

NIOC to Unveil 200 Oil Investment Opportunities

TEHRAN - Director of the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) Amir Moghiseh has announced that the oil ministry to unveil 200 investment opportunities in the oil industry sector next week.

He said, the "Strategic Transformation in Investment in Iran's Upstream Oil & Gas Sector" event, organized by NIOC, will take place on April 22 in Tehran.

He added, "This event was organized to meet the objectives outlined in the Seventh Development Plan for oil and gas, approved by Iran's parliament." Moghiseh went on, "Over 100 packages focus on oil and gas field development, while the rest involve investment opportunities across the value chain under NIOC's management for the Iranian private sector. But we welcome foreign participation in these projects."

He emphasized that foreign companies must collaborate with Iranian firms, revealing that over 30 companies from 30 countries have already registered to attend.

Maghiseh announced the event will feature comprehensive field data, contract models, incentive packages, financing solutions, and a non-governmental oil industry guarantee fund. "Our goal is to create a real business environment to attract domestic and foreign investment in the oil sector," he said.

Acknowledging investor concerns about transparency, he stated: "We've released significant information to ensure private and foreign investors can make informed decisions. Details on production, field specifications and economic terms will be provided, along with NIOC's proposed contract models, which remain negotiable."

He added: "Next week, NIOC will unveil an incentive package for upstream contracts aimed at improving profitability and internal rates of return. We've agreed with the Planning and Budget Organization on a timeline, pending approval by the Economic Council. We're also considering competitiveness relative to regional projects and similar contracts abroad."



He stressed: "A separate financing package covering taxes and project funding will also be introduced, alongside a new non-governmental guarantee fund backed by banks, financial institutions and the Energy Exchange, offering guarantees up to €6 billion."

Moghiseh highlighted: "Our goal is to streamline contract execution, share risks between the government and investors, and enhance economic appeal."

He added: "Under Articles 15 and 40 of the Seventh Development Plan, public-private partnerships (PPPs) are now possible. Diverse contract models address previous investor concerns about NIOC's rigid frameworks. This flexibility signals our readiness to negotiate terms. Shifting from contractor-client models to investor-investee frameworks is key to successful private sector collaboration."

China Cracks Down on Boeing Jet Orders as Trump Trade War Escalates

BEIJING (Reuters) - China has ordered its airlines not to take further deliveries of Boeing jets in response to the U.S. decision to impose 145% tariffs on Chinese goods, Bloomberg News reported on Tuesday, citing people familiar with the matter.

Shares of Boeing — which considers China one of its biggest growth markets and where rival Airbus holds a dominant position — were down 0.5% in midday trading.

The global aerospace industry is being dragged into a U.S.-led trade war, with planemakers, airlines and suppliers reviewing contracts worth billions of dollars, after U.S. supplier Howmet Aerospace ignited debate over who should bear the cost of the tariffs.

Confusion over changing tariffs could leave aircraft deliveries in limbo, with some airline CEOs saying they would defer delivery of planes rather than pay duties.

China's top three airlines - Air China, China Eastern Airlines and China Southern Airlines - had planned to take delivery of 45, 53 and 81 Boeing planes respectively between 2025 and 2027.

Beijing has also asked that Chinese carriers halt purchases of aircraft-related equipment and parts from U.S. companies, the Bloomberg report said. Reuters has not been able to in-



An Air China Boeing 777-300 taxis at the international airport in Beijing in April 10.

dependently confirm the report.

Two aerospace industry sources told Reuters they had not been alerted independently to a blanket ban by China on U.S. aircraft parts.

Analysts said a short-term halt in deliveries to China would not have a major impact on Boeing, since the planemaker could redirect those jets to other airlines and because Airbus does not have capacity to supply the country alone.

China would have more difficulty banning imports of new U.S. parts to support its existing fleet of aircraft, including China's C919.

"If China stops buying aircraft components from the US, the C919 program is halted or dead," wrote Bank of America

analyst Ron Epstein in a note to clients.

The Chinese government is considering ways to provide assistance to airlines that lease Boeing jets and are facing higher costs, Bloomberg News reported.

It was China that first grounded Boeing's 737 MAX jets after two fatal crashes in 2018 and 2019 killed nearly 350 people. China also suspended most orders and deliveries of the jet in 2019.

Boeing declined to comment.

The escalating tit-for-tat tariffs between the world's two biggest economies risk bringing goods trade between the two countries to a standstill. That trade was valued at over \$650 billion in 2024.

Iran's Thermal Power Output Hits Record

TEHRAN - Electricity production by Iran's thermal power plants broke a new record in the calendar year to late March when the country faced rising energy demand.

Iran's Thermal Power Plants Holding Company said that electricity production by its power plants had reached a total of 351 million megawatt hours (MWh) in the year to March 20.

The company, which is responsible for 94% of Iran's total electricity supply, said that its combined-cycle power plants had increased their output by 2.2% to 202 MWh in the past calendar year.

It said production at gas-fired plants had increased by 4.4% to 67 MWh while steam plants had accounted for 82 MWh of the total output over the same period.

Iran has invested heavily in recent years to upgrade its traditional gas-fired power plants to turn them into combined-cycle systems where the steam is raised using the



exhaust heat from combustion turbines.

However, authorities are now pushing to expand the renewables as rising demand for natural gas in the country's industry and household sectors has strained thermal power plants in recent years.

CEO of Iran's state electricity company Mostafa Rajabi said on Tuesday that thermal power plants account for 84% of the electricity

generation capacity in Iran, adding that they rely on natural gas for 80% of their feedstock.

Rajabi said that Iran is the 16th largest electricity producer in the world considering its installed power generation capacity, adding that production capacity had increased 13 times since the victory of the Islamic Revolution in 1979 to reach more than 94.5 megawatts today.

Two Strategic Knowledge-Based Products Used in Oil Industry Unveiled

TEHRAN - Iranian Vice-President for Science, Technology and Knowledge-Based Economy Hussein Afshin unveiled two knowledge-based strategic products utilized for monitoring, controlling, and inspecting oil pipelines.

The Electro Magnetic Inspection (EMI) tool, used in non-destructive technical inspection of seamless pipes, was the first knowledge-based product unveiled at this ceremony which is used in the drilling industry and has been designed and manufactured for the first time in the country by specialists at Arzyaban Dana San'at Etemad company, affiliated to Mazid Industrial Group.

The company is the only manufacturer of this device in Iran and Asia and can meet the country's needs in the field of pipeline inspection.

Preventing unforeseen failures, costs resulting from not completing work on time, and costly stoppages of drilling operations are among the most important functions of this device.

Also, during the ceremony, the Pipeline Telecommunication System (PLT), a smart system that uses metal lines to transmit monitoring and control data, was unveiled.

Experts from San'at Electro-Oxin Iranian company developed system that uses existing oil and gas pipes to transmit data to monitor the status of oil and gas lines.

The PLT smart system is a type



of telemetry system for monitoring and control that, in an innovative approach, uses the wall substrate of metal pipes in the oil and gas industries to create a communication link.

The use of this system in difficult-to-reach areas like mountainous and desert areas is of particular importance and can enable offline or online telemetry of different components over long distances.

In a relevant development in 2023, a knowledge-based company in Iran had also helped prevention of energy loss by providing services and renovation of pipelines and extraction equipment.

Seyed Mohammad-Taqi Anjomimadar, a member of the board of directors of the knowledge-based company, underlined that reconstruction and renovation of pipelines and extraction equipment can prevent the wastage of resources to a large extent, adding,

"Renovation of pipelines and extraction equipment by the Iranian companies can be carried out at much lower costs."

"We secured and repaired head of the oil well by using a locally-made recyclable plug and therefore, we prevented repairing the well with the rig and spilling the fluid inside the structure. In the meantime, we shortened the time for start-up," he said.

Anjomimadar noted that optimization of consumption of suspension-breaking substances, making process corrections, fixing operational problems and accurate and regular monitoring of consumption of these types of substances are among other services provided at the extraction site.

"We are trying to provide these services to Iraq and Oman as well, which can obviously bring significant foreign currency to the country," he added.

Nvidia Shares Slide as US Blocks AI Chip Sales to China

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Nvidia stock sank as much as 6% early Wednesday after the AI chipmaker disclosed that it would take a \$5.5 billion hit from the U.S. government's surprise new controls on its semiconductor exports to China.

Nvidia said in a regulatory filing late Tuesday night that the U.S. government informed the company it would require a special license for exports

of its H20 chips made specifically for the Chinese market to comply with U.S. trade rules.

Notably, no licenses for GPU shipments into China have ever been granted, given the U.S. government's concern that the chips could be used to build AI supercomputers in the country, Jefferies analyst Blayne Curtis wrote in an analysis following the news that the latest rule is effective-

ly a ban.

Other Wall Street analysts noted the move was a "surprise," given a recent report from NPR that the Trump administration had backed off its plans to restrict Nvidia's H20 chips following a dinner with CEO Jensen Huang at Mar-a-Lago.

Nvidia said it will incur \$5.5 billion in charges in its first quarter from the latest curb.