

Pezeshekian urges stronger 'economic diplomacy' to boost forex revenues

Economy Desk

President Masoud Pezeshekian underlined on Tuesday the need to pursue "economic diplomacy" at a time that the country is facing wartime pressures, calling for the expansion of exports with focus on enhancing foreign exchange revenues.

Addressing a specialized meeting on post-war production, distribution, and market regulation process in Tehran, Pezeshekian said the current conditions of the country require careful demand management as creating unrealistic demand without adequate supply would lead to public dissatisfaction and market imbalance.

Pointing to the enemies' strategy to intensify economic pressure and create public discontent, the president said, "One of the most important goals of the enemy in the current situation is to disrupt the economy and put pressure on people's livelihoods, and we must act in a way that, while ensuring the real needs of society, producers also benefit and consumer satisfaction is maintained."

Underscoring the empowerment of forex-earning exports as a fundamental requirement for increasing the resilience of the country's economy, Pezeshekian said, "The development of exports, especially through the country's borders and by leveraging the delegation of powers to border governors and expanding economic interactions with neighboring countries, should be pursued seriously."

The president also emphasized the necessity of utilizing the potential of "economic diplomacy" to compete in regional and international markets.

"Proper quality, competitive pricing, and the use of economic diplomatic tools are the main components of success in global markets, and the government will in no way support low-quality productions."

Emphasizing the government's strategic focus on international trade and regional cooperation, Pezeshekian stated that Iran is taking decisive steps to manage current challenges while prioritizing economic diplomacy and sustainable market stability.



President Masoud Pezeshekian (C) chairs a specialized meeting on reviewing models for involving guilds and trade unions in the production and distribution process in Tehran on May 12, 2026.
● president.ir



Touching on the hybrid war and economic pressures exerted by enemies, the president warned against any exploitation of the current sensitive situation.

"The government does not intend to restrict healthy economic activity; however, we will not allow anyone to target the people's livelihoods or seek illegitimate gains by exploiting war conditions."

Pezeshekian also issued several strategic mandates to the Ministry of Industry, Mine, and Trade (MIMT), including prioritizing support for export-oriented goods and aligning domestic production with the real needs of society.

Meanwhile, Minister of Industry, Mine, and Trade, Mohammad Atabak, provided a report on the status of strategic reserves and the production of essential goods, assuring the president that

despite external pressures and the economic war, production in key industrial and mining sectors continues without interruption.

Atabak noted that the ministry, in coordination with trade unions, has implemented special programs to control

prices, counter hoarding, and manage supply. He reaffirmed that the priority remains supporting export-oriented industries and leveraging the potential of regional markets and neighboring countries to increase the nation's foreign exchange earnings.

Minister unveils bids for 140,000 MW projects with foreign currency

'Gov't bent on reducing reliance on fossil fuels'



Economy Desk

Energy Minister Abbas Aliabadi announced on Tuesday that the ministry had received applications for the construction of more than 140,000 megawatts of power plant capacity from investors holding foreign currency reserves, as the country pushes to expand renewable energy and reduce dependence on fossil fuels.

Speaking to journalists, Aliabadi said the govern-

ment was seeking to make Iran's energy sector less reliant on fossil fuels, describing the shift as beneficial both environmentally and economically.

"President Masoud Pezeshekian supports this program, which aims to diversify the country's energy supply basket and reduce reliance on fossil fuels," he said, adding that the plan would continue "with strength and power." Iran, one of the world's largest holders of oil and gas reserves, has in recent

years faced mounting pressure on its electricity grid due to rising domestic demand, aging infrastructure and recurring summer shortages.

Aliabadi said the country planned to increase renewable power generation capacity to 30,000 megawatts by the end of the sitting administration, while also lowering costs and accelerating project implementation.

The energy minister said renewable energy capacity had expanded to nearly five times the level that existed before the current government took office, adding that several new power plants would soon be inaugurated.

The minister also highlighted Iran's hydroelectric and pumped-storage capabilities, saying they could help the country

store electricity more effectively as renewable generation expands.

"Our plan for developing renewables is to carry out this work in a dispersed manner to reduce vulnerability," he said.

Addressing concerns over financing and access to foreign currency, Aliabadi said many investors interested in renewable energy projects already possessed foreign exchange resources.

"We have over 140,000 megawatts of power plant applicants in Iran who themselves have foreign currency," he said. "Therefore, we hope we will not face currency problems."

The minister added that multiple renewable energy projects were expected to become operational by the end of the year and early next year.

100K tons of extraterrestrial yields imported to ensure food security

Economy Desk

Minister of Agriculture Gholamreza Noori-Qezeljah said on Tuesday that the number of countries targeted for extraterrestrial cultivation and overseas farming projects had increased, with the Islamic Republic recently importing some 100,000 metric tons of crops through its northern trade route under the initiative.

The minister said food security remained one of the country's top domestic security priorities amid regional economic pressures and supply chain concerns. "Today, food security is one of the main pillars of social and economic stability," Noori-Qezeljah said, according to remarks carried by state media.

Iran has increasingly sought to secure food supplies through a combination of domestic production and overseas ag-

ricultural investments, a strategy often referred to as "extraterritorial agriculture," under which Iranian companies cultivate crops abroad for shipment back to the country.

Noori-Qezeljah said no shortages of essential goods had occurred across Iran and that authorities had maintained a stable market, while some countries in the region had experienced price increases and food shortages.

He said about 85% of Iran's food needs were currently met through domestic production, with the remaining 15% supplied through imports.

"Domestic agriculture plays a crucial role and should be supported even more," he said.

The minister said the government had streamlined procedures for overseas agricultural investment, adding that related guidelines had been uploaded to



Gholamreza Noori-Qezeljah

the ministry's website and applicants could complete procedures remotely without physical attendance. He added that the number of target countries for overseas cultivation projects had increased this year.

"The first products of this plan included approximately 60,000 tons of barley and nearly 40,000 tons of oil imported through the northern route," he said.

Noori-Qezeljah said supporting domestic production remained the government's main agricultural policy, adding that all programs were designed to strengthen local output and back producers.

Iran in new ...

China's perspective on Iran is different. For Beijing, Iran is more of a geopolitical and economic opportunity. Its vast energy reserves, transit location, and position along the route connecting East Asia to the Middle East and Europe give it special importance to China. Moreover, Iran's remaining outside the US orbit indirectly benefits China by absorbing some of America's focus and resources in the Middle East.

Nonetheless, the China-Iran relationship should not be seen as a full-fledged strategic or ideological alliance. China is fundamentally pragmatic: it maintains broad economic cooperation not only with Iran but also with Tehran's

regional rivals, including Saudi Arabia and even Israel. Beijing does not wish to enter into a direct confrontation with the US over Iran, as China's economy remains dependent on Western markets.

This is where Barry Buzan's concept of a "new Cold War" becomes relevant. Buzan argues that US-China relations are acquiring some features of the Cold War—structural rivalry between two great powers, the formation of nascent blocs, and a competition over the future of the global order. But he emphasizes that this is not a full replay of the US-Soviet Cold War.

The most important difference is the two powers' economic interdependence. The US and

Soviet Union operated largely separate economies, but China and the US are deeply enmeshed in the global economy. Moreover, today's world is not strictly bipolar; many countries are trying to balance between the two powers. And the main arena of competition is less military or nuclear than it is economic, technological, and geo-economic.

Thus, when Buzan speaks of a "new Cold War," he does not mean a return to the 20th-century model. Instead, he points to the emergence of a long-term, structural rivalry between China and the US over the shape of the future global order—a rivalry in which Iran, as a key regional player, is very much a part.



N.I.S.O.C
NATIONAL IRANIAN SOUTH OILFIELDS COMPANY
AHVAZ-IRAN

TENDER NO.: 08-21-0340014

The National Iranian South Oil Company (NISOC) is seeking to procure the specified goods listed in the table below through a Qualitative Evaluation Call for conducting a public tender via the Government Electronic Procurement System (SETAD). All stages of the tender process including the receipt of tender documents, submission of bidders' proposals, and the opening of bid envelopes, shall be carried out exclusively through the Government Electronic Procurement System (SETAD) portal at www.setadiran.ir. Bidders who have not previously registered must complete the registration process on the aforementioned portal and obtain an Electronic Signature certificate to participate in the tender.

Item	Material Description	Quantity
01	CASING, NON API, GRADE P-110SS, SEAMLESS, "N.VAM", THD OR EQUIVALENT, RANGE 3 (MAX LENGTH: 40.5 FT), AS PER API 5CT / ISO 11960 NACE MR0175, MARKING: STENCIL PRINTING IN ACCORDANCE WITH API 5CT MAX. H.R.C:29, H2S (PPM): 21600, CO2 (PPM): 49000, TEMPERATURE: 225 F, SIZE, WEIGHT, DRIFT AS SPECIFIED; REF. NISOC/ NIOC APPROVED STANDARD MANU COLLAPSE PRESSURE: 8530 PSI BURST PRESSURE: 11220 PSI, 7 IN., 29 PPF, DRIFT: 6.125 IN.	4,000 LE
02	COUPLING CASING, NON API GRADE, SML, AS PER API 5CT/ ISO 11960 NACE MR0175 TO BE ELECTRO PLATED MARKING: STENCIL PRINTING IN ACCORDANCE CASING SIZE, GRADE, THREAD AS SPECIFIED REF. NISOC/ NIOC APPROVED STANDARD MANU NON-API GRADE P-110SS, 7 IN., NEW VAM OR EQUIVALENT	200 NO

Vendors who intend to participate in aforesaid tenders are requested to send their "Intention To Participate" letter via fax to the following number along with their resume according to Qualitative Assessment Form no. 1, available at: www.setadiran.ir, not later than 14 days after the second announcement, otherwise, their requests for participation in the tender will be disregarded. The applicants should have relevant background in supplying the required goods and capability to provide and submit a bid bond of 48,935/29 EURO or 78,385,328,896 RIAL, in favor of NISOC.

FOREIGN PURCHASING DEPARTMENT

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