

Pezeshkian: Investment, spending discipline key to financial stability

'Economic pressures result of war, sanctions and trade restrictions'

Economy Desk

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said attracting investment was one of the government's key avenues for securing financial resources, while stressing that managing expenditures and eliminating unnecessary spending must also be pursued seriously.

At a meeting of the government's Economic Coordination Council on Sunday, officials reviewed various scenarios facing the country's economy, as well as government policies and plans for dealing with different economic conditions. They also decided on measures aimed at preserving economic stability, protecting people's livelihoods and ensuring the continued supply of the country's essential needs, according to president.ir. "Attracting investment is one of the important ways of securing resources, but alongside that, cost management and the elimination of unnecessary expenditures must also be placed seriously on the agenda," Pezeshkian said.

He added that excessive costs in executive bodies, government institutions and other sectors should be identified and reduced.

Pezeshkian also stressed the need to manage energy consumption.

"Effective conservation programs in the water, electricity and fuel sectors must be implemented, and the resources generated from these savings should be used directly to improve people's livelihoods," he said.

The country, already hit by Western sanctions over its nuclear program, faces growing external economic and maritime pressure, including US restrictions targeting its shipping and oil trade through a naval blockade imposed since mid-April. US President Donald Trump imposed the sea-based embargo on southern Iranian ports, aiming to pressure Tehran into a peace agreement after a 40-day conflict that began in late February.

The president also criticized some media analyses and narratives about the country's economic situation, saying that under conditions of economic war, sanctions and trade restrictions, not all price developments could be attributed solely to the government's performance. He added that the state broadcaster should not fuel public concern or portray the government's performance negatively through one-sided and undocumented analyses.

"Under conditions in which the government, because of national and security

considerations, is unable to disclose certain realities, the national media also has no right to create public anxiety and portray the government's performance negatively through one-sided and undocumented analyses," he said.

Iran's annual inflation rate rose to 53.9% in the 12 months ending in the second month of the current Iranian year, compared with the corresponding period a year earlier, the Central Bank of Iran (CBI) said this week. Point-to-point inflation, which measures changes in consumer prices compared with the same month a year earlier, stood at 77.2%, the CBI said.

Referring to what he called "inaccurate and unfair media narratives" about the causes of rising inflation, Pezeshkian said, "At a time when the country's economy is directly affected by the US and Zionist regime's imposed war against Iran, the constraints resulting from economic sanctions and trade pressures, including the naval blockade, not all price developments can be attributed solely to the government's performance."

"Despite the losses and economic pressures resulting from these conditions, the government has mobilized the country's executive capacities to minimize the severe consequences of this eco-



President Masoud Pezeshkian heads a meeting of the government's Economic Coordination Council in Tehran on June 7, 2026. president.ir

nomical and security war. Nevertheless, some narratives create the impression that none of these factors exist and that all problems stem solely from the government's performance," he said.

"Under the current circumstances, managing the country's economy requires responsible decision-making, honest dialogue with the people and avoiding promises that cannot be fulfilled."

The president also emphasized that supporting household livelihoods remained the government's strategic priority.

"People's livelihoods are a fundamental and non-negotiable principle for me. The government is obliged to use all available capacities to strengthen people's purchasing power and reduce economic pressure on different segments of society," he said.

Tehran stocks hit record closing high as benchmark jumps 2.3%



Economy Desk

Tehran's benchmark stock index rose more than 101,000 points, or 2.3%, on Sunday to close at a record 4.493 million points, according to IRNA.

Although the index had previously touched the 4.5 million level on January 13 and 19, it had never ended a trading session above the current level.

The market was supported by stronger buying interest from the start of trading, while the reopening of PAR-SAN and KALA shares without daily price fluctuation limits further reinforced the upward trend. The benchmark is now only a few thousand points away from en-

tering the 4.5-million-point range.

The equal-weight index, which reflects the performance of companies regardless of size, also climbed 2.58% to a record 1.203 million points, indicating that the rally was not limited to large-cap stocks and that small- and mid-sized companies also played a significant role in the advance.

About 95% of listed stocks closed higher during the session, while 5.421 trillion tomans (about \$30.3 million) of retail investor money flowed into equity trading, signaling continued investor appetite for the stock market.

The value of Sunday's trading exceeded 200 trillion tomans (about \$1.12 billion), while the to-

tal market capitalization of the Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE) stood at more than 13.3 quadrillion tomans (about \$74.3 billion).

At the same time, 1.482 trillion tomans (about \$8.3 million) of retail investor funds flowed out of fixed-income funds, while gold and silver funds attracted 222 billion tomans (about \$1.24 million) and 128 billion tomans (about \$715,000), respectively, in retail inflows.

The gains came after months during which the Tehran Stock Exchange faced heavy pressure from wartime conditions, political uncertainty and a prolonged trading halt, prompting many market participants to adopt a cautious outlook.

Trading on the TSE resumed after an 80-day suspension on May 19, with Iranian equities ending the session stronger than expected and showing early signs of stability following the prolonged halt caused by the war.

The stock market had been closed since February 28 following US and Israeli attacks on Iran and the outbreak of war.

Iran lagging in coal power use despite vast reserves: Mining official

Economy Desk

Iran has substantial coal reserves but generates almost no electricity from the fossil fuel, a senior mining official said on Sunday, even as global coal power output is projected to grow 10% by 2040.

Mohammad Masoud Samieinejad, head of the Iranian Mines and Mining Industries Development and Renovation Organization, said Iran's coal resources are largely metallurgical in nature and are primarily used in steel production rather than power generation. "Iran has a notable geological position in coal, but this capacity has not yet been fully exploited," Samieinejad told ISNA. "Iran's share of electricity generation from coal is almost zero."

According to Samieinejad, proven coal reserves stand at about 1.4 billion tons, with probable reserves of 14 billion tons. Annual coal extraction currently reaches 3.5 million tons, which is processed into 1.7 million tons of concentrate - nearly all consumed by the domestic steel industry.

Globally, coal remains a major power source. Citing the International Energy Agency (IEA), the official noted that coal-



fired generation is expected to rise from 9.41 trillion kilowatt-hours in 2015 to 10.39 trillion kWh by 2040 - a 10% increase. China and India, the world's top coal consumers, are projected to use 4.34 billion and 1.22 billion tons respectively in 2025.

"The International Energy Agency (IEA) states that to limit global warming to two degrees or less, coal use without carbon capture and storage must be rapidly reduced," he said. The World Bank and WHO have also highlighted the health and economic advantages of cleaner energy alternatives, the deputy minister of industry, mine and trade added.

He said the country plans to develop its coal sector on a smaller scale. Under the coun-

try's Seventh Development Plan, Samieinejad said coal concentrate output should reach 2 million tons, and metallurgical coke capacity 2.1 million tons by the plan's end.

"Productivity increases, mechanization, and mine safety enhancement are among the most important strategies for this sector," he said, adding that reviving idle mines and moving away from traditional mining methods are also priorities.

Iran's total installed power generation capacity exceeds 100,000 megawatts, with thermal power plants accounting for the majority of output. Hydropower, renewables such as wind and solar, and nuclear energy make up smaller shares of the mix.

Ministers back digital push to boost tourism, rural prosperity

Economy Desk

Iran's telecommunications and cultural heritage ministers agreed to expand joint cooperation to develop communication infrastructure and digital services, aiming to boost tourism, strengthen local economies

ICT Minister Sattar Hashemi (l) and Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts Minister Reza Salehi-Amiri attend a meeting in Tehran on June 7, 2026. IRNA

and create new employment opportunities in rural areas.

The agreement came during a joint meeting between Communications and Information Technology (ICT) Minister Sattar Hashemi and Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts Minister Reza Salehi-Amiri, along with their deputies, IRNA reported.

"A unified and centralized design is needed for the development of data-driven governance," Hashemi said, stressing the need to avoid

fragmented, "isolated" actions in the technology sector.

The ICT minister also announced that the number of the country's Internet exchange centers would increase from one to three, located in different parts of the country, "so that services to the people can continue without interruption even in critical situations."

During the meeting, deputies from the telecommunications ministry presented a report on measures taken in areas related to cultural

heritage, tourism and handicrafts, as well as the development of rural communications. These measures include establishing stable connectivity at 50 tourist sites, providing communications for tourism-targeted villages, digitalizing cultural heritage processes, and readiness to create a national dashboard.

The deputies also put forward proposals for expanding joint cooperation and resolving issues related to communication development in tourist areas.

