



Afghanistan's Economic Development

Issue No. 46(1404 SH)
Consecutive Issue No. 60

(Newsletter)

Date: 26/2/2026

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.



In this issue:

- 1. ATTRACTION OF FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN THE TAPI PROJECT**
- 2. APPROVAL OF CERTAIN DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS FOR KANDAHAR AND FARAH PROVINCES**
- 3. IMPORTANT DECISIONS IN THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION REGARDING STANDARDS AND QUALITY, AND THE WATER TRANSFER PROJECT FROM PANJSHIR TO KABUL**

ATTRACTION OF FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN THE TAPI PROJECT



Regarding the TAPI (Turkmenistan–Afghanistan–Pakistan–India) gas pipeline project, former President of Turkmenistan and politician Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedow stated in a recent interview that international companies, including American firms, can invest in this major energy transmission project. According to him, this project enjoys international support, including from the United States, and has the capacity to meet South Asia's energy needs.

Previously, last month, when the Deputy PK and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan, Rashid Meredov, visited Herat, the Deputy PM for Economic Affairs, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, stated in his remarks that the Saudi company Delta International had expressed interest in investing in this project. Accordingly, the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan conveyed the message of Delta International's willingness to invest in the project to Turkmen officials.

The statements of this Turkmen politician indicate that Turkmenistan has a positive view regarding the investment of Delta International in the TAPI project and seeks to attract foreign investment into it. The TAPI project is not only an energy transmission project but can also serve as an important source of transit revenues, job creation, and industrial development for Afghanistan. The completion of this project is highly essential for Afghanistan's long-term economic stability. Based on its economy-oriented policy, the Islamic Emirate fully supports regional connectivity and seeks the implementation of all regional connectivity projects. Work on the TAPI project had been completed in Turkmenistan; however, following the return of the Islamic Emirate, work also commenced in Afghanistan. So far, approximately one hundred kilometers of land have been prepared for pipeline installation, and a portion of the pipeline has already been laid.

APPROVAL OF CERTAIN DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS FOR KANDAHAR AND FARAH PROVINCES

At the beginning of this week, the National Procurement Commission, among other projects, approved the construction of a new terminal and



parking facility at Ahmad Shah Baba International Airport in Kandahar, the construction of a passenger and freight vehicle terminal in the center of Farah province, and the construction of a 20-kilometer road from Aybak to Rui Do Ab in Samangan province.

Ahmad Shah Baba International Airport is among the busy airports of the southern zone. With its expansion, services for departing and arriving passengers will become more standardized and organized. The establishment of an organized passenger and freight terminal in Farah will contribute to

the regulation of the transportation system, transparency of revenues, and facilitation of commercial activities. Likewise, the construction of the 20-kilometer road in Samangan will reduce

transportation costs between areas and enable agricultural products to reach markets more quickly, thereby contributing to the growth and development of the rural economy. Such infrastructure

projects not only create short-term employment opportunities but also play an important role in strengthening investment, trade, and regional connectivity in the long term.

IMPORTANT DECISIONS IN THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION REGARDING STANDARDS AND QUALITY, AND THE WATER TRANSFER PROJECT FROM PANJSHIR TO KABUL

A regular meeting of the Economic Commission, chaired by the Deputy PM for Economic Affairs, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, was held this Tuesday at the Marmarin Palace. In this meeting, among other matters, 12 draft internal standards and 11 testing methods prepared by the National Standards and Quality Authority were approved. These drafts relate to construction materials, electrical and medical equipment and tools, textiles, plastics, dairy products, while the testing methods pertain to food and agricultural products. The National Standards and Quality Authority establishes key standards related to

production, exports, and imports in the country, thereby ensuring the quality of food and non-food items and providing goods to citizens in accordance with accepted health and regulatory principles. In this meeting of the Economic Commission, the report on the water pipeline project transferring water from Panjshir to Kabul was also approved. The Ministry of Finance was instructed to allocate a budget to the Ministry of Water and Energy for the survey and design of the project. The population growth in Kabul city, unregulated and non-standard extraction of groundwater, and climate change are major causes of the

depletion of underground water in the city. The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan is striving to resolve the water shortage problem faced by Kabul's residents. In this regard, it has previously held discussions with various companies to address the issue through attracting investment.

The Panjshir-to-Kabul water transfer project is an important economic project which, upon completion, will create a sustainable source of clean drinking water for citizens. Additionally, it will prevent the use of contaminated water in certain areas, thereby reducing health-related problems among the population. Most importantly, the transfer of Panjshir water will also prevent the unregulated and non-standard extraction of groundwater in Kabul city.

