

South Pars offshore platforms resume output after Israeli strike

Economy Desk

Iran has restored gas extraction at three offshore platforms in the South Pars field after output was suspended due to an Israeli air strike in March that disrupted processing operations at onshore facilities.

Touraj Dehghani, CEO of the state-run Pars Oil and Gas Company, said on Sunday that the platforms themselves had not sustained any damage during the attacks, Press TV reported.

However, Dehghani added that production was suspended because several gas-processing facilities along the coast of Bushehr Province were damaged, preventing the handling of gas extracted from the offshore installations.

According to Dehghani, technical and operational measures implemented in the downstream sector, combined with the use of spare capacity at operational refineries, have enabled the resumption of production at three offshore platforms in the giant gas field.

The restored output is being redirected to other gas-processing plants in the region while repairs continue at damaged facilities,

including the Phase 14 refinery. He added that rich gas – natural gas with high hydrocarbon content – produced from the platforms was being transferred to other gas refineries in the region in coordination with downstream operations to optimize production from the South Pars field and help ensure a stable supply of feedstock to refineries and support management of the country's gas network.

South Pars, the world's largest gas reservoir shared with Qatar, is responsible for 70% of Iran's natural gas supply and 40% of the feedstock needed in the country's gasoline production sector. It covers 40 offshore drilling rigs, hundreds of wells, and thousands of kilometers of underwater pipelines across 24 development phases.

Phase 11 gas output to surge

Separately, Petropars Group's chief executive said gas production at South Pars Phase 11 has surged and will exceed 25.7 million cubic meters per day once the field's 11th well comes online.

"Gas production at this phase, which was about 11.6 million cu-



SHANA

bic meters per day at the beginning of the current administra-

tion (July, 2024), has now reached around 23.8 million cubic meters

per day, and with the 11th well entering service, we expect pro-

duction to surpass 25.8 million cubic meters per day," he said.

Iran launches transit operations at Jask with first shipments from Oman



ISNA

Economy Desk

Iran has officially launched transit operations at the southern port of Jask with the arrival of the first vehicle shipments from Oman, a ports and maritime official said on Sunday.

Hamidreza Mohammad-Hosseini Takhti, director of Shahid Bahonar Port and Eastern Hormozgan Ports and Maritime Administration, said that vehicle transit procedures had become operational at Jask port, according to ILNA.

The new trade route has been launched despite efforts by the US Navy in the Indian Ocean to

choke the Iranian economy. Iran's southern ports in the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman remain under a naval blockade, which US President Donald Trump imposed in mid-April, aiming to pressure Tehran into a peace deal after a 40-day conflict waged by the US and Israel against the country on February 28. "Following extensive consultations and the issuance of a temporary three-month permit by the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration, unloading operations for the first phase of these vehicles have begun," Takhti said. He added two landing

craft carrying imported vehicles had arrived through the port in the initial phase, with each vessel transporting eight vehicles.

"Despite limitations and damage caused by war, suitable port services were being provided at Jask," the official said, adding that further shipments were expected to arrive in the very near future.

Referring to the significance of the development, Takhti said the special position of the ports on the Iranian coastline along the Sea of Oman, known as Makoran, had become more evident than ever under current conditions.

Located on the Gulf of Oman outside the Strait of Hormuz, Jask has emerged as one of Iran's most strategically important ports.

The facility serves as the terminus of the Goreh-Jask oil pipeline and forms part of the International North-South Transport Corridor, the

multimodal route linking the Indian Ocean with Russia and Northern Europe.

The operational launch at Jask aligns with accelerating trade momentum between the two neighbors. According to Omani statistics, bilateral trade reached approximately \$1.33 billion in 2024, up 52% year on year, showing growing commercial links across the Persian Gulf. Omani exports and re-exports to Iran rose 69% to roughly \$939 million during the year.

Recent institutional agreements have also laid the groundwork for deeper trade integration. Oman approved a preferential trade agreement with Iran in September 2025, aimed at lowering tariffs and reducing non-tariff barriers, while a separate customs cooperation agreement entered into force the same month to streamline customs procedures and facilitate cross-border cargo movements.

AEOI working with Russia to deploy small nuclear reactors, official says

Economy Desk

Iran is working with Russia to develop small nuclear reactors for domestic deployment, a senior atomic energy official said on Sunday.

Behrouz Kamalvandi, deputy head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI), announced the cooperation at a meeting of the Iran-Russia Joint Chamber Commission and highlighted the role of small reactors in the future of energy and industry, according to Tasnim.

"The future of nuclear energy will be the future of small reactors. They may even be used in aircraft in the future."

"Iran has very good human resources capacity. We have good cooperation with Russia to develop work on small reactors so that we can make several of them operational in the country," he said.

Kamalvandi said the private sector could play a significant role in such projects, but added that the initial stages up to 70% to 80% comple-

tion should be financed through government resources and the National Development Fund before private investors enter.

Speaking about targets for nuclear power generation, he said diversification of energy sources was highly important and that Iran should reach a point where around 13% of the country's electricity needs are supplied through nuclear energy.

Iran generates about 2% of its electricity from nuclear power, through the Russian-built Bushehr plant in the south, according to data from the World Nuclear Association and the World Bank. Kamalvandi said Iran had substantial domestic capacity to expand its nuclear industry.

"We started work on the Darkhovin power plant [in the southwestern Khuzestan province] to generate 350 megawatts so that it can supply industries. Today, a significant portion of Bushehr Units 2 and 3, which are under construction, has been built domestically. Serious measures have also

Behrouz Kamalvandi
TASNIM

been taken in non-energy fields, including healthcare and agriculture," he said.

The official noted that nearly every industrial sector required nuclear technology, saying perceptions that Iran's nuclear program had created challenges for the country overlooked as a challenge stemming from national strength.

Kamalvandi also highlighted progress in medical applications of nuclear technology.

"We currently have two very important projects. One is ion therapy, which can treat cancers in sensitive areas such as the eye with a success rate close to 100%. At the same time, radiopharmaceuticals are also on the agenda. If this trend continues, we will be the only country to have both treatment facilities in a single complex and in one location," he said.

Israel's goals in ...

On the contrary, since the start of US-mediated talks, Israel has steadily expanded the territory under its control and pushed further forward. Today, it is openly discussing a three-stage plan that is even more dangerous than its previous proposals.

In the Iran negotiations, one possibility is that the Americans may formally accept Iran's conditions concerning Leb-

anon while quietly giving Israel a free hand in southern Lebanon, allowing it to continue its operations.

Another possibility is that the Americans genuinely want an arrangement to be reached. Beyond the Iran issue, there is also growing international pressure over Lebanon. Even the French have been exerting considerable pressure on Washington in this regard. Whether Netanyahu will ulti-

mately heed Trump's wishes, however, remains an open question.

France has criticized Israeli advances into Lebanese territory and called for an emergency UN Security Council meeting. Can such political pressure alter the calculations of the parties involved and help contain tensions?

France's actions should be analyzed from two different angles. One con-

cerns the withdrawal of the occupying force, and the other concerns France's determination to see Hezbollah disarmed.

What the French are advocating falls within the framework of UN Security Council resolutions, particularly those calling for the withdrawal of resistance forces north of the Litani River. The French have long insisted that Hezbollah's weapons south of the Litani be

handed over to the Lebanese state so that Israel, in turn, would be compelled to comply with Security Council resolutions and withdraw.

However, I do not believe this issue will be resolved solely within the Security Council chamber. Much will also depend on developments on the ground in southern Lebanon and on how the resistance chooses to deal with this case.