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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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EFFORTS TO FURTHER ATTRACT FOREIGN INVESTMENT THROUGH GRANTING RESIDENCY TO FOREIGN INVESTORS



In line with its economy-oriented policy, the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan seeks to transform the country into an attractive and reliable environment for both domestic and foreign investment. In this regard, efforts have recently intensified.

Accordingly, during the regular meeting of the Economic Commission chaired by Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, Deputy PM for Economic Affairs, held on February 7, 2026, at the Marmarin Palace, the issue of granting residency permits to

foreign investors in return for investment was presented for discussion. The Commission approved the matter and assigned a committee to categorize the duration of residency permits based on the level of investment by foreign investors and to submit its report at the next meeting of the Commission.

Under the proposed plan, foreign investors will be granted Afghan residency for a period ranging from one to ten years. This measure not only facilitates the legal long-term presence of foreign investors but

also provides them with the confidence to undertake long-term economic activities in Afghanistan. Facilitating residency for foreign investors can increase the level of investment in the country and further encourage foreign investors to enter Afghanistan.

When investors are assured regarding their legal presence, movement, and residence, they are more likely to come to the country. As a result of their arrival and investment, capital will flow into Afghanistan, projects will commence, and employment opportunities will be created.

There is a favorable opportunity for investment in Afghanistan, and foreign investors can benefit from this useful facility—alongside other incentives provided by the Islamic Emirate—and invest in various sectors across the country.

This decision of the Economic Commission opens a new chapter for Afghanistan's economic development, and with its implementation and the arrival of foreign investors, it can have a profound impact on the country's economic progress.

ADVANCING TOWARD EMPLOYMENT AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN OF THE FISHERIES SECTOR

At the regular meeting of the Economic Commission chaired by Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, Deputy PM for Economic Affairs, held on February 10, 2026, at the Marmarin Palace, the development plan for the fisheries sector was presented for discussion and approval and was approved by the Commission.

This plan has been developed to expand fisheries sector through private investment, with the aim of meeting domestic food needs while also creating new employment opportunities.

Under the plan, 7,700 small, medium, and large fish farms will be established on 6,500 hectares of land across various regions of the

country. These farms will be established through private sector investment. Upon implementation of the plan, 50,000 jobs will be created directly and approximately 250,000 jobs indirectly.

The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan prioritizes its support for the private sector, and this plan demonstrates that the Islamic Emirate does not overlook the role of the private sector in the country's development.

The development of the fisheries sector is important not only for job creation but also for increasing domestic fish production and reducing Afghanistan's reliance on imported fish. Furthermore, it will bring the country several steps closer to self-sufficiency in this sector, and over time, it may enable Afghanistan to export fish to other countries.



CREATING GROUNDS FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH THROUGH THE AZIZI GROUP'S ENERGY GENERATION PROJECTS

On February 11, 2026, in the presence of Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, Deputy PM for Economic Affairs, contracts for the commencement of practical works on five major power generation projects with a total capacity of 845 megawatts were signed between Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat and Azizi Energy at the Government Media and Information Center. Under the agreements, Azizi Energy will generate dozens of megawatts of electricity from solar and coal sources in various provinces. The projects include 100 megawatts of solar power in Naghlu area of Kabul Province, 100 megawatts of solar power in the Barik Ab area of Parwan Province, and 130 megawatts of solar power in Ghazni Province. Additionally, 165 megawatts of coal-fired power will be generated in Takhar Province and 350 megawatts in Baghlan Province.

Approximately 463 million US dollars will be invested in these projects. The solar power projects are scheduled to be completed within two years, and the coal-fired projects within three years, after which they will be put into

operation.

The implementation of these projects will increase the country's electricity generation capacity, mark an important step toward energy self-sufficiency, and significantly reduce reliance on imported electricity. Another key benefit is the reduction of payments for imported electricity. Currently, approximately 250 million US dollars

are spent annually on imported electricity, and with the implementation of these new projects by the Azizi Energy, this amount is expected to decrease to some extent. Furthermore, the implementation of these projects will not only expand industrial activities in the country but will also illuminate the homes of many citizens. With the expansion of industrial activities, hundreds of employment opportunities will also be created for citizens.

