

Abadan refinery gasoline output up by 20%: CEO

Economy Desk

Gasoline production at the Abadan refinery in southwestern Iran has risen by 20% since the start of the current government's term in July, according to the refinery's CEO. "Gasoline production at this refinery has increased by 20% since the beginning of the current administration's term," said the CEO of Abadan Oil Refining Company, SHANA reported. Fardin Rashidi noted that from the start of the Iranian calendar year (began on March 20, 2024) until the end of the previous administration, Abadan refinery's daily gasoline production stood at 14.9 million liters. With the start of the sitting administration, this figure rose to 17.8 million liters per day, reflecting a 20% growth in the refinery's gasoline output in recent months. This increase in production is attributed to expanded crude oil refining capacity, the use of received octane-boosting additives, and the commissioning of an alkylation gasoline production unit, he added. "Abadan refinery supplies approximately 17% of the country's gasoline, 22% of its gas oil,

and 42% of its fuel oil," Rashidi told reporters on Thursday, referencing last year's rise in gasoline production. Emphasizing that this production boost has played a key role in addressing fuel shortages nationwide, he added, "Feedstock for petrochemical plants in Tabriz, Bandar Imam, Shazand in Arak, and Bu-Ali Sina is supplied through Abadan refinery." The CEO highlighted that increasing the refinery's capacity to over 530,000 barrels per day, efforts to operationalize Phase 2, Section 2 units, and launching the Flare Gas Recovery Unit (FGRU) project are among the company's key priorities this year. "The newly commissioned units in Phase 2, Section 1 were built using the latest energy-efficient technologies for comparable facilities. Similar advanced technologies will also be deployed in Phase 2, Section 2 units," he said. Rashidi added, "Once all Phase 2 units are fully operational, gasoline, gas oil, and kerosene products will meet Euro 4 and Euro 5 standards, with the refinery's daily gasoline output rising by approximately 10 million liters."



Rise in gasoline consumption

Meanwhile, the National Iranian Oil Products Distribution Company (NIOPDC) announced that the average daily gasoline consumption in the country during the period from the first 13 days of the new

year (March 21–April 1) reached 131.1 million liters. According to a report by ILNA citing the Oil Ministry, statistics released by the NIOPDC indicate that 118.5 million liters of gasoline were distributed nationwide on Wednesday (April 1). This represents

a 14.5 million-liter increase—equivalent to 14%—compared to the 104 million liters consumed on the same day last year. Gasoline consumption on March 30 and 31 was recorded at 140.2 million liters and 150.2 million liters, respectively.

Leader's aide: US can pursue economic interests with Iran



International Desk

A senior advisor to Leader of Iran's Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei said the United States, under Donald Trump, can opt for economic interests with Tehran instead of a military action as any attack bears consequences for Washington. "Mr. Trump is a talented individual who has managed to accumulate such wealth through his business endeavors. The United States can establish economic interests with Iran," Ali Larijani, sharing an excerpt from his recently televised interview, wrote on X. "Trump says he is a peace advocate, so he ought not to speak of threats or war. An attack on Iran will not be without consequences, and we possess experienced military commanders." In an interview with NBC News late last week, Trump threatened that, "If they (Iranians) don't make a deal, there will be bombing." On Monday, Ayatollah Khamenei warned that if the US commits any hostile act against the Islamic Republic, "it will certainly receive a heavy blow in return." On Monday, Larijani warned that if the United States and Israel bomb Iran under any nuclear pretext, the Islamic Republic may have no choice but to acquire a nuclear weapon. "Iran has gained a distinguished position among major powers, and most Western countries want to establish independent relations with Iran. However, due to US pressure, they have not taken a definitive stance," he said in an interview.

Iran: Three power exchange plans underway with neighbors

Electricity imports from Azerbaijan, Armenia, Turkey during peak load periods



Economy Desk

An official with the Ministry of Energy announced three plans for electricity exchange with neighboring countries to manage peak demand in the current Persian calendar year (began on March 20, 2025). Director general of the foreign trade office of Iran's Power Generation and Distribution Company (TAVANIR) high-

lighted ongoing projects for cross-border electricity exchange aimed at addressing peak summer demand and expanding regional energy infrastructure, ILNA reported. "Numerous measures are underway to facilitate electricity exchange with neighboring countries, both to manage the upcoming summer peak load and to develop energy transmission infrastructure and regional cooperation,"

Mehrdad Eqlimi said. Eqlimi reported the completion of the third 400-kilovolt Iran-Armenia power transmission line and efforts to secure an additional 400 MW of electricity imports from Iran's northwestern neighbor during peak periods. "To develop energy transmission infrastructure, the third 400-kilovolt Iran-Armenia power line has been constructed up to the Iranian border, with the external section of the project being implemented by an Iranian contractor using financing from the Export Development Bank of Iran," he added. According to the official, necessary measures, including accelerating the completion of the external section, finalizing agreements to increase imports by 400 MW during peak periods, and establishing a monitoring plan to ensure timely project completion are currently prioritized. The TAVANIR chief also said, "Negotiations with the Republic of Azerbaijan to import 140 megawatts of electricity this summer, as well as to sign a new annex for electricity imports during

this summer, are being pursued." "The Azerbaijani side has also welcomed a proposal to hold in-person talks in Baku to explore connecting the power grids of Iran, Azerbaijan, and Russia," he added. On Turkey, Eqlimi outlined coordination efforts to exchange electricity via a Back-to-Back (BtB) system, targeting up to 300 MW this summer. "An agreement to operationalize interconnection lines between the two countries has been signed. However, despite TAVANIR's readiness to commence electricity trade — including appointing an Iranian broker — the Turkish side has delayed allocating capacity and insists that Iran cover the costs of the Van HVDC (high-voltage direct current) station, a demand Iran has not accepted," he said. "Negotiations continue to resolve these issues, including finalizing allocated capacity and addressing investment cost disputes. Additionally, discussions are ongoing to secure Turkey's response, select a suitable broker, and establish operational infrastructure to begin exchanges."

Wastewater to replace fresh water in Iranian industries

Economy Desk

Iranian industries across the country's provinces are replacing their fresh water usage with treated wastewater, according to the deputy of planning and economic affairs of Iran's National Water and Wastewater Engineering Company. Emphasizing that a directive on water reallocation has been issued to all provincial industries, Masoud Alavian said, "Under this framework, industries nationwide are to substitute

their fresh water supply with treated wastewater." "Iran's Seventh Development Plan explicitly mandates industries to utilize non-conventional water sources," he added. Alavian noted that industries currently consume 3.7 billion cubic meters of fresh water annually. "Efforts in the initial phase aim to redirect 1.6 billion cubic meters of this demand to treated wastewater," he stated. The chairman of the board of the National Water and Wastewater Engineering Company

stated that wastewater treatment plants can be a substitute for conventional water resources, adding, "Currently, approximately 87 million cubic meters of treated wastewater are sold annually, and contracts for approximately 312 million cubic meters have been concluded with industries on a reciprocal sale basis." He stressed that implementation hinges on scheduled timelines, adding, "Priority in reallocation is given to industries with geographical feasibility for non-conventional water use."

"Studies on this initiative are complete. Identifying industries eligible for the shift will simultaneously create opportunities for expanding treatment plant capacity and infrastructure," Alavian clarified. "Steel, petrochemical, mining, and refinery sectors — the largest water consumers — have already signed reallocation contracts," he said. According to Alavian, "Industries such as food production and sanitary goods lack reallocation options and will continue using fresh water."

