Exports to Armenia rise 7.5% to $385m in seven months: *TPO*

Economy Desk

Iran's exports to Armenia rose 7.5% in the first seven months of 2026 to $385 million, an Iranian Trade Promotion Organization official said, as the two countries seek to speed up customs procedures and trade at their shared border.

Mehdi Babaei, director general of the Trade Promotion Organization's office for Central Asia, the Caucasus and Russia, said the figure on Friday while referring to a joint Iranian-Armenian border and customs meeting held on Sept. 12 in Jolfa.

The two sides agreed at the meeting to expand customs cooperation and facilitate trade between the countries.

Iran and Armenia also agreed to turn the Norduz border crossing in Iran's East Azerbaijan Province into a green customs corridor to reduce customs clearance times and speed up the processing of goods, following an agreement between the heads of the two countries' customs administrations.

Babaei described the signing of a memorandum of understanding on the green customs corridor as one of the main agreements reached at the meeting.

He said the two sides would accelerate efforts to exchange customs documents and data electronically and identify and introduce authorized operators.

Implementing the measures could help facilitate and speed up customs and transit procedures at the border, Babaei said, adding that under the agreements, the daily capacity of the Norduz crossing could rise to 300 trucks if the required conditions are met.

He said developing customs infrastructure, exchanging information electronically and increasing truck capacity at the Norduz crossing would help facilitate trade and strengthen economic and transit ties between Iran and Armenia.

Trade between Iran and Armenia reached $768 million in 2025, with Iran exporting about $680 million worth of goods to Armenia and importing about $88 million from the country, according to official Armenian statistics.

IRNA

SATBA opens largest solar inverter plant as 1,700 MW of solar capacity comes online

Economy Desk

Iran has inaugurated the country's largest industrial solar inverter manufacturing plant alongside private-sector renewable energy projects, while an Energy Ministry official said 1,700 megawatts of the planned 7,000 MW of solar power capacity had come online.

Mohsen Tarztaleb, head of the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Organization (SATBA), made the remarks on the sidelines of the inauguration ceremony on Thursday.

The plant was inaugurated as Iran seeks to expand domestic production of equipment needed for solar power generation, ISNA reported.

"We have brought 1,700 megawatts of the 7,000-megawatt solar power program into operation," Tarztaleb said. Tarztaleb, who also serves as deputy energy minister, said batteries required for 500 MW of energy storage capacity had been ordered, while the construction of 100 MW of wind power plants was also on the agenda.

The projects were developed with private-sector investment to expand electricity generation from renewable sources and increase the share of clean energy in Iran's energy mix, which has reached about 4.3%, according to SATBA.

At the inauguration of the solar inverter plant, Tarztaleb said the facility produces inverters for solar power plants in different capacities and expressed hope that the share of locally manufactured components would gradually increase.

"We are also seriously pursuing the development of domestic solar panel production. Some factories are currently producing and assembling panels, and we hope the number of active facilities in this field will increase," he said.

Tarztaleb also stressed the need to expand the use of solar panels on the rooftops of industrial facilities, saying industrial rooftops should be equipped with solar panels.

"We hope to complete the 7,000-megawatt solar power capacity by next summer," Tarztaleb said.

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.

Tarztaleb also said expanding domestic production of equipment needed for solar power plants could accelerate the implementation of renewable energy projects.

Already under Western sanctions for decades, Iran was experiencing energy shortages before the attacks, a situation exacerbated by the US-Israeli conflict that began in late February and the peak summer heat season.

According to the Energy Ministry, the country's installed power generation capacity has risen from 93,388 MW at the beginning of the government to 102,000 MW, an 8% increase.

The Energy Ministry announced in August that it had added 2,028 MW of power generation capacity since March 21, achieving 75% of its target for the current Persian calendar year, which began on March 21.

Eight war-damaged bridges back in service in Hormozgan

Minister of Roads and Urban Development Farzaneh Sadeq inaugurates the restored Shahid Moayedi Bridge in Hormozgan Province on September 25, 2026.
IRNA

Economy Desk

Iran on Friday reopened eight bridges in Hormozgan Province that were damaged during the US-Israeli war, restoring safe road traffic on key routes less than 50 days after repair work began, IRNA reported.

The bridges were inaugurated at a ceremony attended by Minister of Roads and Urban Development Farzaneh Sadeq at the Shahid Moayedi Bridge in the southern province.

Abbas Sharafi, director general of Hormozgan's Roads and Road Transport Department, said the inauguration of the eight bridges — out of nine damaged in attacks by the enemy — had restored safe traffic across various parts of the province.

Repair and reconstruction work began on July 27 and most of the bridges were made ready for use in less than 50 days through round-the-clock efforts by road maintenance workers and other personnel, Sharafi said.

The remaining damaged bridge, located on the Bandar Abbas-Hajjiabad route, is expected to reopen by late October, Sharafi said.

Repair and safety work on damaged tunnels in the province is also under way and is scheduled to be completed by late November, he added.

Sharafi said the main goals of the work were to quickly return damaged infrastructure to service, ensure safe travel and maintain the stability of the province's road network.

According to IRNA, the Bandar Abbas Shahid Mirzaei Tunnel, in both directions, and nine bridges on various major routes in Hormozgan were damaged in US attacks on July 17–18.