

Energy minister opens 100 MW solar power plant in Markazi Province

Two solar energy projects kick off

Economy Desk

Iran's Energy Minister Abbas Aliabadi inaugurated on Monday a 100 MW solar power plant in Mahallat in Markazi Province as part of the government's push to enhance use of green energy. Aliabadi stressed that the project saves 160 million cubic meters of gas per year.

The energy minister also launched the executive operations for the construction of two solar power plants in Saveh in Markazi Province, which included the 250 MW solar plant at Kaveh Methanol Company and the 550 MW plant at Shahid Hossein Hamedani Petropars Iran Company.

The head of Markazi Province Electricity Distribution Company emphasized on the sidelines of the ceremony that to accelerate the construction of renewable power plants, land allocation to applicants will be completed in less than 10 days.

He added that 47 meetings of the government's Renewable Energy Working Group have been held in the province to date to achieve the 5000 MW target.

78,000 megawatts of solar power awaiting investment

Aliabadi also highlighted on Monday the attractiveness of national investing in the renewable energy sector, saying 78,000 MW of solar power are awaiting investment, and that operating



Iran's Energy Minister Abbas Aliabadi starts the executive operations for the construction of a solar power plant in Saveh in Markazi Province on June 30, 2025.

● IRNA

licenses have been issued for 30,000 MW.

"In the past, the country's electricity generation focused on thermal power plants, and renewable power plants have increased from 1,200 MW to 2,300 MW, which is expected to exceed 3,800 MW by the end of this year," the Iranian energy minister said.

Expressing hope that by the end of the current government about 30,000 megawatts of renewable electricity generation will be achieved in Ira, Aliabadi said, "Given the widespread growth in consumption due to technological advancements and changes in people's lifestyles, growth in electricity production is essential."

The energy minister also touched on the country's readiness for difficult conditions, saying, "In every part of the country that was damaged in the 12-day war, electricity and water were also damaged, but the damage to these sectors was overcome in a short time, the most important of which was providing water to the people of northern Tehran in less than 48 hours, and the major damage to the 400 and 230 kV lines has also been repaired."



Aliabadi emphasized that there is no point in the country that is under stress as a result of war damage, and starting on Monday, power plants will

be established in 40 sites across 11 provinces of the country. The minister added that in the construction of solar power plants, there

is a move towards small and distributed power plants, and next week, a project for electricity generation by the people will be introduced.

Iran climbs to 9th place among global steel producers: *Worldsteel*



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Figures by the World Steel Association (worldsteel) showed that Iran's steel production had surpassed Brazil's in May as the country climbed to 9th in the ranking of the world's largest steel producers.

A Sunday report by IRNA cited latest worldsteel figures as indicating that the Islamic Republic had produced 3.4 million metric tons (mt) of steel in May, up 4.5% from the

same month last year.

The output was just 0.4 million mt less than the production reported by Germany, which put the country above Iran in the ranking in May, the report said.

Iran's steel production in the five months to May reached a total of 14 million mt, down 5.3% from the same period in 2024, according to worldsteel figures.

Global output fell by 3.8% year on year in May to 158.8 million mt, while January-May production

also dropped 1.3% to 784 million mt, the data showed.

China, the world's largest steel producer, churned out 431.6 million tons from January to May, a 1.7 percent decline year-on-year, while India, Japan, the United States, Russia, South Korea, and Turkey occupied the second through sixth positions in the global rankings.

Iran has maintained its position as a major steel producer this year despite facing acute energy supply

and price issues.

Steel mills in the country reported natural gas problems in January and February when Iran's Oil Ministry was forced to redirect supplies to the household sector to respond to rising demand for heating.

Iran's steel production also declined for a short period in late April and early May when a sudden heat wave caused restrictions on electricity supplies delivered to major industries.

Haifa refinery not fully operation by October due to Iranian strikes: *Israeli media*

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Israeli media revealed on Sunday that the Haifa refinery, which was damaged by Iran's missile strikes during the 12-day war, would not fully resume operations as early as October.

Citing refinery owner Bazan, the Times of Israel newspaper said the major oil facility at the port city of Haifa was gradually resuming operations and will likely be fully operational by October.

It was previously reported that three people had been killed at Bazan facilities as a result of an Iranian missile attack that occurred on the night of June 16.

"The company said in a regulatory filing in Tel Aviv that it was gradually restoring operations and would likely be fully operational by October. It noted that it holds

insurance covering damage and profit losses of up to \$250 million caused by acts of terrorism and war," the Israeli newspaper said.

"Bazan said on June 15 that its pipelines and transmission lines in Haifa had been damaged by Iranian missile strikes, which killed three employees, and that it was examining the impact of the damage on its operations and implications on its financial results."

Israel launched an unprovoked war of aggression against Iran on June 13, assassinating senior military commanders and top nuclear scientists in targeted strikes before attacking nuclear and military sites and residential areas.

The Iranian Armed Forces responded with missile strikes as part of Operation True Promise III, which targeted many strategic



Smoke billows from a missile impact site after Iran's strikes on the northern city of Haifa, Israel, on June 16, 2025.

● AFP

sites across the Israeli-occupied territories. Iran's retaliation included the launch of over 500 ballistic missiles and around 1,100 drones at Israel. The attacks killed 28 people and wounded some 5,000 others in the occupied territories.

On June 22, the United States joined the Israeli regime in the assault and bombed three Iranian nuclear sites in a grave violation of the United Nations Charter, international law, and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

The 12-day war ended with a unilateral US-brokered ceasefire last week.



Israeli strike on ...

Conditions inside Evin Prison in 2025 bore no resemblance to those of the late

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1980s. Unlike in 1988, there was no appetite among inmates for rebellion or confrontation with the state. No ideological groundwork had been laid for insurrec-

tion, and no internal momentum existed to support such chaos.

Furthermore, even amid the broader attacks on Tehran, the population did not respond with anti-government protests. On the contrary, civilians rallied behind the Armed Forces, standing firmly

against the Zionist aggression.

If Israel's objective was to destabilize Iran, such an operation might have been more plausible in the early days of the war. But by the time of the prison strike, the tide had already turned in favor of Iran's military. The move appeared less

a strategic play and more an act of desperation—Israel's final shot at tipping the balance through internal turmoil.

In the end, the plan failed. The scheme hatched by the Zionist regime, along with MEK and Reza Pahlavi, to use the prison strike as a catalyst for nation-

wide unrest was foiled. Rather than weakening Iran, the attack only added another stain to Israel's record—marking a grim chapter of disgrace, as the regime became one of the few in modern history to bomb a prison filled with civilians.