

Minister: Highway network expansion top priority in 'war of corridors'

Farzaneh Sadeq Malvajerd
IRNA

Economy Desk

Iran's Roads and Urban Development Minister Farzaneh Sadeq Malvajerd said on Saturday that completing the country's highway network along key trans-

port corridors was the ministry's top priority, describing transport links as strategically important as Iran continues to face attacks on civilian infrastructure. Speaking at a ceremony marking the start of construction of the Arda-

kan-Meybod Expressway, Sadeq Malvajerd said the ministry's top priority is completing the expressway network in the corridor routes with private-sector participation.

The project would be built with 70%

private-sector financing and 30% government funding, according to IRNA. The six-lane, dual-carriageway expressway on Iran's north-south transport corridor is expected to take five years to complete. "Today's war is a war of corridors. The enemy seeks not only to create dead ends inside the country but also to cut Iran's connections with other countries," she said.

"It is therefore the responsibility of the Roads and Urban Development Ministry to rapidly restore these routes and counter such actions."

Sadeq said the Ardakan-Meybod Expressway would help reduce fuel consumption, speed up cargo transportation, improve road safety and complete Iran's north-south corridor. She expressed hope that sections of the route would eventually be linked continuously from the country's northern borders to the southern port of Bandar Abbas.

Iran has remained on a war footing since a US-Israeli coalition launched attacks on the country in late February, particularly targeting civilians and infrastructure during a 40-day conflict. After a pause of several weeks, attacks on Iran's infrastructure resumed on July 7 after three vessels were targeted in the Strait of Hormuz.

The United States restored its naval blockade with 20 warships, hundreds

of fighter jets and military drones, as US Central Command (CENTCOM) said, to prevent the Islamic Republic's oil exports while ensuring maritime security in the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz.

In the latest attacks, bridges on the route linking Bandar Abbas to Bandar Khamir and Lar, along with part of Hormozgan Province's railway network, were damaged on Thursday night and early Friday. Early Saturday, during the seventh consecutive night of attacks, several more bridges and tunnels on transport routes in Hormozgan were targeted, while the Bonji desalination plant in the west of Jask and a desalination facility on Qeshm Island were also damaged.

The attacks disrupted roads connecting Hormozgan with Fars and Kerman provinces, while damage to railway lines forced changes to passenger travel schedules.

According to Fars news agency, rail operations at the Bandar Abbas railway junction, which had been suspended following the US airstrike on Friday, resumed after the necessary repairs were completed.

The railway junction, located about 10 kilometers west of Bandar Abbas, connects passenger and freight rail lines with Shahid Rajaei Port and the Bandar Abbas railway. Two people were injured in Friday's airstrike on the facility.

Petroiran completes second South Pars infill well, lifts gas output



Economy Desk

Petroiran Development Group — a subsidiary to the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) — has completed drilling, completion and delivery of the second infill well at the SPD15 platform of Iran's South Pars gas field, adding 2.2 million cubic meters (mcm) of natural gas per day to production, the company's chief executive said.

According to IRNA, Ali Daqaeyqi, chief executive of Petroiran Development Group, said the second infill

well had entered production and represented "an effective step toward increasing output and ensuring the country's stable energy supply."

"The drilling, completion and delivery of the second infill well at the SPD15-05 platform were successfully completed, relying on the engineering and operational capabilities of Iranian specialists despite complex operating conditions," IRNA quoted him as saying.

He said the well had added 2.2 million cubic meters of gas per day to production from the South Pars joint field after entering service.

Daqaeyqi said the average daily output of South Pars wells is currently about 1 million cubic meters of gas, adding that the new well was producing more than twice the field average.

"The well has delivered production at more than double the field average, demonstrating outstanding performance beyond expectations and reflecting the high quality of the

project's design, drilling and technical execution," he said.

He said the infill well was drilled and completed at a depth of more than 5,100 meters in one of the most complex reservoir layers of South Pars in cooperation with Pars Oil and Gas Company.

"The completion of the SPD15-05 well not only fulfills the production increase program but also demonstrates Petroiran's technical and operational capability in managing complex drilling and development projects," Daqaeyqi said.

"The achievements of this project provide valuable support for sustaining production from the South Pars joint field and advancing the development goals of the country's oil industry," he said.

South Pars, which Iran shares with Qatar, accounts for 70% of the country's natural gas supply and provides 40% of the feedstock required for gasoline production.

Tehran, Moscow agree to boost AI ties, draft auto roadmap



IRIB

Economy Desk

Iran and Russia agreed to expand technical cooperation on artificial intelligence and develop a joint roadmap for new automotive standards during a meeting on the sidelines of a BRICS gathering in Bengaluru, India, ILNA reported.

Farzaneh Ansari, head of Iran's National Standards Organization, and Anton Shalaev, head of Russia's Federal Agency on Technical Regulating and Metrology, agreed to finalize and exchange within two months an implementation roadmap covering standards for electric vehicles, intelligent systems and automotive cybersecurity.

The two sides also emphasized closer cooperation in metrology, standardization, conformity assessment and training.

The officials reviewed ways to strengthen bilateral cooperation in standardization, metrology, conformity assessment, education and participation in international organizations. Standardization of artificial intelligence was identified as one of the main areas of cooperation. The two sides agreed to exchange technical expertise, hold specialized meetings and workshops, enhance experts' capabilities and cooperate in developing international AI standards.

Cooperation in conformity assessment, particularly in the automotive industry, was another focus of the talks. The

two sides emphasized cooperation on electric vehicles, advanced driver-assistance systems, battery safety, automotive cybersecurity and connected vehicles, and agreed that the implementation roadmap for the sector would be finalized and exchanged between the two organizations within two months.

Separately, on the sidelines of the BRICS meeting of heads of national standards bodies, Ansari met with Sanjay Garg, director general of the Bureau of Indian Standards.

The two sides welcomed the expansion of bilateral ties in standardization and stressed broader technical cooperation, exchanges of professional expertise and greater use of shared capacities in standardization and quality infrastructure.

They also reviewed bilateral cooperation and discussed opportunities to expand collaboration.

A memorandum of understanding between Iran's National Standards Organization and the Bureau of Indian Standards was also discussed, with both sides emphasizing the importance of finalizing the document in the near future as a framework for future technical cooperation within the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

The meeting of heads of national standards organizations from BRICS member countries was held in the Indian city of Bengaluru on July 16-17.

شرکت خدمات حمایتی کشاورزی

Date: 1405/4/28 - No.: 568010

ADDENDUM NOTICE

INVITATION TO ONE STEP INTERNATIONAL TENDER

Second Announcement

GRICULTURAL SUPPORT SERVICES COMPANY

وزارت جهاد کشاورزی

Further to Tender Notice no.483124 published in Tehran Times and Savalan on 30/6/2026 and Etellat and Iran Daily on 1/7/2026, please be advised that the terms and conditions of tender for the purchase of 3×50000±5% MTS of Granular Triple Super Phosphate (GTSP) will be available from Saturday dated 18/7/2026 until Monday dated 20/7/2026 again.

All qualified and interested companies that were unable to obtain the tender documents are invited to receive them from our purchasing committee (located at the 9th floor, no. 1, fourth alley, Gandhi St., Tehran, Iran). The bidders are requested to submit their letters of introduction, along with remittance bill of IRI. Rials 1,200,000 to ASSC's account no. 4001039704005791 with SHEBA no. IR250100004001039704005791 at the Central Bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran through payment order of SATNA or PAYA with the 30-character identification code of 339039782263500650000000000008.

The bidders are required to submit their sealed and stamped envelopes containing offers latest on **Saturday** dated **15/8/2026** (During official working hours) to our security office, located on the 8th floor. Meanwhile the meeting for the opening of the envelopes will be on **Sunday** dated **16/8/2026** at **10:00 a.m.** with the presence of bidders' representatives in our purchasing committee (9th floor, no. 1, fourth alley, Gandhi St., Tehran, Iran). Other terms and conditions remain unchanged.

For more information, you may refer to our website www.assc.ir, and <http://iets.mporg.ir> or contact us by phone no. 00982188776325.

Public Relations and International Affairs of Agricultural Support Services Company