

# CEO: 650 MW Solar Power Plant to Come on Stream This Year



TEHRAN – Manager of Iranian Renewable Energy and Electricity Efficiency Organization (SATBA) Abolfazl Shiroodi said on Saturday that 650 MW solar power plant will be put into operation

alongside major projects by the end of this year.

Speaking on the sidelines of the ceremony for the start of construction of 7 MW Shohadae Pakdasht power plant,

Shiroodi added said, 650 MW solar power plant will be built and put into operation alongside major projects.

He highlighted one of these power plants as the 7 MW Shohadae Pakdasht power plant to come into line in the Fajr decade.

The executive of the SATBA power plant construction project stated that a number of investors responded to the call announced by SATBA in January last year and said: “So far, about 70 companies have expressed their readiness to build 650 megawatts of solar power plants.”

## NPC Launches New Product Specification System

TEHRAN – The National Petrochemical Company (NPC) unveiled a new system designed to standardize and bring transparency to the technical specifications of its products.

The system, called the Samap Petrochemical Product Technical Specification System, was introduced during the IranPlast international exhibition. NPC CEO Hassan Abbaszadeh said the platform will increase flexibility for downstream industries by providing clear and unified product data.

In his remarks, Abbaszadeh referenced recent national directives, stating, “It is imperative for the country to move beyond a state of ‘neither war nor peace.’ Holding exhibitions and similar actions demonstrates the necessity of increasing activities in the fields of production and the economy.”

He emphasized the petrochemical industry’s resilience, noting that even during recent periods of conflict, production continued with strict safety measures in place. “Now that we have passed those conditions, we must set aside the emergency state and move with full power toward the continuity of production and economic development,” Abbaszadeh said.

He identified the development of the polymer sector as central to the petrochemical industry’s future, citing its higher value-added potential. Iran’s current polymer production capacity is nearly 9 million tons, a figure expected to rise to 10 million tons this year with new projects coming online. Capacity is planned to reach 16 million tons by the end of the country’s seventh development plan.

Mohammad Motaqi, NPC’s director of downstream industry development, called Samap a milestone for standardizing industrial data. He explained that the system was conceived in 2021 to solve a significant challenge: product specifications were previously managed through a manual, paper-based process that was lengthy and often



resulted in inconsistent or contradictory data.

“With the launch of Samap, this problem is fundamentally resolved,” Motaqi said. “All petrochemical companies are now required to register their products with standard specifications on the system. This gives buyers access to precise, unified information.”

NPC’s Research and Technology team consolidated over 1,500 standards and physical/chemical specifications for polymer products to create the system. It establishes a single industrial datasheet for each product grade, which buyers can access directly. Motaqi stated this should eliminate past disputes in downstream industries caused by product specification differences. The next phases will include chemical products and the establishment of a reference laboratory.

Naser Noahjah, CEO of Petrochemical Research and Technology Co., which developed the system, said Samap streamlines data access for downstream sectors. He noted his company’s role in achieving self-sufficiency in polyolefin process technologies over the past 26 years and its ongoing work in developing domestic catalysts and new polymer grades.

“Samap eliminates complex bureaucracy, unifies product specifications and facilitates downstream industries’ access to accurate data,” he said. He confirmed that expanding the system to cover chemical products is the next step.

Officials expressed hope that the new system will resolve longstanding industry challenges and pave the way for the sustainable development of Iran’s downstream and overall petrochemical value chain.

## IME Weekly Trade Tops \$600mn

TEHRAN - The Iran Mercantile Exchange (IME) on Saturday reported that over the 3,382,000 tonnes of commodities with a total trading value of more than \$600 million were traded on the IME’s domestic end exporting halls in the last week.

The report said over 1,324,774 tonnes of metals and minerals commodities, including, 505,000 tonnes of iron ore, 587,449 tonnes of steel, 263, 650 tonnes of sponge iron, 400 tons of zinc tonnes of zinc, 6,050 tonnes of aluminum, 8,557,965 tonnes of copper, 220 tonnes of molybdenum concentrate, 30 tonnes of precious metals concentrate, 500 tonnes of coke, concentrate and 24 tons of precious



metal concentrate were traded in the trading hall of IME.

It also added that, on both domestic and export rings of its oil and petrochemical trading floor over 210,117 tonnes of products, including 126,000 tonnes of vacuum ba-

tons, 101,974 tonnes of polymer materials, 49,000 tonnes of lube cut, 38,02 tonnes of chemicals, 19,625 tonnes of sulfur, 8,445 tonnes of bitumen, 5,071 tonnes of oil, and 420 tonnes of gases and feeds were traded last week.

## Iran Aims to Diversify Crude Sales, Boost Production With New Technology

TEHRAN - CEO of the National Iranian Oil Co. (NIOC) Hamid Bovard has emphasized the need to diversify oil sales methods and increase production using new technologies and new technology-based firms.

Speaking at an induction ceremony for managers of the company’s financial and international affairs departments, CEO Bovard said guidelines from the country’s leadership on diversifying oil sales methods must be treated as a roadmap for the international affairs department.

Bovard stated that the global oil market is facing complex and variable conditions and that failing to follow these guidelines would leave Iran vulnerable. He expressed hope that through the efforts of his colleagues, Iran would not only neutralize external pressures but also maintain and strengthen its share of the global market.

The oil deputy minister also stressed that employees in international affairs must be aware of their national duty, noting that the department’s success

is highly important for the government, parliament and the entire country. Work at NIOC, he said, must be aimed at serving the people, and all should work with the pride of a “national hero” because the activities are significant and strategic.

Bovard said a special working group should be formed in the production sector, adding that billions of barrels of oil in place within the country could be extracted using modern technology to help generate revenue.

In the same ceremony, the new head of NIOC’s financial affairs, Behzad Shamsi, described financial issues in the oil sector as difficult and complex, expressing hope that existing problems would be resolved quickly with the cooperation of other sectors.

The previous acting head of financial affairs, Ali-Mohammad Masoumian, thanked the board of directors for their support. He called his brief tenure a valuable opportunity for learning and enhancing managerial knowledge, which he said led to improved synergy between financial sectors and the reform

of certain processes.

Masoumian said he hopes the programs and measures he began will continue and accelerate under the new management to achieve NIOC’s major financial goals.

The new head of international affairs, Saeed Sadeghi, referred to challenges over the past year, including numerous sanctions and difficult global political conditions. He said overcoming these periods would not have been possible without the solidarity and hard work of colleagues, and he expressed hope that they would successfully continue on their path using past experiences.

The previous caretaker of international affairs, Houten Salari, thanked the board of directors and international affairs colleagues. He stated the department’s efforts were aimed not only at the company but also at the welfare of the people, adding that the team’s companionship and commitment allowed activities to continue without stopping and goals to be met even under the most difficult working conditions.

## Polymer Production to Rise to 16mn Tonnes by 2028

TEHRAN - The CEO of Iran’s National Petrochemical Company Hassan Abbaszadeh said that the production capacity of polymer products will reach 16 million tons by the end of Iran’s Seventh Development Plan (2028).

Abbaszadeh, who is also Iran’s deputy oil minister, emphasized the importance of developing the polymer industry and its high value-added.

“Today, the importance of polymers in daily life is quite evident,” Abbaszadeh said, adding, “Many polymer products have replaced steel in the automotive industry and wood in construction and household ap-

plications. In addition to their high value-added, these products have other features and are being optimized and updated daily.”

He noted that while the average price of chemical products in Iran’s petrochemical industry portfolio is \$300 to \$600 per ton, polymers are valued from \$1,000 per ton and above. “Moving along the polymer value chain will create high added value for the country,” he added.

Abbaszadeh stressed that the extensive changes within the polymer industry should not be overlooked. “Given the diversity of technologies used in this field, catalysts play a key role,



and the use of modern catalysts has paved the way for the production of new polymers,” he said. “The polymer industry

is expanding at a significant pace.”

Globally, he reported that production of polymer products

exceeded 400 million tons in 2022 and is forecast to reach 1 billion tons by 2050. Packaging accounts for the largest share of polymer consumption at 36%, followed by the construction and textile industries, each with a 15% share of global consumption. “In other words, nearly 70% of polymer consumption is concentrated in these three areas,” he said.

Regarding domestic capacity, Abbaszadeh stated that Iran’s petrochemical industry capacity is about 100 million tons, of which nearly 30 million tons is invested in feedstock supply and is not considered a petrochemical product.