

Launch of ‘Iran Abad’ campaign with inauguration of 305 projects

Minister: Innovation should ‘keep pace’ with smart tech era

Economy Desk

The national “Iran Abad” campaign was launched on Monday, with Energy Minister Abbas Aliabadi attending a ceremony to inaugurate vital water and power infrastructure projects across the country.

The campaign has so far brought into operation 305 major projects in the water and power sector as well as 854 solar power plants with a combined capacity of 5,000 megawatts, ISNA reported.

At the event, the implementation of 266 additional water and power projects also began. These projects cover various areas of water, electricity, and renewable energy, and are expected to significantly strengthen the country’s infrastructure.

At the unveiling ceremony of several electrical projects, Aliabadi highlighted the importance of “keeping pace with the era of smart technologies,” stressing the need for innovation and the adoption of new methods in the energy sector.

He noted that Iran must “appear on the global scale” and enter international markets, emphasizing that the country should not halt progress but rather “stand should

der to shoulder with the world’s leading players” in order to overcome challenges and make up for delays.

First Iranian F-class gas turbine unveiled

Also Monday, the first advanced Iranian-made F-class gas turbine was unveiled.

On the sidelines of the ceremony, Aliabadi described the achievement as “an honor for all Iranians,” adding that it is the result of the hard work of the country’s young specialists.

The MGT-75 turbine incorporates cutting-edge technologies, including a three-dimensional axial compressor, single-crystal and directionally solidified blades, an advanced cooling system, and modern thermal barrier coatings. Delivering an output of 222 megawatts, the F-class turbine is equipped with a can-annular combustion system that reduces emissions and allows the use of both natural gas and hydrogen.

The achievement, Aliabadi noted, provides an effective solution for addressing energy imbalances, supporting the development of renewable energy, and meeting the present and future needs of Iran’s power industry. Attaining



Iranian Energy Minister Abbas Aliabadi briefs reporters on the sidelines of the inauguration ceremony of the first advanced Iranian-made F-class gas turbine in Tehran on August 18, 2025.

● IRNA

F-class turbine technology, he said, symbolizes the country’s industrial maturity and confidence in domestic expertise, while boosting its competitiveness in the energy sector.

Expanding renewable energy capacity

Aliabadi also announced that renewable energy projects will continue to be inaugurated on a weekly basis.

Addressing the role of energy storage systems in supporting renewables, he explained that numerous technical measures are required and that high volumes of renewable capacity cannot be integrated into the grid overnight.

“We are gradually upgrading the network, and by the end of the year we expect to reach a significant capacity,” he said.

Speaking to reporters, the minister said the country had passed the peak demand period for this year’s electricity consumption,



but the imbalance in supply and demand had not yet been fully resolved, urging consumers to continue cooperating in energy management.

Meanwhile, during a separate meeting on overcoming obstacles to the development of renewable power plants, President Masoud Pezeshkian underscored the strategic importance of securing energy supplies. He described electricity generation as one of the country’s top priorities, stressing that large-scale renewable energy projects must be implemented

through sound resource management, without placing additional pressure on foreign currency reserves, and with the full cooperation of investors.

The president further emphasized the need for participation from industrial and manufacturing units in the development of renewable energy. He stated that industrial towns and production centers “must be required to supply part of their electricity needs through solar panels and allocate a defined share of their energy consumption to this sector.”

Paknejad highlights Oil Ministry’s plans for possible snapback invocation



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Iranian Oil Minister Mohsen Paknejad, commenting on the ministry’s planning in the event of the possible activation of the “snapback” mechanism said that the existing structures have the necessary measures in place, and these will be applied in line with emerging conditions.

“If anything happens, we have a plan,” he stated, ILNA reported.

Addressing concerns over a potential fall in oil prices and reduced Iranian oil sales following activation of the mechanism, Paknejad said, “So far, not only has the volume of our crude oil sales not declined, but in some months it has even increased. This is a general rule.”

He added that the methods, the complex strategies adopted, and the measures under consideration are not points that can be disclosed. However, he stressed that colleagues and experts in the international affairs division of the National Iranian Oil Company, NICO, and other active structures in this field, have the necessary measures in mind, which will be implemented in accordance with circumstances.

The snapback mechanism, embedded in the 2015 nuclear deal known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), allows the automatic reinstatement of UN Security Council sanctions that had been lifted under the agreement. Iran, however, disputes the legitimacy of the European powers’ efforts to trigger the provision.

Iran weighs enhancing power imports from Turkmenistan

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At a tripartite meeting attended by Minister of Energy Abbas Aliabadi, Tavanir Managing Director Mostafa Rajabi Mashhadi, and lawmaker Jamshid Qaem-Maqami, a member of Parliament’s Agriculture Committee, the issue of increasing electricity imports from Turkmenistan was discussed and placed on Tavanir’s agenda. The meeting, held at the committee’s headquarters, concluded with a decision for Tavanir’s Deputy for Transmission and Foreign Trade to review the matter and take steps toward boosting electricity imports from the neighboring country.

Tehran, Islamabad eye joint research, trade boost in agriculture sector



Iran’s Minister of Agriculture Gholamreza Nouri Ghezleji (c) meets with Pakistan’s Minister for National Food Security and Research Rana Tanveer Hussain (not seen in the picture) in Tehran on August 18, 2025.

● IRNA

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Iran’s Minister of Agriculture Gholamreza Nouri Ghezleji announced the expansion of cooperation between Iran and Pakistan in agriculture, research, and food security, saying that joint scientific and technological studies to provide practical and innovative solutions in the fields of production and food resource

management are among the key capacities for collaboration between the two countries.

Nouri Ghezleji, in a meeting with Rana Tanveer Hussain, Pakistan’s minister for national food security and research, said that joint scientific and technological studies to provide practical and innovative solutions in production and food resource management are among the im-

portant areas of cooperation between the two countries, IRNA reported.

The minister described the presence of his Pakistani counterpart in Tehran as paving the way for the expansion of cooperation, particularly in food security and agricultural trade, adding that strengthening relations with Pakistan is one of Iran’s government priorities.

He emphasized the implementation of joint research projects, the export of agricultural and livestock products, and the development of border logistics in-

frastructure to expand economic cooperation and food security.

The minister also proposed the establishment of a joint Iran-Pakistan committee to be held at least every six months in order to accelerate cooperation in agriculture, strengthen food security, and address challenges arising from climate change.

Nouri Ghezleji, pointing to the priority of importing meat and rice from Pakistan, noted that Iran is ready to import live livestock and corn, provided that the Pakistani side cooperates and sanitary and quarantine barriers are resolved.

For his part, Tanveer Hussain underlined his country’s determination to expand cooperation in all areas, stating that agriculture is the backbone of Pakistan’s economy and that 67 percent of the country’s population depends on it.

He proposed that cooperation begin with a focus on the production of climate-resilient seeds and the development of joint research projects with Iran.

Tanveer Hussain stressed the importance of setting both immediate and long-term plans to operationalize cooperation, adding that strengthening the export of agricultural products from Pakistan to Iran — including rice, meat, mangoes, corn, bananas, and other fruits — as well as the export of pesticides, would be priorities.

He also pointed to the need to resolve complex issues such as health certificates, barter trade, infrastructure limitations, and customs clearance procedures, saying that these matters should be concluded through coordination and the review of reports by the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA).

Iran ConFair 2025 opens with focus on exports, technology and housing

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The 25th International Building Industry Exhibition (Iran ConFair 2025) opened in Tehran on Monday, bringing together companies from Iran and abroad to showcase the latest products, technologies and services in the construction sector.

The four-day exhibition opened on Monday in a ceremony attended by Minister of Roads and Urban Development Farzaneh Sadeq Malvajerd and President of the Iran Chamber of Cooperatives Bahman Abdollahi.

Companies and visitors from a number of countries, including Singapore, Italy, Germany, Turkey, and China, are taking part in the four-day event, which offers significant opportunities to expand the country’s economic and trade cooperation.

This edition of the exhibition, the largest international event in the building industry in Iran, has filled all available capacity with 47,000 square meters of exhibition space,

showcasing heavy construction machinery and equipment. For the first time this year, dedicated halls have also been allocated to startups and newly established companies.

Organized by the Iran Chamber of Cooperatives, the exhibition provides a unique opportunity to showcase domestic capabilities, develop export markets, and exchange technical expertise in the construction sector. In line with its mission to boost non-oil exports, support domestic production, and strengthen the standing of the construction industry, the chamber has prioritized holding the International Building Industry Exhibition with its full capacity and resources.

Given the building industry’s central role in economic growth, job creation, and sustainable development, this event—one of the largest and most specialized in the sector across the region—is regarded as a valuable opportunity for industry stakeholders to present their latest achievements, products, technologies, and services.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, the Iranian road minister said the building industry, through its supply chain and the industries it employs, has the potential to influence a wide range of economic, social, and industrial indicators.

Pointing to the sector’s challenges, Sadegh Malvajerd emphasized “the importance of a national registry and unified standards in the production and use of construction materials, noting that, “The government can act as a regulator in monitoring compliance.”

Also addressing the ceremony, Abdollahi said the building industry has the broadest backward and forward linkages in the country and is therefore considered a driver of the national economy.

4th largest exporter of tiles, ceramics

He stated that the industry is not lacking in global technologies and holds vast export potential. Abdollahi highlighted building

materials and construction products as the foremost export capacity, noting that, “Iran ranks as the world’s fourth-largest exporter of tiles and ceramics.”

He added that in the steel structures sector, there is capacity for more than one million tons of exports annually, which could generate \$2.5 billion in foreign currency revenues.

Abdollahi also stressed that in technical and engineering services, there is an annual export potential of more than \$40 billion, of which \$15 billion is in the construction sector. However, he pointed out that statistics from 2022 and 2023 show exports of only \$2 billion in this field.

He underlined that the building industry can stimulate more than 130 other industries, and although housing sector growth has been negligible in the past one or two years, both supply and demand capacities remain high. He expressed confidence that Iran can achieve the target of producing one million housing units annually.