

President pledges support for domestic solar panel production

Solar plant inaugurated to serve Iran's largest industrial park

Economy Desk

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian pledged on Tuesday to fully support investors in domestic solar panel manufacturing as the government pushes to expand renewable power generation and reduce reliance on fossil fuels. "There will be no restrictions on supporting investors in the domestic production of solar panels," Pezeshkian said at a ceremony marking the inauguration and operation of 95 megawatts of solar power capacity in Tehran Province.

The projects, comprising 63 MW and 32 MW units, were inaugurated near Shamsabad Industrial Town, the country's largest industrial zone, according to president.ir.

Pezeshkian stressed the need to improve the use of available space and facilities alongside the use of clean and renewable energy. He called on officials to work with academics and agricultural experts to cultivate medicinal plants alongside solar power plants and make use of water used to wash the panels.

The government expects to generate 30,000 MW from clean and renewable energy sources over the next two years, Pezeshkian said.

He also said the government would provide land and the necessary facilities to investors seeking to manufacture solar panels domestically.

Pezeshkian also called for reducing the use of fossil fuels and improving energy efficiency through better management and planning, while supporting domestic producers and industry. "I believe industry electricity should never be cut," he said.

Iran's installed renewable power capacity has recently reached 6,000 MW, with more than 80% coming from solar power plants. The government has set a target of installing 30,000 MW of renewable energy capacity within the next two years to help reduce daily power shortages and improve the long-term stability of electricity supplies. Separately, Iran's Power Generation, Distribution and Transmission Company (Tavanir) said on Tuesday that the Energy Ministry had completed 1,440



President Masoud Pezeshkian speaks at a ceremony to inaugurate 95 megawatts of solar power capacity in Tehran province on Aug. 25, 2026.

● president.ir

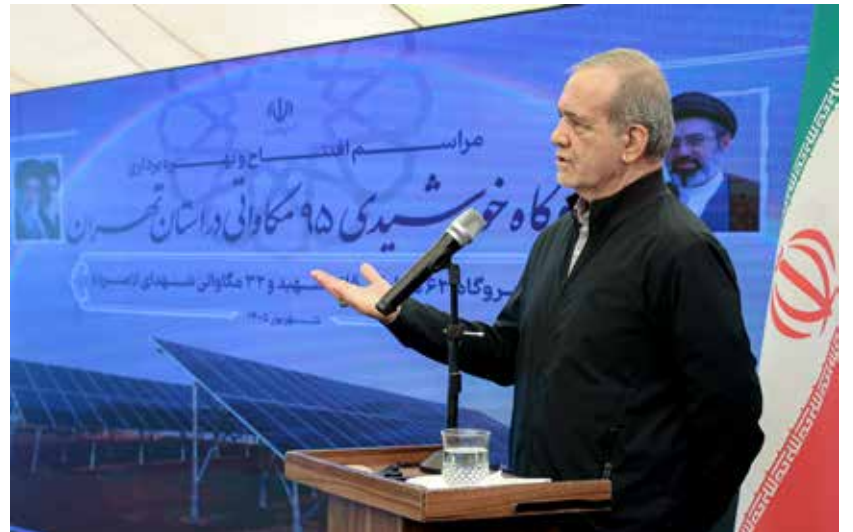
major projects over the past six months.

600 MW solar power come online nationwide

Pezeshkian also simultaneously ordered the launch of 600 MW of electricity generated by solar power plants across the country, Energy Minister Abbas Aliabadi said at the ceremony.

Aliabadi said programs to expand the use of clean and renewable energy would be pursued more intensively than before, with technologies advancing alongside the latest developments. The 95-MW solar power plant inaugurated by Pezeshkian will supply part of the electricity needed by Shamsabad Industrial Town.

The plant was built in less than nine months on an area of 147 hectares and can supply part of the industrial town's electricity needs during peak daytime



consumption.

At the inauguration ceremony, Tehran Governor Mohammad-Sadeq Motamedian said reducing the electricity imbalance was one of Pezeshkian's concerns and that the president's emphasis on expanding solar and other new energy

sources had encouraged public participation and investment.

Motamedian said that before Pezeshkian's government began in August 2024, Tehran had 23 MW of solar panel capacity. The figure has now reached 400 MW, representing a 20-fold increase.

Minister opens industrial projects in Isfahan, says petrochemical capacity recovering after strikes



Iranian Industry, Mines and Trade Minister Mohammad Atabak inaugurates an industrial project in Isfahan province on Aug. 25, 2026.

● IRNA

Economy Desk

Iran inaugurated two industrial projects in Isfahan Province on Tuesday to develop the packaging and polymer industries, as Industry Minister Mohammad Atabak said more than 60% of petrochemical capacity lost during the recent war had returned to production.

One of the facilities, a 50-million-euro plant producing 13-layer films and hybrid packaging products, is expected to create 500 jobs, the minister said during a visit to the central province, according to ISNA.

The plant is Iran's first producer of 13-layer films and aims to boost domestic output and reduce reliance on imports of certain packaging materials, according to state media.

Speaking on the sidelines of the inauguration, Atabak said the Isfahan Moqadam industrial group had modern engineering and manufacturing infrastructure and could produce polymer products for agriculture, industry and the oil sector.

"The products of this factory can be applied across multiple sectors, including agriculture, industry and oil," he said. "Expanding the complex's opera-

tions could help complete production chains and optimize the use of raw materials."

Atabak said the plant's technology and infrastructure gave it the potential to support regional industrial development and generate higher added value.

"Backing the expansion of such facilities, especially in industrial zones, can help lift output, complete industrial value chains, and strengthen the region's economic capacity," he added.

The company is a major domestic producer of packaging, industrial bags and pouches, and has increased its capacity for disposable big-bag containers with the new unit, located at the Mobarakeh Industrial Town.

As part of his visit, Atabak inspected an industrial company damaged during the recent war, to review its condition and the obstacles to returning it to production.

The visit focused on assessing the damage, identifying the company's needs and examining ways to speed up reconstruction and restore its production capacity.

During his visit, Atabak also inspected an industrial company damaged in the recent conflict

to assess its condition and obstacles to resuming production. At a meeting with local economic officials later on Tuesday, Atabak said 75% of petrochemical capacity had been lost in the early days of the 40-day American-Israeli war that began in late February, but more than 60% had since been restored.

He said there was currently no shortage of petrochemical feedstock.

Air strikes in April hit facilities in Mahshahr, Khuzestan province, and Asaluyeh, Bushehr province, as well as the Tabriz and Marvdasht (Shiraz) petrochemical plants, according to official reports.

The National Iranian Petrochemical Company (NIPC) has not published a damage estimate, but an export ban points to significant disruption.

"Part of the damage during the war was related to gas refineries, which affected part of the petrochemical industry's feedstock, including natural gas and gas condensates," NIPC chief Hassan Abbaszadeh said in June.

"Some petrochemical ancillary facilities were directly hit, and power plants responsible for supplying electricity and steam to petrochemical complexes were targeted," he added. "Unfortunately, part of the power and steam generation capacity was affected."

"Also, some petrochemical production units were directly struck and taken out of production," Abbaszadeh said.

Unilateral sanctions main barrier to global drought cooperation, Iran minister tells UN summit

Economy Desk

Iran's agriculture minister said on Tuesday that unilateral sanctions were the biggest obstacle to international cooperation on combating drought, and that Tehran was ready to share its technical expertise in fighting desertification with the global community.

Gholamreza Nouri-Qezeljah, speaking at the 17th session of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (COP17) in Ulan Bator, outlined the effects of drought and land degradation on Iran's food security and natural resources, and called for stronger international financial support and the removal of political and economic barriers to joint efforts against the global challenge, IRNA reported.

Iran has been under Western sanctions for decades over its nuclear activities. Beyond affecting the oil and energy sectors, the embargoes have imposed costs even in humanitarian areas, including access to medicines. "Combating desertification and drought will only succeed when international cooperation moves beyond slogans and political commitments toward practical action, providing financial re-



Iran's Agriculture Minister Gholamreza Nouri-Qezeljah (R) attends the 17th session of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (COP17) in Ulan Bator, Mongolia, August 25, 2026.

● IRNA

sources, transferring technology, and implementing real projects in vulnerable countries," he said. The minister emphasized that while countries simultaneously face challenges from drought, climate change, land degradation and funding shortages, the international community must take a more responsible approach, free from political posturing, to smooth the path for cooperation and support for vulnerable nations.

Nouri-Qezeljah said Iran, with 32 million hectares of desert areas, was on the front line of the fight against desertification and

drought. He reiterated Tehran's readiness to share its scientific capacity and technical knowledge in areas including water and soil management, watershed and aquifer management, forest and rangeland restoration, and agricultural resilience.

The COP17 conference, which runs from Aug. 17 to 28 in the Mongolian capital, is one of the most significant international gatherings of 2026 focused on land restoration, drought response and sustainable natural resource management, bringing together representatives from 197 parties to the convention.

Iran's auto parts trade with Russia rises eightfold, envoy says at Moscow exhibition

Economy Desk

Iran's auto parts trade with Russia has increased eightfold over the past five years, the Islamic Republic's ambassador to Moscow said on Tuesday, adding that sanctions had failed to halt the country's industrial progress. Kazem Jalali, speaking at the opening of the Automobility 2026 international automotive parts and after-sales services exhibition in Moscow, said Iran's participation for the fifth consecutive year reflected a "serious determination" on both sides to expand industrial ties.

"In these five years, the volume

of transactions by Iranian companies in the auto parts sector with Russia has increased eightfold, indicating mutual capacities and market attractiveness for economic actors of both countries," Jalali said, IRNA reported. Iran has been under Western sanctions for decades over its nuclear program, with restrictions tightening in recent years and targeting sectors including automotive manufacturing and parts supply.

The ambassador noted that Iran's automotive supply chain currently comprises 1,850 parts manufacturing companies, some of which were showcasing their

capabilities at the Moscow exhibition.

He expressed satisfaction with the broad participation of representatives from various countries at this edition of the exhibition, describing it as an important opportunity to expand cooperation networks between Iranian companies and their Russian and other counterparts. The Automobility 2026 exhibition, which opened with officials from Russia, China, South Korea and other countries in attendance, is being held in Moscow. More than 1,500 companies from across the world are taking part, according to organizers.