



Afghanistan's Economic Development

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Each week, significant economic activities and developments occur across various sectors in Afghanistan. The Afghanistan's Economic Development Newsletter covers these important and latest economic activities and advancements.



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Afghanistan Takes Rapid Steps Toward Renewable Energy

AFGHANISTAN TAKES RAPID STEPS TOWARD RENEWABLE ENERGY



Electricity is vital for a country's economic growth. Without electricity, industrial activity diminishes, and employment opportunities become scarce. Afghanistan is among the countries where electricity is insufficient and does not meet the basic needs of its citizens or the requirements of economic activity.

The country possesses many resources for power generation. Water is a major source of electricity production. In addition, solar and wind are also important sources of energy. Afghanistan has significant potential to generate electricity from its own resources. However, in the past, the country did not make adequate use of its domestic sources and remained reliant on foreign countries for electricity.

Globally, due to lower costs and faster implementation, many countries have shifted from hydroelectric power generation to renewable energy sources. The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan,

recognizing the high demand for electricity, has also increased its focus on renewable energy production.

Officials at Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat (DABS) have stated that under their five-year plan, they aim to generate 1,000 megawatts of electricity from domestic sources across the country. To achieve this, they have launched solar and wind power generation projects in various provinces.

Last week, Laghman Province hosted the groundbreaking ceremony for a 10-megawatt solar power project. The opening ceremony was attended by the Deputy PM for Economic Affairs, the chairman of DABS, the Governor of Laghman, and other officials.

In his speech, Deputy PM Mullah Baradar Akhund said that the Islamic Emirate has taken significant steps, such as this project, to achieve self-sufficiency in the energy sector. This initiative is important not only for power generation but also for boosting the national economy,

attracting domestic and foreign investment, creating job opportunities, and providing better services to the public.

Additionally, two power generation projects were inaugurated in Herat at the beginning of this week. One is a 43.2-megawatt wind power project, and the other is a 5-megawatt solar power project, with a total cost of approximately 68 million USD. The inauguration was attended by Deputy PM Mullah Baradar Akhund, the Acting Minister of Economy, the chairman of DABS, the Governor of Herat, and several other officials.

In his address, Deputy PM Mullah Baradar Akhund stated that Afghanistan has long relied on imported electricity, with a significant portion of the national budget spent annually on its purchase.

The Islamic Emirate believes that generating electricity from domestic sources will, on one hand, pave the way for economic development in the country, and on the other hand, reduce Afghanistan's dependence on imported power.

A while ago, contracts for seven major electricity projects were signed to increase the country's electricity generation capacity, aiming to produce 228 megawatts of electricity. The 10-megawatt project in Laghman and the approximately 48-megawatt projects in Herat are part of these efforts.

Utilizing renewable energy is important both economically and environmentally. At a time when climate challenges are intensifying globally, Afghanistan can reduce environmental issues and produce clean energy through the use of renewable sources.