



NEWSLETTER

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Azerbaijan to create its Silicon Valley

“Work is under way to create a high-tech industrial area in Azerbaijan, along the lines of California's Silicon Valley” informed Mr. Mushvig Amirov, a spokesman of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technologies of Azerbaijan. Mr. Amirov told that creation of the zone was part of the E-Azerbaijan state program and much work had already been done. “The location of these centers has not yet been chosen; different options are being studied and we will make them public once a decision has been taken. We are going to involve both local and foreign specialists in the project. We hope that the high-tech centre created in Azerbaijan will be one of the most advanced in the region,” Mr. Amirov said. The spokesman stressed that the involvement of international IT companies in the zone would be discussed. “Azerbaijan is learning India's experience in creating centers for the high-tech industry. Russia has created a centre at Skolkovo near Moscow.” he added. Azerbaijan is about to follow these patterns.

Azerbaijan to Build new Gas Pipeline by 2017

The BP-led consortium in Azerbaijan plans to build a new gas pipeline boosting the country's gas export capacity to 24 billion cubic meters (bcm) from 8 bcm per year by 2017. “We plan to build a new gas pipeline with a capacity of 16 billion cubic meters per year in addition to the current 8.0 billion cubic meters,” Rashid Javanshir, BP-Azerbaijan President told on November 30, 2010. “This is necessary for gas export under full-scale production at Shah Deniz,” he said. Being one of the world's largest gas-condensate fields, Shah Deniz is estimated to contain 1.2 trillion cubic meters of gas. Production at the deposit began in 2006, while second phase production is expected to begin by the end of 2016-early 2017. Mr. Javanshir said that construction of a new 400 km-long pipeline was estimated at about \$3 billion. The new Shah Deniz gas volumes will be exported to the European Union, as well

as to the existing markets in Georgia and Turkey. On June 7, 2010 the Governments of Azerbaijan and Turkey signed an agreement for gas sales to Turkey and gas transit across Turkey. This important agreement sets the frame for Azerbaijan to become an important supplier of gas to the EU through a new "Southern Corridor".

Israel Thanks Azerbaijan for its Assistance in Extinguishing Fires

A farewell ceremony was held in Jerusalem for the international firefighting forces that assisted Israel in putting out the recent fire in the Carmel Forest region. Mr. Danny Ayalon, deputy minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Israel spoke at the ceremony and gave each delegation a certificate that a tree was planted on their behalf by the Deputy Foreign Minister. The Ministry Emergency Situations of Azerbaijan has sent two helicopters to eliminate the disaster in Israel. The fire occurred on the slopes of Carmel Mountain near Haifa. It is the third largest city in Israel with a population of 250,000 people. Roughly 42 people died.

Wind-Power-Park to be Laid out in Azerbaijan

Azerbaijan has started to lay out wind-power-park. The Shurabad project, implemented by local Caspian Technology Company, designed to construct wind power stations with the capacity 48 MVt near the Baku-Guba automobile highway. Mr. Nazir Ramazanov, Technical Director of the Company said that, 16 power stations with 3 MVt for each, produced by Vestas Company would be constructed in Surabad Area. “The works on these have already been started. Energy production will be started in the second quarter of 2011 and 201 mln kVt/hour energy will be produced per year” he added.

Embassy's Newsletter is compiled from various sources