and Talish Village of Tartar

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev inaugurated the highways leading to Sugovushan settlement and Talish village of Tartar district on October 3.

The road, with a length of 28,5 km and a width of 9 m, consists of 2 lanes. The construction works are carried out in high quality in accordance with the construction norms and rules requirements. Following the project, bus stops were built along the road, and another necessary infrastructure was created to organize the traffic normally. The automobile roads leading to Sugovushan and Talish villages were built in the 70s of last century in connection with the construction of Sugovushan water reservoir, following the instruction of the national leader Heydar Aliyev.







### Foundation of the Talish-Tapgaragoyunlu-Gashalti-Naftalan Highway

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev laid a foundation for the Talish-Tapgaragoyunlu-Gashalti-Naftalan highway in the Tartar region On October 3. The total length of the new road from Talysh village of Tartar to Naftalan city, passing through Tapgaragoyunlu village of Goranboy region, will be 22 kilometers.





Inauguration of the "Sugovushan-1" and "Sugovushan-2" Small Hydropower Plants

The "Sugovushan-1" and "Sugovushan-2" small hydropower plants in Tartar have been inaugurated after renovation. President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev attended the event and launched the stations on October 3.

13.8 million kWh of electric energy will be produced in Sugovushan-1 Small Hydroelectric Power Station annually. The total capacity of "Sugovushan-1" and "Sugovushan-2" Small Hydroelectric Power Stations in Sugovushan settlement of the Tartar region, liberated by the Azerbaijani Armed forces on October 3, 2020, is 7.8 megawatts. Both stations have been thoroughly reconstructed, and their control center buildings, equipment, and power transmission lines between the substations have been completely renewed.



Acquaintance with the Conditions Created in the New House in the Tartar Region on the Site of the One Destroyed as a Result of the Rocket Attack by the Armenian Armed Forces

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev on October 3, viewed the destroyed house of a resident of the city of Tartar, Sahib Ismayilov, which was destroyed as a result of the Smerch missile strike by the Armenian armed forces during the Patriotic War and got acquainted with the conditions created in the new house built on the site of the previous one.

A total of 16 civilians were killed and 63 were wounded in Tartar due to treacherous enemy fire during the Patriotic War. During the war, 16,277 tank, artillery, rocket launcher, mortar shells, and 21 banned-type missiles landed on 40 settlements, including the city of Tartar. As a result, 82 multistorey residential buildings, 5,949 private houses, 184 businesses, and 301 non-residential facilities, 17 schools, 11 kindergartens, one vocational school, one music school, 30 administrative buildings, and about 20 community and healthcare facilities were damaged in Tartar. 62 houses were totally destroyed. 36 of them have been already reconstructed and handed over. The last completion work on the other 26 is expected to be completed in the coming days. Along with houses, 17 schools were destroyed in Tartar during the fighting. Those schools have been repaired on the order of the head of state. A modular school is already being built. Projectestimate documents have already been prepared for city school No. 5, and the construction will start in the coming days.

During the fighting, 184 business facilities were destroyed. All of them have already been repaired. 301 non-residential areas were destroyed. On President Ilham Aliyev's order, all people have been paid compensation for the damage to their property, totaling 6,202,000 manats, and a total of 545 animals have been provided in compensation. A total of 6,794,200 manats have been paid. The compensation has been paid for the farmlands that were damaged due to the trenches dug and destroyed due to the shelling.





04 october 2021

### Groundbreaking Ceremony of the Joint Service Center of KAMAZ OJSC and Ganja Automobile Plant Production Association

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev attended a groundbreaking ceremony of the joint service center of KAMAZ OJSC and Ganja Automobile Plant Production Association in Jabrayil district on October 4. The foundation of the joint service center for trucks and agricultural machinery in the Karabakh region, a joint venture between the Ganja Automobile Plant Production Association and KamAZ OJSC, is of special importance. The project will be implemented jointly with KamAZ OJSC in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding signed between Ganja Automobile Plant Production Association and KamAZ OJSC within the business mission of Russian companies to Azerbaijan in July of this year.

The total area of the regional service center to be established in the Araz Valley Economic Zone Industrial Park will be 1.5 hectares. The area will have a sales hall, financial services department, service bureau, manager departments, offices of repair zone masters and an office building for spare parts warehouse, service blocks for servicing trucks and agricultural machinery, repair shops, car wash, and parking. In addition to KamAZ, the center will provide technical services for other trucks and agricultural machinery, including tractors and combines. It is planned to create 36 new jobs here.



### Inaguration of the "Araz Valley Economic Zone" Industrial Park

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev laid a foundation for the "Araz Valley Economic Zone" Industrial Park to be established in the East Zangazur economic region on October 4.

The industrial park to be established in the Jabrayil district will cover an area of 200 hectares. The area will comprise agricultural processing, industrial, social, and technical zones. It is planned to create a logistics and trade center, warehouse complexes, wholesale and retail facilities, Truck Park, customs, refueling, car, and other equipment repair points here. It is planned to create enterprises to produce cladding and insulation materials, various additives, and metal structures for construction in the Industrial Park. It is also planned to establish enterprises for packing agricultural products, manufacturing and processing canned fruits and vegetables, milk and meat products, producing wine, feed, and fertilizers, as well as silk factories, refrigeration chambers, and small production and service areas in the areas of the park.

Since there is no residential area near the Industrial Park, a container town for 150 people will be constructed in the social zone. Office buildings for Park management and residents, as well as residential buildings and service facilities, a medical center, a sports field, and other infrastructures will be created in the town for administrative staff, residents, construction engineers, and workers.





### Inauguration of the Jabrayil Substation

The 110/35/10 kV Jabrayıl substation was inaugurated in the Jabrayil district. President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev attended the event on October 4.

110 kV double-circuit 1st and 2nd Jabrayil overhead lines with a length of 31 kilometers were laid to the Jabrayil region from the Shukurbeyli substation in Fuzuli. The area the line runs through, which was the contact line of the troops once and had been completely mined, has been cleared of unexploded ordnance. Necessary work has been done to protect the overhead line from lightning and to transmit signals between substations. 110 kV outdoor switchgear was built in the new substation. The necessary conditions have been technically created in the substation for connecting the double-circuit transmission lines from Jabrayil to feed the 110/35/10 kilovolt Gubadli and Zangilan substations. Jabrayil substation has been equipped with new equipment, modern digital control, protection, and automation systems installed here. In order to monitor the operation of the substation in real-time and transfer the indicators to the SCADA system of "Azerenergy" OJSC, a local micro-SCADA dispatch control system was installed, and the power system has been digitized by integrating into the central SCADA system.



## Inauguration of the Military Unit Complex of the State Border Service

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev inaugurated the military unit complex of the State Border Service in Jabrayil on October 4. A marble memorial stone and a plaque were created in the military unit on the occasion of the President, Victorious Commander-in-Chief Ilham Aliyev's participation in the opening ceremony. The arsenal of weapons and combat equipment of the military unit includes Harop and Guzghun unmanned combat aerial vehicles, antitank grenade launchers, anti-tank guided missiles, 120 mm and 82 mm mortars, anti-aircraft guns and other modern weapons systems, firearms, group and sniper rifles, surveillance and night vision devices, thermal devices and sights, special purpose equipment, as well as armored personnel carriers, high-speed vehicles, and armored combat vehicles.

The 64-hectare military unit complex includes the headquarter and dormitory for officers, service rooms, a canteen, a bath and laundry complex, a campus, car storage boxes, warehouses for weapons, fuel, food and clothing, and staff. All the necessary conditions have been created in the training camp of the complex for organizing training to improve the combat readiness of service members, conducting shootings of various types of small arms and large-caliber weapons at the shooting range and evaluating the results, improving the skills of personnel to use existing weapons and combat equipment. There are football and volleyball courts and a gym equipped with equipment and tools that meet the latest standards for military personnel to do sports in the sports camp. Major landscaping work has been carried out in the area.





## Foundation of the Jabrayil District Central Hospital

The groundbreaking ceremony of Jabrayil District Central Hospital was held. President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev attended the ceremony on October 4 and laid a foundation for the hospital. According to the draft Master Plan, the total area of the new hospital, which will be located in the southern part of the city, is 2.6 hectares. The 150-bed hospital building will include an infectious disease ward and a number of technical buildings.







#### Foundation of the Secondary School Named After Academician Mehdi Mehdizade

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev attended the groundbreaking ceremony of the secondary school named after academician Mehdi Mehdizade in the city of Jabrayil and laid a foundation for the school on October 4. The new school building, where 960 students will study, will have classrooms and subject rooms equipped with all kinds of inventory. A large sports ground will be built in the schoolyard. Along with this 145-year-old school built and commissioned in 1876, the construction of 3 more schools in city of Jabrayil is planned.





#### Groundbreaking Ceremony for the First Multi-Apartment Residential Settlement in the City of Jabrayil

A groundbreaking ceremony for the first multi-apartment residential settlement in the city of Jabrayil has been held. President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev attended the ceremony on October 4 and laid a foundation for the residential settlement. The residential quarter with an area of 10,5 hectares will be built and put into operation in stages. In the first stage, 5 buildings will be built, and about 200 families, i.e., 654 residents, will be relocated here. There will be 4, 5, and 6-storey residential buildings and buildings for another purpose in the neighborhood. The facades and balconies of the buildings built in this neighborhood and in the city center will form a modern look while preserving their history.



04 october 2021 Meeting with Representatives of the General Public of Jabrayil. Laying the Foundation Stone of the Memorial Complex and the Restoration of the City

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev met with representatives of the general public of Jabrayil on October 4 and laid the foundation stone of the Memorial Complex and the city's restoration.



09 OCTOBER 2021

### Foundation of a New Mosque in the Hadrut Settlement

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev visited the Hadrut settlement and Tugh village of Khojavand district on October 9. During the visit, the head of state laid a foundation for a new mosque in the Hadrut settlement. The minaret of the mosque to be built for the local population in Hadrut settlement will be 26 meters. A women's prayer room will be located on the second floor of the mosque, which will accommodate 250 people simultaneously. Unique decorative elements will be used on the facade of the mosque.



#### Acquaintance with the Progress of Construction Work on the Shukurbayli -Jabrayil-Hadrut, Tugh-Hadrut and Fuzuli-Hadrut Highways

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev got acquainted with the progress of construction work on the Shukurbayli-Jabrayil-Hadrut, Tugh-Hadrut, and Fuzuli-Hadrut highways on October 9.

The Şukurbeyli-Jabrayil-Hadrut highway starts from the Hajigabul-Minjivan-Zangazur corridor highway passing through the village of Shukurbeyli of the Jabrayil district, extends to Hadrut settlement of the Khojavand district. The length of the road under construction is 39.7 km. The highway with four traffic lines is being constructed in accordance with the first technical category. Earthworks and the construction of artificial structures are underway on this road. Construction of seven road bridges also continues along the road. One of the bridges is designed at its intersection with the Hajigabul-Minjivan-Zangazur corridor highway. Thus, a convenient entry and exit from this road will be provided. In parallel with the work done, the shoulders of the road are being cleared of mines and unexploded ordnance to ensure the rapid movement of special equipment involved in the construction area.

The Shukurbayli-Jabrayil-Hadrut highway passes through the liberated Khojavend, Fuzuli, and Jabrayil districts. The highway will cover about 20 settlements in the above-mentioned regions, including Hadrut settlement and Jabrayil city.

Starting from Victory Road, the Fuzuli-Hadrut highway joins the newly built Shukurbayli-Jabrayil-Hadrut highway. The 13-km first-class technical Fuzuli-Hadrut road will have four lanes. The construction of a roadbed and new automobile bridges along the road is underway. The construction of the 18-km-long Tugh-Hadrut highway is also underway. The road will have two lanes built in accordance with the second technical level.







### Foundation of the Hadrut Junction Substation

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev laid a foundation for the Hadrut junction substation on October 9.

In order to supply the Hadrut settlement with electricity, a 35 kV double-circuit overhead line with a length of 27 kilometers was built from the 110/35/10 kV "Shukurbeyli" substation in the Fuzuli district to the "Hadrut" substation.

A 35/10 kV "Dashalti" substation was built to supply the city of Shusha with electricity in a short time. In order to charge the substation, a 53.5-km-long electric transmission line was built from the "Hadrut" substation. On January 7- after 37 days of full-day work, it was enabled to turn on the light of Azerbaijan in the city of Shusha, despite the rugged terrain, snow, and frosty weather conditions.

A modern type "Hadrut" junction substation, which is included in the 35 kV circular power supply scheme created between "Shukurbeyli," "Hadrut," and "Shusha" substations and will be built instead of the "Hadrut" substation, will ensure the reliability and sustainability of the electricity supply of a part of the Khojavend region, Shusha, and its surrounding area.





### Foundation of the Fuzuli-Aghdam Highway

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva paid a visit to the Fuzuli region on October 17. During the visit, the head of state laid the foundation for the Fuzuli-Aghdam highway.

The continuation of the Barda-Aghdam highway, which will be 64.8-km-long and 15-m-wide, will consist of four lanes. According to the project, the construction of bridges, bus stops, and other road infrastructure along the road is planned.



#### Laying the Foundation of "Smart Village" in the Dovlatyarli Village of Fuzuli District

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva got acquainted with the "smart village" project to be implemented in Dovlatyarli village of the Fuzuli district on October 17. President Ilham Aliyev laid the foundation for the "smart village." According to the "smart village" project, where green and alternative energy and a "smart management" system will be applied, a total of 450 houses with three, four, and five rooms will be built at the initial stage. A school and a kindergarten will be built in the village, and a square and a market will be created in the center of the village. Around the village, there will be a "smart village" farm area.

A solar farm will be built here for alternative energy solutions on the basis of foreign investment. 20 permanent jobs will be created in the field, which will have 50 megawatts capacity of the investment project.

Business projects will also be implemented in the village. The establishment of enterprises on the potato value chain is planned here. 40 permanent and about 300 seasonal jobs will be created in these enterprises. There are also plans to establish an export-oriented fishing farm in the village through the application of smart aquaculture systems on the basis of the Kondalanchay reservoir. A poultry farm will also be established here, which will have 85 permanent jobs at the initial stage. It is expected that rural tourism and hotel infrastructure will be created by applying smart tourism solutions.



## Acquaintance with the Condition Created at the Fuzuli International Airport

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva got acquainted with the conditions created at Fuzuli International Airport on October 17. All the construction and landscaping works, which were carried out in accordance with international norms and standards, have been completed at the airport. A 3,000-meter-long and 60-meter-wide runway has been put into operation at the airport that allows receiving any type of aircraft. The construction of the terminal, which will process at least 200 passengers per hour, including the launch of baggage conveyors, a registration system, VIP lounges, shops, restaurants, and other points, has been completed.



#### Groundbreaking Ceremony for Digital Station Management Center

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva attended a groundbreaking ceremony for the Digital Station Management Center in the city of Fuzuli on October 17. During the ceremony, President Ilham Aliyev laid the foundation for the Center. The Digital Substation, established in the liberated territories, is an innovative solution project for control, protection, and management systems that collects and processes all information on the state of the electricity network, as well as organizes the management of equipment in digital format. This project, implemented for the first time in the South Caucasus, provides for the development of optical digital measuring transformers and new generation digital equipment complexes at the substation. The new generation substation provides high accuracy and uniformity of all measurements. Automation reduces the human factor's impact on the network, increases reliability, and reduces losses during power transmission. The cost of obtaining energy and operating costs is getting reduced.

Consumers fed from the Digital Substation can receive information about any technical failure online in advance. Since the process of integration of renewable energy sources into the networks is automatically controlled in the Digital Substation, the interruptions in the power supply are completely eliminated. The digital substation fully ensures the operation of the substation in a multifunctional mode, the coordination of devices and equipment in accordance with the amount of electricity received and transmitted. It carries out automatic adaptation of operations to the requirements of the distribution network, the decision-making capacity of information and technical security systems, and the integration of "green energy" sources into the network. The substation is working in closed mode, operation and management operations are carried out remotely, and there is no need for permanent staff.





## Acquaintance with the Works that will be Carried out in the Central City Park

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva got acquainted with the work that will be carried out in the Central City Park to be built in Fuzuli on October 17 and planted trees.

A large 21-hectare forest park will be built here for residents and visitors of the city. More than 5,000 Eldar pine trees, evergreen cypresses, olives, Oriental plane trees, maples, and other trees will be planted in the area. For interestingly organizing the residents' leisure time, recreation areas, amphitheater zone for various events, camping and recreation areas, entertainment zones for children and youth groups, extreme cycling area, and other corners will be created in the Park. The water basin that will be laid in the Park will create a different view for residents relaxing in cafes and restaurants. It is planned to build an 8.2 km bicycle path and a 7.5 km pedestrian road in the area.



#### Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Multi-Apartment Residential Neighborhood that will be Built in the City of Fuzuli

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva attended a groundbreaking ceremony for the multi-apartment residential neighborhood that will be built in the city of Fuzuli on October 17. During the ceremony, President Ilham Aliyev laid the foundation for the residential neighborhood.

The residential neighborhood with an area of 17.8 hectares will be built and put into operation in stages. In the first stage, 4-5-story residential buildings with 65 apartments will be built. The apartments will consist of 1, 2, 3, and 4 rooms. Multifunctional buildings will be built in the neighborhood. In total, a living of 2,860 people is planned in the neighborhood. In the construction of a residential neighborhood with courtyard-type plan structures, traditionalism and modernity will form a unity and will stimulate the determination of the future architectural face of the complex city. The neighborhood is also expected to have business centers, malls, catering, cultural, and household-utility facilities. Green areas will surround the area, pools and fountains will be installed, and bicycle paths will be built.



17 OCTOBER 2021

## Laying the Foundation of Memorial Complex and the Restoration of the City of Fuzuli

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva met with members of the general public of the Fuzuli district on October 17 and laid the foundation stone for the Memorial Complex and the restoration of the city.



#### Acquaintance with the Works Conducted within the Framework of the Smart Village Project Implemented in the Aghali Village

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva got acquainted with the works conducted within the framework of the Smart Village project implemented in Aghali village during their visit to the Zangilan district on 20 October. The foundation of the first Smart Village project was laid in April 2021 by the head of state.

As part of the project, construction work is underway on an area of more than 110 hectares. Using innovative construction materials, the construction of 200 fully isolated individual ecofriendly houses, 4 two-storey non-residential buildings, a school for 360 pupils, and a kindergarten for 60 children continues at a high pace. The "Smart School" being created in the village will have all the opportunities for distance learning. Work has begun on laying underground utilities - lines for drinking water, sewage, and mudflow drainage. Construction works in the area of the fountain planned in the park square have been completed. The architectural monument that will be installed in the fountain is in the preparation stage. Modern city planning standards will be applied here, and pedestrian and bicycle paths will be built.

Various works related to the organization and development of agriculture will be carried out. The land areas to be used to manufacture agricultural products have been determined and the list of necessary innovative techniques has been prepared. Modern irrigation systems will be used in "Smart Agriculture." A planting plan for the Smart Village project has been prepared. The arable areas envisaged by the plan have been assessed and preparations for planting have begun. According to the planting plan, relevant works have been done to clear 412 hectares of the determined 600-hectare from mines. The establishment of the public farms within the framework of the project in order to create appropriate conditions for the restoration and development of agricultural activities in "Smart Village" is planned. It will be possible to keep 250 head of cattle and 600 sheep and goats on the farm. The "Smart management system" will be implemented here from the data and analysis center.





## Acquaintance with the Progress of Construction Work at the Zangilan International Airport

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva got acquainted with the progress of construction work at Zangilan International Airport on October 20. The construction work at the 3,000-meter runway airport started in May this year. Zangilan International Airport will have the capacity to receive any type of aircraft, including heavy cargo aircraft. The construction work is scheduled to be completed in 2022.





Acquaintance with the Condition Created in the Military Unit Complex of the State Border Service Located in the Zangilan District

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva got acquainted with the conditions created at a military unit complex of the State Border Service located in the Zangilan district on October 20.

The new military unit complex of the State Border Service, which protects the parts of the state borders of the Republic of Azerbaijan with Iran and Armenia passing through the territory of the Zangilan district, covers an area of 15 hectares. It includes the headquarters building, soldiers' dormitory, service rooms, canteen, and other buildings. All the necessary conditions have been created in the complex to organize service-combat activity according to the assignment of the military unit, improve the professional and combat skills of military personnel, and upgrade military knowledge and moral-psychological training of personnel.



### Inauguration of the "Zangilan" Substation

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva attended the opening of the 110/35/10 kV "Zangilan" substation of AzerEnergy OJSC on October 20. During the ceremony, President Ilham Aliyev launched the "Zangilan" substation.

A double-circuit 110 kV transmission line with a total length of 110 kilometers was laid from the Shukurbeyli substation in Fizuli to the Zangilan region, where the electric power infrastructure was completely destroyed. The necessary work on lightning protection of overhead lines and signal transmission between substations has been completed. The building of the substation is equipped with modern equipment, 2 transformers with a capacity of 25 MVA have been installed. Necessary infrastructure has been created, taking into account the expansion of the network in the future. The micro-SCADA dispatch control system built here allows real-time control of the substation's operation mode and transmission of indicators to the SCADA system of Azerenerji OJSC.



### Foundation of the Digital Substation in the Zangilan District

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva attended a groundbreaking ceremony for Digital Substation in the Zangilan district on October 20. President Ilham Aliyev laid the foundation for the Digital Substation during the ceremony.

240 km of 35/10 kV transmission lines and 1,050 km of 0.4 kV transmission lines will be completely reconstructed. Unlike the traditional supply chain, the new structured network remains more cost-effective. All facilities will be available in the newly created network for the infrastructure of the "Smart City" and "Smart Village" projects.





#### Groundbreaking ceremony for the Khanlig-Gubadli Highway

During their visit to the Gubadli district on October 25, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the Khanlig-Gubadli highway leading to the center of the city of Gubadli from the 10th km of Khudafarin-Gubadli-Lachin highway. During the ceremony, the head of state laid the foundation for the Khanlig-Gubadli highway.

The length of this road, which originates from the Hajigabul-Horadiz-Aghband-Zangazur highway corridor that passes near the part of the Khudafarin Dam, is 56.4 kilometers. The Gubadli-Eyvazli highway will be 26 kilometers long and 7 meters wide. The length of the Gubadli-Khinzirek highway will be 23.5 kilometers. Both roads are being constructed with two lanes.

A new 14-kilometer highway will be constructed to the city of Gubadli from the part of the Khudafarin-Lachin highway that passes from the Khanlig settlement. According to President Ilham Aliyev's instruction, considering the development plan of Karabakh, Khudafarin-Lachin and Khanliq-Gubadli highways will have four lanes. The newly constructed roads pass through the territories of the Zangilan, Gubadli, and Lachin regions liberated from occupation. The highway covers more than 30 settlements in these regions, including the cities of Gubadli and





### Inauguration of the "Gubadli" Substation

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva attended the inauguration of the system-important 110/35/10 kV "Gubadli" substation on October 25. During the ceremony, the head of state launched the substation.

In parallel with the construction of the substation, in order to connect Gubadli to the general energy system of Azerbaijan and supply the region with sustainable electricity, doublecircuit 110 kV high-voltage powers "Gubadli-1", "Gubadli-2" transmission lines are constructed at a distance of 76 kilometers from the "Shukurbeyli" substation in Fuzuli to the "Jabrayil" substation. While designing a new line with a power transmission capacity of 150-160 MW, a necessary system was created for the prevention and localization of the typical climate parameters for the region-freezing, maximum wind speed, snow thickness, pollution, and other factors, including possible accidents. A fiber optic cable has been laid along the newly built line for lightning protection, information exchange between substations, and the Internet. Thus, by this, not only an electric line but also a highspeed internet line with the highest speed was laid to Gubadli.



#### Inauguration of a New Military Unit Complex of the State Border Service in the Gubadli District

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva attended the inauguration of a new military unit complex of the State Border Service in the Gubadli district on October 25.

The territory of the new military unit complex of the State Border Service, which protects the section of the state border of Azerbaijan with Armenia passing through the territory of Gubadli and Lachin districts, is 25 hectares. The military unit's combat equipment fleet includes helicopters, Harop, Guzghun, and Girgi strike drones, anti-tank grenades and guided missiles, 120-mm and 82-mm mortars, anti-aircraft guns, and other modern weapons systems. The military unit uses combat equipment, high-speed, armored and non-armored, and medical vehicles.

In the military unit complex, a headquarter, officer-ensign and soldier dormitories, office rooms for personnel, canteen, residential buildings, warehouses, and other necessary infrastructure have been created. In the complex, the necessary service and training base was designed to improve the professional and combat skills of military personnel and upgrade their military knowledge and moral-psychological training. Necessary conditions and a base have also been created at the medical station and the landfill of the military unit. Football and volleyball fields in the sports campus and training halls equipped with modern sports equipment and tools have been organized in the barracks.

In the canine training camp, there are opportunities for training service dogs involved in investigating and detecting mines and unexploded ordnance in the liberated areas, improving their habits, and developing the professional training of service dog trainers. The military unit complex is provided with a heating system, constant water, and electricity. Major construction and landscaping works have been carried out in the area, and wide green lanes have been laid.





#### Opening Ceremony of the Fuzuli International Airport and the Presentation of the Symbolic Keys

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and President of the Republic of Türkiye Recep Tayyip Erdogan participated in the opening ceremony of the Fuzuli International Airport on October 26 and cut the ribbon marking the symbolic opening of the airport. The symbolic keys of the Fuzuli International Airport were presented to the presidents. After the opening ceremony, the heads of state got acquainted with the conditions created at the airport.

Fuzuli International Airport was built at the most modern level and is able to receive any type of aircraft. The runway is 3,000 meters long and 60 meters wide. The terminal of the airport, equipped with modern infrastructure, can process at least 200 passengers per hour. All the work was carried out in accordance with international norms and standards. Extensive landscaping work has been carried out around the airport. An Air Traffic Control tower equipped with automated systems has been built in the airport. This makes it possible to start flights to Fuzuli airport in accordance with ICAO and IATA standards. Baggage conveyors, a registration system, VIP lounges, shops, restaurants, and other necessary facilities have been established at the airport, and all the criteria for the comfort of passengers have been taken into account.



#### Foundation of the Horadiz-Jabrayil-Zangilan-Aghband Highway

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and President of the Republic of Turkiye Recep Tayyip Erdogan laid the foundation for the Zangazur corridor-Horadiz-Jabrayil-Zangilan-Aghband highway on October 26.

Presidents first got acquainted with the construction progress on the Ahmadbayli-Fuzuli-Shusha highway. Ahmadbayli-Fuzuli-Shusha Road will consist of four to six lanes. The length of the road is 81 kilometers. The Azerbaijani companies construct the first 50 kilometers of the road from start point till 51 kilometres, while the rest of the road from 50 kilometres to 81 kilometers are under construction by Turkish companies Kolin Insaat and Chingiz Insaat. A 6-km long tunnel and seven overpasses will be built in the part where Turkish companies operate. The total length of the tunnels is 6,500 meters. Currently, the 4th and 5th tunnels at the entrance of the Shusha city have already been built. One of these tunnels is 431 meters long, and another is 530 meters long.

Chingiz Insaat is building the longest tunnel in Azerbaijan. It is the Murovdagh tunnel on the Toghanali-Kalbajar road, with 11,600 meters in length. 350 meters of that tunnel have already been dug. In addition to the Murovdag tunnel, there is a 3.5-kilometer Lachin-Kalbadjar tunnel of Gorchu Airport. Generally, Turkish companies are building 62 kilometers of tunnels in the Karabakh region of Azerbaijan. Currently, 6587 employees work in Turkish companies. 1,832 of them are citizens of Turkiye, and 4,500 are citizens of Azerbaijan. A total of 13,280 people work in the companies operating in the Karabakh zone.

The length of the Zangazur corridor-Horadiz-Jabrayil-Zangilan-Aghband highway to Aghband, to Armenia's border, is 123.6 kilometers. There are three tunnels on this road. The total length is 3,610 meters. Currently, a fourth tunnel is being built in Zangilan. 160 meters of work have already been done in the tunnel. In this section, the entire road is being built by "Kalyon" company. Zangilan Airport is located on the same road. The 20-km section of this road to the airport is being built by an Azerbaijani company together with Kalyon. Seven junctions connecting district centers with the airport will be built on this road. This junction will be at zero kilometers of the road, the foundation of which has been laid.



#### Foundation of the "Dost Agropark"

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and President of the Republic of Turkiye Recep Tayyip Erdogan laid a foundation for "Dost Agropark" in the Zangilan district on October 26 and planted plane trees in the agricultural park. Then the presidents viewed a photo exhibition of the Anadolu agency dedicated to the Patriotic War. President of the Republic of Turkiye Recep Tayyip Erdogan presented the book "Victory in Karabakh" that he wrote a preface and was prepared by the Anadolu agency to President Ilham Aliyev.

Being realized by Turkish and Azerbaijani investors in Zangilan, "Dost Agropark" project will be implemented in three stages. In the first stage, office buildings, covered and semi-open livestock complexes, social facilities, a cafe, a cinema, a recreation area, and buildings for service personnel will be built. The complex will raise 4,000 head of pedigree cattle, produce crop products and carry out other activities. All this will contribute to the food security of Azerbaijan and Turkiye and lead to the export of agricultural and livestock products of the region to international markets.

When the project is completed, plant-based production and technical areas, livestock areas for breeding 10 thousand head of pedigree cattle, and areas for seed production and the seedling will be created on 6,000 hectares. An integrated meat processing and packaging facility targeting the entire region will be established, and an agricultural warehouse system with a capacity of 100,000 tons will be built in the park. This complex will meet the region's demand for seeds, fertilizers, and agricultural supplies. Activities based on smart agricultural technologies, renewable energy, and sustainable agricultural mechanisms will be established in the Dost Agropark complex. After Agropark starts operating at full capacity, employment opportunities will be created for 500 people.





## Acquaintance with the Works Carried out within the Framework of the "Smart Village" Project in Zangilan

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and President of the Republic of Turkiye Recep Tayyip Erdogan got acquainted with the works carried out within the framework of the "Smart Village" project implemented in Aghali village of the Zangilan district on October 26.

Regarding the implementation of the project, construction works are being carried out on an area of more than 110 hectares. Using innovative building materials, the construction of 200 fully isolated individual eco-friendly houses, four two-storey non-residential buildings, a school for 360 pupils, and a kindergarten for 60 seats continues at a high pace. Modern urban planning standards will be applied in the "Smart Village." Pedestrian and bicycle paths will be built.

A number of works related to the organization and development of agriculture will be carried out here. The land areas that will be used to manufacture agricultural products have been determined, and the list of necessary innovative techniques has been prepared. Modern irrigation systems will be used in "Smart Agriculture." According to the planting plan, relevant works have been done to clear 412 hectares of the determined 600-hectare from mines. The "Smart management system" will be implemented here from the data and analysis center.





## One-on-one Meeting of Azerbaijani and Turkish Presidents

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and President of the Republic of Turkiye Recep Tayyip Erdogan had a one-on-one meeting in Aghali village of Zangilan On October 26.

At the meeting, bilateral relations between our countries and regional processes, expansion of cooperation in the economic and commercial fields and the current state of projects related to energy, transport, and the development of Karabakh, plans for the future, and, most importantly, further development of the relations reached to the level of the strategic alliance with the Shusha Declaration have been discussed.

President Ilham Aliyev and President Recep Tayyip Erdogan made joint press statements. In the statement, while highly appreciating the fast-moving reconstruction works in the liberated regions, the heads of state expressed their joint participation in the opening of the Fuzuli International Airport once again as an indicator of the unity between two countries and stated that Turkiye and Azerbaijan would always stand by each other as two brotherly countries.





#### **Inauguration of the Victory Road**

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva attended the inauguration of the Victory Road in the Fuzuli district on November 7. President Ilham Aliyev unveiled the Victory Road plaque.

The construction of the highway, which was built to perpetuate the path used by our Glorious Army while liberating Shusha, the cultural capital of our country, from the hateful enemy and named "Victory Road" by the Victorious Commander-in-Chief Ilham Aliyev, was carried out under the constant supervision of the head of our state. Starting from the Hajigabul-Minjivan-Zangazur corridor highway, the 101-kilometer-long Victory Road extends to the city of Shusha, the crown of Karabakh. Victory Road, built by passing through the territory of Fuzuli, Khojavand, Khojaly, and Shusha regions, covers dozens of settlements in these regions, including the cities of Fuzuli and Shusha.





#### Foundation of the Dashalti Mosque

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva laid the foundation of the Dashalti Mosque in Shusha on November 7. Besides restoring our religious and spiritual monuments that the enemy destroyed during the occupation, we also built new ones in the liberated territories. By this act on the eve of Victory Day, President Ilham Aliyev sends another message to the world, "We do not just renovate our lands and create modern infrastructure for the return of our former internally displaced persons, but also clean the traces of vandalism carried out by Armenians against religious and cultural monuments on these lands and possess our sacred values."





#### Foundation of the Shusha Radio-Television Broadcasting Station

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva laid the foundation of the Shusha Radio-Television Broadcasting Station on November 7. Shusha Radio-Television Broadcasting Station was built in 1966. During the Soviet period, radio and television programs were transmitted to Karabakh and the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic through this station. Until the occupation of Shusha, Armenians prevented the transmission of TV and radio programs to these regions by all means. As the station was repeatedly exposed to heavy artillery fire by the Armenians, the equipment here was damaged, and the technical building was seriously destroyed. When Shusha was occupied in 1992, the operation of the station went out of control.

After the liberation of Shusha from the occupation, radio and television broadcasts were temporarily resumed at the Shusha Radio-Television Broadcasting Station on December 31 last year. Broadcasting of 11 tv programs that broadcast from the station had been ensured in the Shusha, Khankendi, and Khojaly cities, as well as in Aghdam, Barda regions, and surrounding settlements. The 130-meter metal tower to be built according to the project will provide stable and high-quality radio and TV broadcasting. As a result, Shusha and surrounding areas will be provided with quality radio and television broadcasts.





## Groundbreaking Ceremony of Shusha District Central Hospital

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva attended the groundbreaking ceremony of Shusha District Central Hospital on November 7. All conditions will be created for examination and treatment in the hospital, which will be equipped with the most modern medical equipment. The founded Shusha District Central Hospital is one of the infrastructure projects implemented under the direct instructions and leadership of President Ilham Aliyev for medical care and health protection of the people who will live here.





## Acquaintance with the Restoration Works Carried out in the Ashagi Govhar Agha Mosque

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva got acquainted with the restoration works carried out by the Heydar Aliyev Foundation at the Ashaghi Govhar Agha Mosque in Shusha on November 7.

The Ashaghi Govhar Agha, Yukhari Govhar Agha, and Saatli mosques, which were destroyed by Armenians during the occupation of Shusha city, are being restored according to the original project. All three mosques are on the list of state importance historical and cultural monuments. During the last year, the assessment works were carried out in these mosques and a restoration project was developed by experts from Azerbaijan, Austria, Italy, Latvia, and Turkiye. The Heydar Aliyev Foundation is carrying out the restoration works of all three mosques with the financial support of Pasha Holding. The first stage of restoration works in the Yukhari Govhar Agha Mosque has already been completed. The second phase of restoration work is underway in the mosque. At this stage, while preserving the original design, reinforcement works will be carried out in the mosque and the madrasa that was located in the territory of the mosque and destroyed by the Armenians will be restored. The most extensive restoration works will be carried out in the Ashaghi Govhar Agha Mosque, according to the measure of the destruction. The minarets of the mosques will be restored, and the roof and floor coverings will be replaced.





## Acquaintance with Restoration Works Carried out at the Mehmandarovs' Estate Complex

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva got acquainted with the restoration work carried out at the Mehmandarovs' Estate Complex in Shusha on November 7. The restoration work at the Mehmandarovs' Estate Complex, an important cultural and historical architectural monument, is carried out by the Heydar Aliyev Foundation. The complex includes a mosque and small and large houses. Specialists conducted assessment works in the Estate Complex, which was seriously damaged during the occupation and destroyed by the Armenians. In accordance with the assessment, restoration works have been started based on the initial project.





#### Meeting with the VIII Global Baku Forum's Participants who Visited Shusha

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva met with the VIII Global Baku Forum's participants who visited Shusha on November 7.

Congratulating President Ilham Aliyev on the occasion of Victory Day, the guests emphasized that such large-scale work has been carried out here in a short time made a great impression. They stated that these works were realized because of the decisive and competent leadership and courageous position of President Ilham Aliyev.

President Ilham Aliyev stated that social and infrastructural facilities were built and reconstructed in less than a year in the territories liberated from occupation, as well as in Shusha, and these works are still being continued, and emphasized that the main goal is to create high living conditions for the former IDPs in the liberated territories.





#### Tree-Planting Campaign in Jidir Duzu

The liberation of Shusha, the cultural capital of Azerbaijan and the crown of Karabakh, from the enemy's occupation is a symbol of our historic Victory. The restoration and construction works that were carried out during the last year under the leadership of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev in the liberated territories give life to these places again, and the damage caused by the Armenians to the ecological system is being eliminated.

In honor of the 44 days that led our people to the great Victory, 44,000 trees were planted across the country. On November 8, President Ilham Aliyev and First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva planted trees in Jidir Duzu within the framework of the campaign.

The measures that are taken to restore the ecological balance in the liberated territories also cover the Topkhana forest. Within the framework of the project of the Heydar Aliyev Foundation, a tree-planting campaign was held in Topkhana forest by volunteers of the "Regional Development" Public Union, nettletree, ash tree, cedar tree and elm tree were planted on 3 hectares of land, and 100 kilograms of oak seeds were sown in the area.





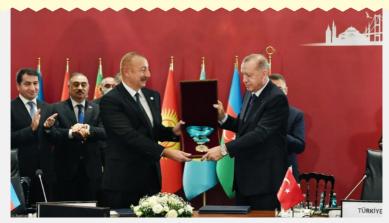
#### Meeting with the Delegation Headed by the Minister of National Defense of Turkiye

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev received a delegation headed by Hulusi Akar, Minister of National Defense of the Republic of Turkiye on November 8.

The delegation includes Chief of the General Staff of the Turkish Armed Forces Yasar Guler, Commander of the Turkish Land Forces Musa Avsever, Commander of the Turkish Air Force Hasan Kucukakyuz, and Commander of the Turkish Naval Forces Adnan Ozbal.

Minister Hulusi Akar extended greetings and holiday congratulations of President of the Republic of Turkiye Recep Tayyip Erdogan to President Ilham Aliyev and the people of Azerbaijan. Minster also congratulated the head of state on the occasion of Victory Day on his behalf.

Expressing his gratitude for the congratulations, President Ilham Aliyev stressed his gratefulness for the visit of Hulusi Akar to Shusha along with the Turkish Armed Forces' leadership on this holiday while stating the crucial importance of the visit and hailed once again the support of Turkiye to Azerbaijan during the Patriotic War while emphasized that our relations have been reached to the higher level in the post-war period.





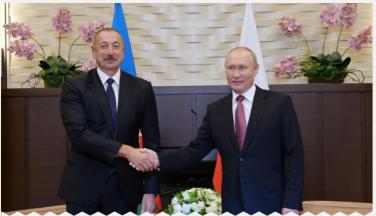
## Presentation of the Supreme Order of the Turkic World to the President Ilham Aliyev

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev was presented the "Supreme Order of Turkic World" by President of the Republic of Turkiye Recep Tayyip Erdogan on November 12 at the VIII Summit of the Cooperation Council of Turkic-Speaking States in Istanbul.

The decision of the Council of the Heads of Turkic-Speaking States says in this connection: "In recognition of the historic victory that ensured the liberation of the territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the restoration of its territorial integrity under the leadership of His Excellency Ilham Aliyev, the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Commander-in-Chief, which significantly contributed to the Turkic unity and paved the way to achieving enduring peace and stability in the region, the Council of Heads of State, upon the proposal of the President of the Republic of Turkiye, His Excellency Recep Tayyip Erdogan, hereby decided to award with great honor His Excellency Ilham Aliyev with the "Supreme Order of Turkic World."

The decision was signed by President of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, President of Kyrgyzstan Sadyr Japarov, President of Turkiye Recep Tayyip Erdogan, and President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev.





#### **Bilateral Sochi Meeting**

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev paid a business visit to the city of Sochi of the Russian Federation on November 26 at the invitation of the President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin. During the visit, a bilateral meeting was held between President Ilham Aliyev and President Vladimir Putin.

During the meeting, while stressing the successful development of the strategic partnership on the eve 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries, the heads of state focused on the current situation in Karabakh, the role and activity of Russian peacekeeping force in maintaining peace, the possibility of prevention and careful handling of possible incidents and risks and how to minimize them, regulating the elations between Armenia and Azerbaijan comprehensively, as well as obligations of the countries for creating conditions that will allow people to live comfortable in the region and countries to develop.



#### **Trilateral Sochi Meeting**

A trilateral meeting was held between the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev, the President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin, and the Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia Nikol Pashinyan in Sochi on November 26.

The main discussion of the meeting was to create mechanisms for demarcation and delimitation of the border between Azerbaijan and Armenia, to make progress on humanitarian issues, and finally to open a transport corridor that includes both railways and roads for the development of economic relations.

The parties expressed their interest in ending the confrontation between the two countries within one year after the trilateral declaration that was signed on November 10, 2020, recognizing the territorial integrity and sovereignty of each other, and starting to work on a peace treaty to promote living as neighbors in peace, stability, and security in the future.

While making a press statement after the meeting, President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev, and Prime Minister of Armenia Nikol Pashinyan emphasized that they discussed all the issues on the agenda and analyzed the situation in depth while working constructively and agreed on a number of important issues and expressed their interest in the issues that would allow making the situation in the South Caucasus safer and more predictable.





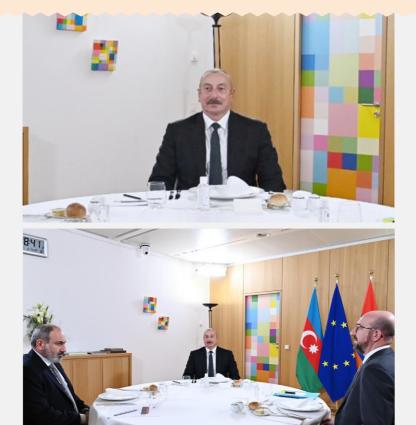
Meeting between President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and President of the European Council Charles Michel at the VI Summit of the Eastern Partnership Program

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev paid a working visit to Brussels, the capital city of the Kingdom of Belgium, on December 13 to attend the VI Eastern Partnership Summit of the European Union.

Within the framework of the visit, on December 14, President Ilham Aliyev met with President of the European Council Charles Michel.

During the meeting, the successful development of the relations between the European Union and Azerbaijan was noted, the visit of Charles Michel to the Republic of Azerbaijan was mentioned, and the European Union's support for the normalization of relations between Armenia and Azerbaijan was emphasized.

They also exchanged views on the trilateral meeting to be held today between the European Union, Azerbaijan and Armenia. During the meeting, views on the trilateral meeting that will be held today between the European Union, Azerbaijan, and Armenia were exchanged, the issues related to the delimitation and demarcation of the Armenia-Azerbaijani border, the opening of communications, humanitarian issues and other topics were widely discussed.



Meeting between President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev, President of the European Council Charles Michel and Prime Minister of Armenia Nikol Pashinyan

A joint meeting between President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev, President of the European Council Charles Michel, and Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia Nikol Pashinyan was held on December 14 in Brussels.

The issue of demining the liberated territories of Azerbaijan was put on the agenda, and the readiness of the European Union to provide technical assistance to Azerbaijan in this course was stated at the meeting.

Both sides agreed on establishing a temporary working group regarding the delimitation of the Armenian-Azerbaijani state border. At the same time, the issue of opening communication and transport lines was widely discussed. The Armenian side has confirmed its obligation to build a railway line through its territory. It was reported that the Armenian side would start the railway construction soon. Here, it was agreed that custom issues and border control should be provided based on mutual principles.

As a result of the meeting, a press statement was made by the President of the European Council.



# Speech of President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev at the Eastern Partnership Summit of the European Union

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev made a speech on December 15 at the VI Eastern Partnership Summit of the European Union held in Brussels, the capital of the Kingdom of Belgium.

During his speech, while drawing attention to the development of the strategic relations in the rising line between Azerbaijan and the European Union, President Ilham Aliyev emphasized the prevailing constructive environment between Armenia and Azerbaijan while touching on the Karabakh topic and stressed the role of the European Union in creating such an environment. The head of state stressed the importance of not missing this opportunity and continuing efforts to ensure lasting peace in the region while taking advantage of the opportunity.

Noting the rise of fertile ground for the normalization of relations between Armenia and Azerbaijan, President Ilham Aliyev emphasized the resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, which does not exist anymore, by Azerbaijan in military-political means and stressed that it is important for both countries to look forward from now on.

The head of state Ilham Aliyev also touched on the role of the OSCE Minsk Group and stated that the Minsk Group could help in the preparation of a peace agreement between Armenia and Azerbaijan, delimitation of borders, establishing contacts between people, confidence-building measures, and other issues.

Touching upon the issue of mines in the liberated territories, President Ilham Aliyev said that Azerbaijani civilians had been suffering from their presence while adding that about 200 people had been killed or injured in mine explosions to date. In this regard, President Ilham Aliyev stressed the importance of technical and financial assistance by the European Union and member states to Azerbaijan to eliminate the mine problem.





## Opening Ceremony of a Military Unit in the Hadrut Settlement

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces Ilham Aliyev, First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva, and their son Heydar Aliyev visited Hadrut settlement of Khojavand district on December 24, and attended the opening ceremony of a military unit there.