

Pezeshkian: Gov't poised to clear obstacles to national production, investment

Internal divisions 'root cause' of calamities among Muslims

Economy Desk

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said in a visit to the western province of Kordestan on Thursday that his government is ready to remove any hurdles on the path to promoting national production and investment.

"The government is ready to remove any obstacles in the way of production and investment. This commitment from the government is pursued with full force and is not just a slogan," Pezeshkian said in a meeting with investors and economic stakeholders in Kordestan.

"Continuous meetings are held in Tehran and other provinces for coordination and removal of obstacles, and if a problem arises, the issue will be reviewed and resolved at the level of governors general and between provinces."

Pointing to the importance of technology and systematic development, he said, "In today's world, competition is about productivity, and productivity cannot be

achieved without the use of knowledge and new technologies. We must use technologies that are compatible with our infrastructure and long-term goals. These technologies should be tools for achieving justice and facilitating participation, not new obstacles."

Stressing that the existing human and intellectual capital in the country is more valuable than any natural resource, Pezeshkian said, "Countries lacking underground resources have only been able to reach a superior position through thought and management. What guides an economist on the right path is not merely calculations, but understanding their place as part of a larger system."

The president said the cooperation of the three branches of government at the national level is underway to remove obstacles to production and trade, adding, "Coordination with the Parliament and the Judiciary is being strengthened so that no law hinders economic prosperity."

Pezeshkian also expressed hope that

through synergy among the government, Parliament, and the people, a "proud, powerful, and advanced country will be built on the path of justice and progress."

In a meeting with Kordestan's religious scholars and clerics, Pezeshkian emphasized that only unity and Islamic brotherhood could confront the conspiracies of the United States, Israel, and global Zionism. Stressing that division and discord among Muslims are the explicit desire of the enemies of Islam, the president said internal conflicts serve the interests of Israel, the United States, and their allies.

"Such divisions are exactly what Israel, America, and global Zionism want, so that the Islamic Ummah becomes preoccupied with disputes, and they can commit any aggression they desire. If unity and cohesion prevail among us, no power will dare to covet Islamic lands," he said.

"Internal disagreements are the root of many calamities for the Islamic Ummah, and only by returning to faith, brotherhood, and holding fast to the rope of God



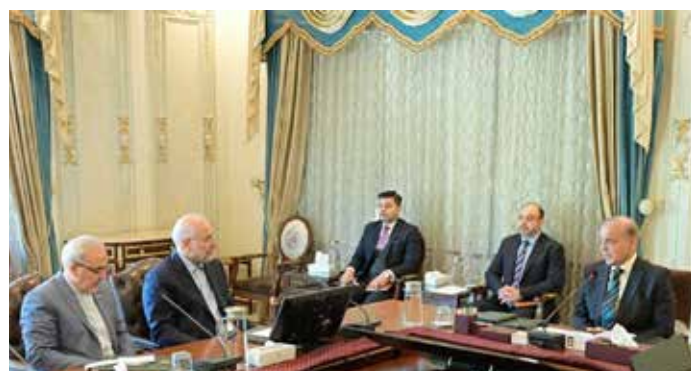
Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian (2nd L) is seen in a meeting with religious scholars and clerics in the western province of Kordestan on November 6, 2025.
● president.ir

can one escape this cycle."

Pezeshkian also reaffirmed that Israel would never dare to bomb the oppressed

people of Gaza if Muslims had not remained silent in the face of the occupying regime's aggression.

Parl. speaker urges further action to reach \$10b Iran-Pakistan trade



Iranian Parliament Speaker Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf (2nd L) meets with Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif (R) in the capital Islamabad on November 7, 2025.
● IRNA

Economy Desk

Iranian Parliament Speaker Mo-

hammad Baqer Qalibaf said in a meeting with Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Fri-

day that to achieve the goal of reaching \$10 billion in trade between the two countries, it is necessary to take more action in the banking, barter, and free trade sectors.

Qalibaf also said executive work must proceed regarding border markets and customs affairs, stressing that customs barriers must be removed, and trade facilitated.

"We in Iran are ready to develop relations," Qalibaf told Sharif. "Just as we can use our agricultural products, you can also use our energy capabilities. The Iranian government and Parliament have taken steps forward in this direction."

Pakistan, Iran's most populous neighbor with bilateral trade

exceeding \$3 billion, has joined Iran in expressing a determination to boost trade volume to \$10 billion through targeted planning and by removing existing barriers.

During the official two-day visit of Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian to Pakistan in August, Tehran and Islamabad signed 12 memoranda of understanding (MOUs) in various sectors.

The agreements cover a wide range of areas, including tourism, agriculture, judicial and legal cooperation, industry, science and technology, transportation and transit, cultural heritage, and commercial and economic cooperation.

Qalibaf on Friday also referred

to the support of the people, government, and parliament of Pakistan for Iran during the Israeli-US 12-day war, saying, "I would like to thank the justice-seeking people of Pakistan who, with their high political understanding, stood by the people of Iran alongside the government and parliament of Pakistan during the difficult conditions of the 12-day war. This support will remain in the minds of the people and officials of Iran."

Sharif, for his part, said Iran and Pakistan, as two friendly countries, have always stood by each other in difficult times.

"During Pakistan's recent conflict, the Iranian nation and government stood by Pakistan, and the Pakistani nation and govern-

ment also stood by Iran during the 12-day war, strongly condemning this crime against Iran and supporting Iran during those days," he said.

The Pakistani premier stressed that, "During foreign trips and meetings with officials from other countries, we declared the unacceptability of the Zionist regime's attacks against Iran, and I am happy that the war ended with wisdom and prudence from the Leader, people, and armed forces of Iran."

Sharif underlined that Islamabad supports Tehran's right to peaceful nuclear energy and uranium enrichment, and considers Europe's efforts for the implementation of snapback mechanism unacceptable.

Only 30% of saffron exported via official channels amid export challenges: Guild head

Economy Desk

Gholamreza Miri, head of the Khorasan Razavi Saffron Exporters Union, said in an interview with IRNA published on Friday that despite sanctions and numerous export barriers, only 30% of saffron exports are carried out with the business cards of saffron exporters, and the rest have been done by traders.

"Exporters cannot export to all target countries due to sanctions, so they are forced to give saffron to traders in other countries so that our saffron reaches the customer at the destination, and intermediary traders receive 100 to 150 dollars per kilogram of this product depending on the quality of the saffron," Miri said.

"In fact, despite sanctions and numerous export barriers, only 30% of these exports are carried out with the business cards of saffron exporters, and the rest are done by other traders."



Miri underlined that out of 100 million tons of exported saffron, only 30% of is done with the business cards of exporters. Hailing exports as the economic engine of countries, the union chief said, "These problems have fueled the smuggling of saffron. According to statistics, 10 tons of saffron are smuggled out of the country every month, most of which is low-quality and can, in addition to economic damage,

harm the reputation of Iranian saffron in global markets."

Miri added, "Our exporters have worked for years to maintain the export markets for this product, but smugglers sell saffron in global markets at 25 to 30 percent below the domestic price of this product." The official emphasized the necessity of removing export barriers, supporting processors, and reforming currency regulations.

"Despite sanctions, Iran's saffron export markets have expanded from 47 to 71 countries, and undoubtedly, removing these obstacles can pave the way for further export development," Miri said.

"We hope that by removing export barriers and facilitating exports, our exporters will be able to export saffron using their own business cards, and saffron will no longer fall into the hands of non-Iranian traders, preventing the loss of Iran's export markets."

Imports through IKIA customs top \$6b in seven months



Economy Desk

Gholamhossein Nouhi, the director general of Customs Office at the Imam Khomeini International Airport (IKIA), said on Thursday that from the beginning of the Iranian calendar year (March 21) until October 22, a total of 37,804 tons of goods worth \$6.16 billion were imported into the country through the air terminal.

"The main imported goods through the customs office included gold, mobile phones, medicines and pharmaceutical raw materials, medical parts and equipment," Nouhi added. He underlined that in the first seven months of the year, customs procedures for medical equipment worth \$795 million, mobile phones worth \$1 billion, medicines worth \$366 million, and gold worth \$1.941 billion were carried out by his office.

Pointing to the export of goods through the Customs Office of IKIA, Nouhi said, "The value of exported goods this year was \$143 million, and the main exported goods were medicines and saffron."

Israel-Iran conflict ...

Is the United States likely to become directly involved in a potential future conflict and in what form?

If Israel was to renew a direct assault on Iran, the Trump Administration could become involved, as it did with its airstrikes on the Fordow, Natanz, and Isfahan nuclear complexes in June.

But I do not foresee the administration seeking this involvement. Its em-

phasis at the moment is on the ceasefire in Gaza, which involves limiting Israeli military for now.

More significant will be the administration's attempt to restart a process of "normalization" between Arab states, including those in the Persian Gulf, and Israel. That will involve further maneuvers between the US and countries such as Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and the UAE, in which Donald Trump and his family have large business in-

vestments.

How do you see the regional outlook after the Gaza-Israel agreement? Do you consider this agreement sustainable or fragile?

The Phase 1 of the ceasefire is shaky. It has already been broken twice by Israel, with the killing of more than 150 Gazans, and there are further Israeli attacks even as the ceasefire is supposedly restored. Only 24% of the aid

mandated by Phase 1 is entering Gaza. The declared Trump 20-point "plan" is only a sketch. That means there is a security vacuum in unoccupied areas of Gaza, which is filled by Hamas. This in turn means the Gazan group is unlikely to disarm.

It may be impossible to return the bodies of all the dead Israeli hostages, given the scale of destruction across the Strip. This will bolster the argument of hard-right ministers in the

Netanyahu cabinet who want to renew the military assault.

And at this point, there is no sign of a Phase 2 for lasting arrangements for governance and security across Gaza. Nor is the scope of Israeli withdrawal clear.

Beyond Gaza, violence in the West Bank, including by Israeli settlers is escalating. The Netanyahu cabinet is likely to press ahead with the expansion of illegal settlements.