

# Minister: Oil Production Growth, Exports Records Achieved Despite Sanctions



TEHRAN – Iran's Petroleum Minister Mohsen Paknejad on Wednesday announced a daily production increase of more than 120,000 barrels and said crude exports have reached record levels in recent months despite sanctions.

He added that the possible reactivation of the "snapback" mechanism poses no new concern for oil sales.

Paknejad said that despite significant restrictions over the past year, Iran has at times set records in crude oil production and exports. "I am sharing these figures so our people know their sons in the oil industry are working hard despite the challenges and sanctions," he said.

Addressing public concerns over the snapback mechanism's potential impact on oil exports, Paknejad noted that since the enactment of the "SHIP Act" last June, Iran has faced severe restrictions but managed to bypass them through

"necessary measures." He said the possible enforcement of snapback sanctions would not impose tougher conditions than before, though some complications might arise. "People should not be worried; with God's help, oil exports are proceeding successfully," he said.

Paknejad said a working group of university professors, industry experts, and energy specialists has been formed to enhance oil and gas production technologies in line with the Supreme Leader's directives.

The minister said the group has already held two sessions and is focusing on modern technologies for oil and gas field development and improving recovery rates. "Iran's oil and gas fields have significant potential to increase recovery rates," he said, adding that domestic capabilities exist to adopt advanced technologies and the group's findings will be shared with the public.

Discussing the Paznan field's role in reducing energy imbalance, particularly in winter, Paknejad said new studies estimate an additional 10 trillion cubic feet of gas reserves. After development, the field is expected to produce over 20 million cubic meters of gas per day.

"This is a significant amount that will help balance supply during peak winter demand, when gas must be prioritized for households and commercial users," he said. The project's investment comes from a major petrochemical holding, which will use part of the gas for its own operations and supply the rest to the national network.

Paknejad said the government has short- and long-term plans to reduce flare gas burning. In the short term, private firms will be allowed to participate in flare gas recovery projects "even with a base price of zero," turning captured gas into high-value products.

He noted that long-term plans include NGL projects, one of which was inaugurated last month in the presence of the president. "By the end of the Seventh Development Plan, most associated gas will be recovered," he said.

Flare gas, he emphasized, is a valuable national resource that must not be wasted. "We will do everything possible to collect and utilize this gas in the shortest possible time," he said, adding that the president has pledged full support to accelerate these efforts.

## Report: Aluminum Ingots Output Tops 300,000 Tonnes

TEHRAN - Iran has reported a significant surge in aluminum output amid upgrade programs by smelters and better supply of feedstock.

Figures published on Wednesday by Iran's state-run metals and mining holding IMIDRO showed that aluminum output in four main smelters in the country had reached over 300,000 metric tons (mt) in the six months to September 20.

It said the South Aluminum Corporation (SALCO) had churned out more than 127,475 mt of Iran's total aluminum output in the six months to September.

IMIDRO statement said aluminum production at Iranian Aluminum Company Iralco, Al-Mahdi, and Iran Alumina produced 304,996 mt of aluminum ingots from the beginning of March to the end of September.



ber. This figure was 307,386 mt in the same period last year.

IMIDRO statement said aluminum production at Iranian Aluminum Company (IRALCO) had been responsible for churning out more than 85,265 tonnes of ingots over the period.

Al Mahdi and Iran Alumina had produced over 76,393 mt and more than 15,863 mt of aluminum ingots, respectively,

over the same period.

said the aluminum ingots produced, Southern Aluminum produced 127,475 tons, Iralco 85,265 tons, Al-Mahdi 76,393 tons, and Iran Alumina 15,863 tons.

Iran's produced 114,153 mt of "alumina powder", 189,280 mt of "aluminum hydrate" and 482,135 mt of "bauxite" at Iran Alumina Company over the same period.

## ISPA: Iran's Mild Steel Output Grows 3.2%

TEHRAN - Industry figures show that Iran's production of mild steel rose by 3.2% in the first half of the calendar year that started in late March.

Figures by the Iranian Steel Producers Association (ISPA) released showed that Iranian steel mills had produced 14.836 million metric tons (mt) of mild steel in the six months to September 22, up from 14.38 million mt reported in the same period last year.

Mild steel or semi-finished steel refers to three types of steel ingots, known as billet, bloom, and slab, that are used to make long steel products, which are then used mainly in the construction of buildings, roads, bridges, and other infrastructure.

ISPA data showed that Iran's production of billet and bloom had risen by



2.6% in April-September compared to the same period last year, to reach 9.048 million mt.

Steel slab production also rose by 4.1% over the same period to 5.788 million mt, the figures showed.

The figures are the latest sign that Iran's steel industry is recovering from the acute energy shortage issues experienced in the June quarter.

ISPA had also reported a fall of nearly 7% in the Iranian mild steel production in the year to late March.

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The figures showed that Iran's production of rebar (reinforcing bar) had increased by 9.3% compared to April-September of 2024 to reach 5.07 million mt, while IPE (I-beams) production had dropped by 37.5% and angle steel and U-steel output rose by 2.5% to amount to 0.468 and 0.413 million mt over the same period.

## Iran Exports Hand-Woven Carpets to Six Countries

TEHRAN - The head of the carpet, arts and handicrafts commission of Iran announced that the country's high-quality and beautiful carpets are exported to six world states.

"Despite the challenges of sanctions and fluctuations in the global market, Iran's hand-woven carpet exports in recent years have been to six countries, including the UAE, Japan, Britain, Germany, Pakistan and a few other markets," Morteza Aqamiri said.

"This is while the Iranian carpet industry continues to produce the highest quality hand-woven carpets in the world, and efforts are ongoing to preserve and expand the position of this cultural heritage in the international markets," he added.



Persian carpets have always been highly valued as a symbol of Iranian art both domestically and internationally for their intricate designs, vibrant colors, and the high quality of materials and craftsmanship used in their production.

Iran was once a dominant supplier of hand-woven carpets in the world with official

government records showing that exports had reached up to \$1 billion in the 1990s and remained at the same level until the early years of 2010s.

Exports dropped to historic lows in recent years amid sanctions imposed by the US and government laws requiring all exporters to return their hard currency proceeds to the country.

## Fajr Jam Gas Refinery Increases Byproduct Output

TEHRAN – The acting head of Fajr Jam Gas Refining Company announced higher production of gas condensate and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) during the first half of this year.

According to the company, Hamid Khedri said gas

condensate production at the refinery exceeded 1.1 million barrels. LPG output also rose 63% to more than 11,400 tonnes.

He added that major overhauls on a significant portion of the refinery's sweetening units have been

completed, preparing the plant for stable production in the second half of the year. Khedri expressed hope that Fajr Jam Gas Refining Co. will play a key role in meeting the country's energy needs during the winter months.

## Overhaul of 29 South Pars Platforms Completed

TEHRAN – Head of production and operations at the Pars Oil and Gas Company Alireza Sarmadi announced the completion of major overhauls on 29 offshore gas platforms in the South Pars field.

He added that maintenance

work on the remaining six platforms will be finished in the coming days, ahead of the country's peak gas consumptions.

Sarmadi said South Pars includes a total of 39 platforms,

of which 37 are production platforms and two serve as support units. He noted that 35 of the 37 production platforms were scheduled for major overhauls in 2025 to ensure stable gas output during the winter

months.

Sarmadi said maintenance work on 29 platforms has been completed so far, while the overhaul of the remaining six platforms is ongoing and will conclude soon.

He added that major repairs are currently underway on the platforms of phases 3 and 4, as well as four platforms from phases 22 through 24. In total, 82 percent of the platforms planned for overhaul in 2025

have completed their maintenance operations.

According to Shana, South Pars supplies more than 70 percent of Iran's natural gas needs, and maintaining stable production from this shared field is crucial during the cold season.