Pezeshkian urges industrialists to expedite solar panel investment

Economy Desk

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian on Tuesday urged the country's manufacturers and industrialists to accelerate investment in solar panels, saying that without reliable energy supplies, "development will be meaningless."
Speaking at the National Industry and Mining Day ceremony, Pezeshkian said his government was expanding solar capacity nationwide as part of efforts to promote clean energy, IRNA reported.
"I have repeatedly stressed in government meetings that power and gas to industry should not be cut, but circumstances forced us to do so," he said.
"About IRR 3,200 trillion in lost output is due to lack of energy."
Iran has for years rationed electricity and gas to heavy industries such as steel and petrochemicals during peak demand to ensure households are supplied, a policy the Ministry of Industry says costs the economy around $10 billion annually.
To offset the damage, the government has offered incentives for industries to build dedicated power plants, particularly solar farms, to cover part of their own demand.
Pezeshkian said more than 1,000 megawatts of solar panels had already been installed but stressed this was not enough.
"The government has committed to at least 7,000 megawatts of power generation from solar panels," he said, calling on companies and banks that pledged to support the program to "deliver on their obligations."
"If we have energy, no factory or production unit will be shut down. Everyone must step forward to resolve this problem," he added.

Exports, renewable energy in future strategy

At the ceremony, which also honored the country's top industrialists, Minister of Industry, Mining and Trade, Mohammad Atabak, outlined his vision for the country's economic future, stressing the importance of exports and renewable energy as the industrial sector grapples with rising costs and energy shortages.
"Our view of industry in one sentence is: Iran, leading industry, mining as a value creator, and smart trade," Atabak said at the National Industry and Mining Day ceremony. "This phrase sums up our perspective on the future of industry, mining and trade in the coming years."
Atabak said boosting exports would play a central role in the ministry's future program, to be pursued in line with President Pezeshkian's regional policies and Iran's participation in international frameworks such as the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Eurasian Economic Union and BRICS.
Atabak noted that Iran's production sector faced "imbalances" beyond energy shortages, including two major challenges — rising input costs and energy constraints. "The increase in costs leads to a decrease in demand, and this can create problems for our industries," he said.
He added that Iran's traditional energy advantage had eroded due to higher prices, underscoring the need to remove obstacles to growth and sustain industrial development.
"With a focus on saving, gradual increases, and optimizing consumption, we are seeking to raise the industry's share of renewable energy and power plants to resolve this issue more quickly," Atabak said.

President Masoud Pezeshkian addresses the National Industry and Mining Day ceremony in Tehran on August 26, 2025.
president.ir

Iran launches 183-MW power plant, $10b petchem projects in Makoran

10m-ton output capacity sought in first phase of investment

SHANA

Economy Desk

Iran on Tuesday inaugurated a 183-megawatt power plant at the Makoran Petrochemical Complex in Chabahar as part of a $10 billion first-phase investment that officials say will create more than 10 million tons of annual petrochemical production capacity.
Following installation, technical testing and synchronization, the plant was connected to the national grid and began feeding its generated power into the system, SHANA reported.
The project is described as the second strategic step in completing energy infrastructure for what is known as Iran's "third petrochemical hub."
Equipped with modern turbines and advanced control and monitoring systems, the new facility is capable of producing electricity and industrial steam simultaneously, making it one of the key components of the energy supply chain at Iran's third petrochemical hub.
Addressing the inauguration ceremony, Head of the National Petrochemical Company Hassan Abbaszadeh said that about $10 billion has been invested in the first phase of petrochemical development in Chabahar, Sistan and Baluchestan Province, enabling more than 10 million tons of annual production capacity.
The deputy oil minister said that while upstream petrochemicals generate limited employment, "it is essential that products produced in the Makoran region be converted in local industrial towns into downstream and complementary goods."
Of the planned 10 million tons of output, about 3.5 million tons will be polymer products, which, he said, could spur a chain of conversion and complementary industries, creating jobs and improving investment efficiency.
He added that around $90 billion has been invested in Iran's petrochemical industry overall, producing a wide range of products, but "there is still a long way to go to complete the value chain and achieve higher value-added products."
Abbaszadeh acknowledged Iran's energy challenges stem from past decisions and consumption patterns.
"Although we are a country with abundant energy resources, we are facing shortages due to improper consumption patterns," he said.
Overall, the government plans to add more than 2,400 megawatts of renewable capacity to the grid by next year, freeing hydrocarbon resources for petrochemical use and enabling "sustainable production across the value chain."
The government's main strategy, he explained, is building solar and renewable power plants. Sistan and Baluchestan, he added, has significant potential for wind energy, with projects already defined.
The 183-MW generated in the first phase of the Makoran plant has already entered the grid, and further expansion will directly supply power to petrochemical industries in the region.
Abbaszadeh underlined the strategic importance of Makoran, chosen as Iran's third petrochemical hub owing to its proximity to consumer markets and access to international waters. He said developing the region's infrastructure – including intake facilities, desalination plants, power generation and other needs of the petrochemical zone – reflected a strong commitment to sustainable growth. Investment needed for infrastructure preparation at the Makroan complex is estimated at around $3 billion.
He added that while most of Iran's large industries were previously concentrated in other parts of the country, industrial expansion is now moving eastward. "This transformation promises greater prosperity for the petrochemical industry and balanced national development," Abbaszadeh said.
The southeastern province's proximity to developing countries such as Pakistan and Afghanistan, he noted, also offers "a unique opportunity for exports of final products and for regional economic growth."

Iran, Uzbekistan sign MoU on joint steel, iron projects

Economy Desk

Iranian Steel Producers Association (ISPA) and Uzbekistan's Metallurgy Association signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on steel and iron cooperation in Tehran on Tuesday.
The Iranian association hosted the president of Uzbekistan's Metallurgy Association, accompanied by Iran's commercial attaché in Tashkent and representatives from the Trade Promotion Organization (TPO), IRNA reported.
The MoU covers a wide range of economic, industrial, and educational areas, the key provisions of which include long-term cooperation in the supply of raw materials and products, exchange of expertise, joint participation in industrial projects, planning and development of specialized training programs across the steel and iron chain through the capacities of the Iran's National Steel Academy, efforts to expand industrial cooperation, and strengthening positions in regional and global steel markets.
Other areas of cooperation in the agreement include joint events such as conferences, exhibitions, and industrial forums for knowledge exchange; joint studies on decarbonization and energy efficiency in ferrous metallurgy; collaboration in exports and imports of products and the joint promotion of logistics routes; cooperation on data provision and analysis; and joint market research, forecasting, and supply chain studies.

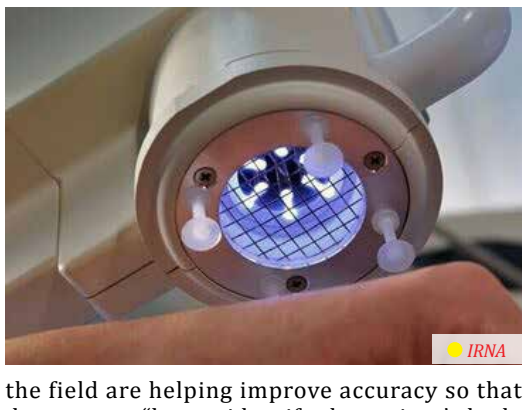
IRNA

During the meeting, which culminated in the signing of the MoU, the ISPA head, Bahram Sobhani, stressed the readiness of Iranian producers across the iron and steel chain, as well as related engineering companies, to meet the industrial and mining needs of regional countries, particularly Uzbekistan.
He highlighted the capacities of Iran's steel industry and the association itself.
Gulbahor Taji Mirzayeva, president of the Uzbekistan Metallurgy Association, outlined the potential of her country's metal industries, including the 17 members of the association. She noted the rapid growth of Uzbekistan's steel sector and called for the transfer of knowledge and experience from Iranian steelmakers.

AEOI expanding cold plasma, radiopharma tech for medical use

Economy Desk

Iran has equipped around 10 centers with cold plasma technology, a novel medical tool already in use in advanced countries, the head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) Mohammad Eslami said on Tuesday.
"Cold plasma is a new technology in advanced countries, and Iran is proud to move faster and more decisively to put its capabilities at the service of society," Eslami said. "Today we too, alongside these countries, are expanding and developing this technology, especially in the field of cancer and treatment of malignant wounds," Tasnim quoted him as saying.
The vice president added that so far more than 70 types of radiopharmaceuticals are supplied to nuclear medicine centers across Iran, benefiting over 220 facilities nationwide. "The remarkable point is that these radiopharmaceuticals have been developed in three areas: diagnostic, palliative and therapeutic," the AEOI head said.
Eslami noted that in diagnostics, advances in the field are helping improve accuracy so that doctors can "better identify the patient's body environment." In the therapeutic field, he said, efforts were focused on reducing patients' pain and suffering while providing effective treatments.
About 20 additional radiopharmaceuticals are currently in research and clinical testing stages, he added.



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