

Pezeshkian reaffirms support for production, urges national unity

‘Iran’s diplomacy will never compromise on nation’s rights’



President Masoud Pezeshkian speaks at a National Industry and Mining Day ceremony in Tehran on July 21, 2026.
● president.ir

Economy Desk
Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said on Tuesday his government would continue supporting production by removing obstacles for manufacturers and ensuring stable energy supplies

for industry, adding that national unity, support for production and constructive engagement were the country's strongest assets in overcoming difficult conditions. Speaking at a National Industry and Mining Day ceremony, Pezeshkian

praised manufacturers for maintaining supplies during the war, saying they had prevented shortages despite attacks on infrastructure. The country has remained on a war footing since a US-Israeli coalition launched attacks in late February,

particularly targeting civilians and infrastructure during a 40-day conflict. After a pause of several weeks, the United States resumed strikes on Iran's infrastructure on July 11. Iran maintained supplies of essential goods at the height of the conflict despite a US naval blockade of the country's southern ports and attacks on its energy and industrial infrastructure, according to Iranian authorities. "You were the ones who fought the enemy on the economic front and did not allow the country to face shortages or famine during that critical period," Pezeshkian told manufacturers. "The enemy imposed an all-out war on the Iranian nation with the aim of creating domestic pressure and social collapse, but you brave producers and industrialists stood firm against every challenge with extraordinary resilience," he said. "You prevented the major powers from achieving their malicious objectives, to the point that they were forced to turn to engagement and dialogue instead of war." Iran and the United States signed a 14-point memorandum of understanding on June 18 aimed at ending the war and opening talks on Iran's nuclear

program, but the United States later violated the agreement by resuming the naval blockade and reinstating temporary sanctions waivers, after three vessels were targeted in the Strait of Hormuz. Pezeshkian said enemy attacks on energy infrastructure had disrupted electricity and energy supplies and placed additional pressure on industry, but the government had managed to control electricity consumption through public cooperation and coordination among state institutions. In another part of his remarks, Pezeshkian praised the guidance of Leader Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei in shaping the country's strategic direction, particularly regarding ending the "no war, no peace" situation. He said the Leader had stressed in private meetings the need to end that situation, adding that negotiations had therefore begun based on "dignity, expediency, wisdom and the country's honor," and that Iran's diplomatic team would never compromise on the nation's rights. Pezeshkian also criticized what he described as uninformed and unprofessional comments about the negotiations, saying such remarks downplayed the achievements of the talks. Referring to wartime damage to the country's infrastructure, Pezeshkian stressed that the government would manage conditions to minimize pressure on production units and take the necessary measures to remove obstacles facing industry.

UK-Iran trade hits eight-year high as Turkish imports surge



Economy Desk
Trade between Britain and Iran rose to its highest level in eight years in 2025, while Turkey's imports from Iran climbed sharply in the first five months of 2026, according to official data released by the two countries. According to Eghtesad-e Moaser website, Britain's Department for Business and Trade said total bilateral trade with Iran increased 8% year-on-year to 438 million pounds (about \$586 million) the highest level since 2017. Separately, Turkey's statistical authority said the country's imports from Iran rose 24% to \$1.28 billion in January-May 2026. British exports to Iran totaled 288 million pounds in 2025, while imports from Iran reached 150 million pounds, leaving Britain with a trade surplus of 138 million pounds. Both British exports to Iran and imports from Iran increased 8% from the previous year. Iran ranked as Britain's 112th-largest trading partner in 2025, according to the British data. Of Britain's total exports to Iran, 66 million pounds consisted of goods and 222 million pounds of services. Goods

exports rose 1.5% from a year earlier, while services exports increased 9.9%. Britain imported 24 million pounds of goods and 126 million pounds of services from Iran in 2025. Commodity imports from Iran jumped 50% year-on-year, while services imports rose 2.4%. Medical and pharmaceutical products were Britain's largest goods export to Iran in 2025, while general industrial machinery was the country's largest import category from Iran. **Turkish imports rose 24%** Separately, data released by the Turkish Statistical Institute showed bilateral trade between Iran and Turkey reached \$2.38 billion in the first five months of 2026, up 5% from \$2.26 billion in the same period a year earlier. Turkey's exports to Iran fell 10% to \$1.1 billion in January-May 2026 from \$1.23 billion in the corresponding period of 2025. Turkey's imports from Iran, however, rose 24% to \$1.28 billion from \$1.03 billion a year earlier, leaving Iran with a trade surplus of \$180 million in bilateral trade over the five-month period.

Energy deputy: Restored equipment, higher output to secure power in south

Economy Desk
Deputy Energy Minister Mostafa Rajabi Mashhadi said on Tuesday that uninterrupted electricity is expected to be provided to households in the country's southern regions through the end of the week after restoring damaged equipment and increasing power generation capacity. Rajabi Mashhadi, as quoted by state broadcaster IRIB News, said a significant number of generating units and power grid facilities that had been taken offline had returned to operation, increasing the country's electricity supply capacity. He said the improved conditions were expected to last through Friday and depended on the continued stability of power plants, weather conditions, the reliability of the transmission and distribution network, and continued public cooperation in managing electricity consumption. "There remains a risk of equipment failures or emergency shut-downs at power plants and grid facilities, as well as a renewed rise in temperatures and electricity demand," he said. "Therefore, if any of these conditions change, the power industry will have no choice but to resume load management programs and impose restrictions on household power consumption in order to maintain grid stability." Rajabi Mashhadi said electricity sector personnel were using the full capacity of the country's generation, transmission and distribution systems to ensure stable electricity supplies for residents



in southern Iran, but added that maintaining stable power supplies would not be possible without public cooperation. "All our colleagues across the power industry are working at maximum capacity and using every available generation, transmission and distribution resource to provide stable electricity to people in the country's southern regions. However, maintaining stable power supplies will not be possible without public participation." After a pause of several weeks, the United States resumed strikes on Iran's infrastructure on July 11 after three vessels in the Strait of Hormuz were targeted. The country has remained under wartime conditions since a US-Israeli coalition launched attacks in late February, particularly targeting civilians and infrastructure during a 40-day conflict. Detailing the restoration of the power grid, Energy Minister Abbas Aliabadi said on Sunday

that four 400-kilovolt and two 230-kilovolt transmission lines damaged during the US strikes had been fully repaired, returning the regional network to normal operating conditions. Iran was already facing electricity shortages before the attacks, a situation worsened by the conflict and peak summer demand. The government has set a target of installing 30,000 megawatts of renewable energy capacity within the next two years to help reduce daily power shortages and improve the long-term stability of electricity supplies. Installed renewable power generation capacity has exceeded 5,400 megawatts, according to the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Organization (SATBA). The agency's deputy investment director, Jafar Mohammadnezhad Sigaroudi, said on Monday that the government's target of reaching 7,000 MW by the end of the summer remained unchanged despite constraints on imported equipment.