



# 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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- **Dried fruits are being exported from Herat to 20 countries around the world**
- **260 new emerald mines identified in Panjshir**

## A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN THE COUNTRY'S FIG EXPORTS



Officials of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce stated that during the first eight months of the current SH year, 43,068 tons of figs worth USD 214 million were exported from the country.

These figures show a sharp increase compared to the previous

solar year, during which the value stood at USD 165 million.

Most of the country's fig exports were made to India, the United Arab Emirates, Türkiye, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the United States, Iraq, and Australia. Figs are among Afghanistan's important

agricultural products and key export items. Farmers have increasingly turned to their cultivation, and this has played a significant role in the country's economic growth.

Figs are largely produced in the southern province of Kandahar, where they enjoy a distinct reputation worldwide and are in high demand. Alongside pomegranates, figs hold a major place in Kandahar's—and subsequently the country's—agricultural exports.

The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan is making efforts, both at the governmental level and in cooperation with the private sector, to develop fig packaging and processing inside the country in order to export high-quality, well-processed figs to global markets, as this has a direct impact on the country's trade.

## DRIED FRUITS ARE BEING EXPORTED FROM HERAT TO 20 COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD

Local officials in Herat stated that during the first seven months of the current SH year, nearly 20 million kilograms of dried fruits from the province were exported to more

than 20 countries. These countries include Austria, Belgium, Canada, the Netherlands, the United States, Germany, Iran, Qatar, Türkiye, India, and several others. The total



value of the exported dried fruits is approximately USD 57 million, reflecting a threefold increase compared to the same period last year. Herat, located in the west of the country, has become a major hub for establishing Afghanistan's trade relations with the rest of the world and has a high volume of exports. Afghanistan produces a wide variety of dried fruits. Almonds, pistachios, walnuts, figs, and others constitute the country's major dried-fruit exports. Afghan dried fruits are widely favored around the world, which is why they are exported to many countries. High-quality Afghan dried fruits have played an important role in maintaining Afghanistan's reputation internationally; therefore, dried fruits constitute a key component of the country's trade and export sector.



## 260 NEW EMERALD MINES IDENTIFIED IN PANJSHIR

Local officials in Panjshir stated that more than 260 new emerald mines have been discovered during the current SH year, of which extraction operations are currently underway in around 30 mines.

Panjshir is considered one of the country's resource-rich provinces, possessing numerous precious-stone mines. Prior to the re-establishment of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, Panjshir's mines were extracted in an unprofessional manner by local power holders, and the stones were exported to other countries at very low prices, with the revenues not being deposited into the national treasury. The Islamic Emirate now extracts Panjshir's precious stones through an organized mechanism and sells them via open bidding, with the revenues transferred to the national treasury and subsequently spent on the country's reconstruction.

