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Shoigu Expects Private Firms to Supply During Wartime

By The Moscow Times

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Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu unveiled part of Russia's strategic plan for wartime supplies Friday, saying that private and state companies should be ready to provide the armed forces with everything they need in case of a military conflict.

He said oil companies, such as Gazprom, LUKoil and Rosneft, "should have such reserves, procurement plans and contracts concluded beforehand."

"These companies should clearly know, what, when and at what time they should send to us," Shoigu said.

The same applies to transportation and power generation companies, such as state-owned rail monopoly Russian Railways, state-run hydroelectric power holding company RusHydro and others, the minister said.

He said the state's National Defense Center, acting as the general headquarters for the Supreme High Command in wartime, would be built on Moscow's Frunzenskaya embankment.

The minister earlier said the center would consolidate command over the country's armed forces, especially the nuclear triad and rapid reaction forces. It will also allow real-time monitoring of day-to-day activities of military units around the country.

This summer, the military started work on the creation of the center, which will enhance the operational management of the armed forces and ensure prompt response to strategic threats.

The government has said it would spend more than $500 billion over the next 12 years to re-equip the armed forces.

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