

Iran doubles renewable capacity to 2,300 MW, launches new solar plants



Economy Desk

Iran's Deputy Energy Minister Mohsen Tarzatab announced on Tuesday that the installed renewable energy capacity had doubled across the country over the past year, and the construction of 280 megawatts (MW) of solar power plants had begun nationwide.

With the new projects coming online, the country's total renewable capacity has now surpassed 2,300 MW, IRNA reported. The head of the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Organization (SATBA) made the remarks at an inauguration ceremony attended virtually by Energy Minister Abbas Aliabadi from the ministry's headquarters.

Tarzatab said 205 MW of solar capacity was commissioned on Tuesday, while construction began on another 75 MW in the provinces of Sistan and Baluchestan, Yazd, and Khorasan Razavi. If financing had been secured on time, cumulative renewable capacity could have exceeded 5,000 MW, he added.

According to the official, of the plants

launched this week, 165 MW were built by the private sector and 40 MW were completed with investment from the National Development Fund. SATBA also commissioned 6,881 small-scale power units with a total capacity of 101 MW, he said.

Tarzatab said that these projects included 254 solar-powered agricultural wells, 627 grid-connected units, 5,945 individual support systems, 16 collective support plants, 39 facilities in industrial parks, and 2,691 government installations. Twenty MW of the grid-connected capacity was built in Sistan and Baluchestan, he said.

The SATBA head said the organization had managed to equip workshops with more than double the allocated credit through investor trust, private sector participation, and cooperation with the Energy Ministry, the Central Bank, and the National Development Fund. Still, full implementation of the plans depends on timely funding, he added.

Moreover, the energy minister said Iran's strategy was to promote efficient electricity use rather than simply reducing consumption. "Our goal is to promote proper and efficient consumption in order to increase national development and welfare," Aliabadi said.

The minister added that Iran has about 12,500 hydropower plants that help store energy, while expanding the grid and removing bottlenecks remain essential. "As provinces develop, their limitations are reduced and they benefit more from their own growth," he said.

Trade cooperation roadmap of Iran-Eurasia to be finalized in Moscow

Economy Desk

Iran's main goal in Moscow is to agree on a roadmap for economic cooperation with the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), said Industry, Mining and Trade Minister Mohammad Atabak on Tuesday, as he arrived in Russia for talks and to attend the first joint committee on implementing a free trade agreement.

"At the end of May, we began implementing the free trade agreement with the Eurasian Economic Union, and in practice this agreement has entered into force. Under this framework, tariffs on 87% of goods were reduced to zero," Atabak said, IRNA reported.

The agreement was signed between the EAEU and the Islamic Republic on May 14.

The minister added that commissions and committees had been set up to pursue other measures, and Tuesday's meeting in Moscow was aimed at planning a roadmap for the next stage. His schedule also included meetings with ministers, the Russian deputy prime minister and other officials involved in carrying out the agreement.

"We hope the subcommittees under the main Eurasia commission can complete their activities and submit reports to the commission," Atabak said. "The main goal of this trip is to agree on and adopt the roadmap." Atabak said Iran's trade with the bloc had already risen significantly since the deal was signed. "Fortunately, since the conclusion of this treaty, the volume of our exchanges with the Eurasian Union has increased considerably, and we hope to expand this trend even further," he said.

Minister: Light satellites set to be launched as part of Soleimani constellation project

Economy Desk

Minister of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Sattar Hashemi said on Tuesday that Iran plans to launch several light satellites this year as part of its "Soleimani" satellite constellation, outlining the government's focus on targeted launches and practical services for the public.

Hashemi told IRNA that the Soleimani satellite network would mature step by step, with development of its components led by the Iranian Space Agency and the Space Research Institute.

Launches using both domestic and foreign carriers are on the agenda, he added.

"In the Soleimani constellation project, several light satellites will be launched into space this year," Hashemi said. "Our focus in the government is on purposeful launches and providing effective services to the people."

Hashemi compared the satellite sector to communications technology, stressing the need for constant upgrades. "If communications are established in a village today, as technology generations advance, the needs of that region must also be updated," he said. "Satellites that once supported only minimal connectivity must now provide suitable, high-quality bandwidth."

Beyond infrastructure, the ministry is also prioritizing content production and development for the first time in the current government, Hashemi said, adding that the executive framework for the initiative is being finalized.

Iran's space program stands as a testament to phenomenal scientific progress, having achieved remarkable technological breakthroughs despite decades of illegal Western-imposed sanctions.

The space program, embodying national resilience and technological prowess, is poised for a landmark



year with the planned launches of its advanced Kowsar, Zafar, and Paya satellites.

Together, such spacecraft will form a sophisticated constellation designed to revolutionize the country's growing capabilities in earth observation,

precision agriculture, and environmental monitoring.

The planned launches of the stated satellites within the current Iranian calendar year mark a major milestone, demonstrating the nation's growing self-reliance.

Livestock genetic exports hit 60K doses; talks with Russia ongoing



Economy Desk

Iran exported 60,000 doses of livestock genetic material to

three countries last year and is currently in talks with Russia in this regard, the head of a livestock feed company said on

Tuesday. Speaking to IRNA about the status of genetic material exports and breeding programs, Mohammad Ali Mehri said Iran's growing production capabilities have allowed it to enter the ranks of global exporters in the highly competitive field.

"Sixty thousand doses of genetic material were exported last year to Afghanistan, Tajikistan and Lebanon. Negotiations are now under way with Russia," Mehri said.

"Iran, given the strength it has achieved in producing genetic

material, has been able to enter the club of exporters, because competition in this field is tough and difficult," he added.

The United States, Canada and Europe account for about 92% of the global production and export of livestock genetic material, while Asian countries such as China and Russia hold relatively small shares, Mehri underlined. He noted that previously, such material was leaving Iran informally or through smuggling. Since Iran entered the export market, powerful suppliers have tried to undercut it with

dumping and unfair discounts, he said.

"At present, the only company that has formally and legally exported genetic material is Jahed feed company, which is considered the first and only official exporter in Iran," Mehri said. Livestock genetic products are considered high value-added goods. The market has long been controlled by a few European, US and Canadian companies, but Iran entered the exporters' group in recent years, sending its first shipment to Afghanistan in 2022.

Iran, Uzbekistan railways eye 2026 target of 2m tons cargo exchange

Economy Desk

Iran and Uzbekistan aim to handle 2 million tons of cargo between their rail networks by 2026, the head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Railways Jabbari Zakeri said on Tuesday after meeting with Uzbekistan Railways Chairman Zufar Narzullaev.

Zakeri said wagon traffic between the two countries is currently operational, with 476,000 tons moved in the first eight months of this year. The goal is to increase the volume to 1 million tons by the end of 2025 and reach 2 million tons in 2026, IRNA reported.

"Quantitative targets in international connections between Iran Railways and Turkmenistan Railways are essential," the deputy transport minister said, adding that Uzbekistan's position on the East-West corridor makes cooperation vital.

The official called for a joint tariff system to help expand bilateral freight flows.

Zakeri noted that Iranian exports and transit shipments from Uzbekistan toward Iran and open waters have risen in the year. More than 1,300 loaded wagons are currently positioned on the route to the Sarakhs border, ready for dispatch to Uzbekistan, he said.

The deputy minister expressed hope that joint meetings would boost transit, exports and imports, as well as wagon exchanges between the two railways and neighboring countries. Narzullaev, for his part, announced his company's readiness to allow Iranian freight wagons to enter Uzbekistan via Turkmenistan.