



In the name of God

*The role of the parliament in science and
technology policy for sustainable
development in Islamic Republic of Iran.*

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Considering the Country's present cultural, social and economic situation demonstrates that the Islamic Republic of Iran possesses noticeable peculiarities:

- ✓ Holding of a rich civilization and culture along with the unity of different communities and nations, integrated territory and long historical precedence have played a considerable role in rendering profound and extension of cultural, scientific and ideological heritage.
- ✓ Holding of exceptional and superior geographical, geo-economic and geo-strategic situation.
- ✓ Holding valuable natural, cultural and historical heritage.
- ✓ Holding extensive technological, searching, social and humanity values.
- ✓ Holding special human initiatives and talents such as intelligent educated young population and qualified advantageous forces inside and outside the Country.

- ✓ Holding political independence and experience of Islamic Revolution.
- ✓ Utilization of regional diversity, territorial extended surface and different kinds of animals and vegetables as well as extensive agricultural sources.
- ✓ Holding structural and non-structural extended infrastructures such as physical infrastructures (transport networks) and administrative, legal, legislative and social structures.
- ✓ Holding semi-century experience within industrial activities and accumulation of valuable physical capital.
- ✓ Holding new educational, researching and scientific abilities.
- ✓ Holding semi-century experience on the Country's development planning.

In spite of utilization of the Country's excessive potentials, Iran faces at present with numerous difficulties and bottlenecks as per the following:

- ✓ Continuous immigration of a part of qualified forces and reduction of the Country's scientific qualifications.
- ✓ An approximate of 2.5 millions of unemployed people as well as the unequal structure of the market occupation.
- ✓ Territorial dryness and limited water sources.
- ✓ Large dependence of the Country's budget to the profits resulting from oil exportation.
- ✓ Unequal distribution of population, concentration and its polar structure.
- ✓ Inequality between rural and city communities.

- ✓ Business traditional economic structure based on natural and not utilizable sources.
- ✓ Lowness of investment proportionate to production and based on internal markets.
- ✓ Introvert economy, inflexible structure of markets, negligence and non-application of numerous existing advantages.

In long-term vision (20 years) the Islamic Republic of Iran shall be, in the year 2025, a country possessing an advanced know-how, being able in technological and scientific production, based on higher part of human and social assessment sources in national production.

In 20-years vision, Iran is a country availing to the first scientific, technological and economic situation. In the region of south-west Asia, by underlying software advancement and scientific successes, continuous and speedy economic growth, relative increase of pro-person income and keeping complete occupation.

Therefore, the Law of the 4th Plan of economic, social, and cultural development of the Islamic Republic of Iran (2005 – 2009) with the mission of (knowledge-based sustainable development of economy) on the basis of 20-year vision, the principal and general politics, general goals and guidelines and necessities stipulated, were approved by the the Islamic Consultative Assembly.

This Law has 6 parts, 15 chapters and 161 articles as follows:

- **Part 1:** Knowledge-based Growth of the National Economy in Interaction with the Global Economy.
- Chapter 1: Laying the Ground for rapid Economic Growth.
- Articles 1-32
- Chapter 2: Proactive Interaction with the Global Economy.
- Articles 33-36
- Chapter 3: Economic Competitiveness.
- Articles 37-42
- Chapter 4: Knowledge-based Development.
- Articles 43-57

- **Part 2:** Environmental Protection, Territorial Spatial Planning and Regional Balance.
- Chapter 5: Environmental Protection.
- Articles 58-71
- Chapter 6: Territorial Spatial Planning and Regional Balance.
- Articles 72-83
- **Part 3:** Enhancement of Health, Human Security and Social Justice.
- Chapter 7: Enhancement of Health and Improvement of Quality of the Life.
- Chapter 8: Enhancement of Human Security and Social Justice.
- Articles 95-103

- **Part 4: Safeguarding of Islamic-Iranian Identity and Culture.**
- Chapter 9: Cultural Development.
- Articles 104-118
- **Part 5: Strengthening of National Security.**
- Chapter 10: National Security.
- Articles 119-129
- Chapter 11: Judicial System Development.
- Articles 130-134

- **Part 6: Good Governance and the Modernization of State.**
- Chapter 12: Good Governance and the Modernization of State.
- Articles 135-154
- Chapter 13: Management and Operationalization of the Plan.
- Article 155
- Chapter 14: Revalidation of the law of the Government financial Regulations.
- Article 156
- Chapter 15: Supervision and Monitoring.
- Articles 157-161

Besides, the science, research and technology, by promotion of innovation national system and making possible of maximum use of occasions and rural resources (human, physical and social resources) play a central role in realization of all 15 contents of the 4th Development Plan.

In the plan:

- 1) In view of the significance knowledge, technology and skills as the most essential factors in creation of value added in modern economy ,government is charged with taking to foresee necessary initiatives aimed at maximum utilization of the national and regional potentials in the fields of information technology, biotechnology and nanotechnology, environmental aerospace and nuclear technologies.

2) In order to set up an information society and guarantee a secured , and inexpensive accessibility of the citizens to the needed information, government is charged with taking necessary initiatives in order to attain a proper stake in the international information and communications market by taking advantage of the country's regional communication opportunity through development of national internet/information centers and development of communication infrastructure, placing emphasis in resources and potentials of the private and cooperative sectors and attraction of international participation.

- 3) In order to expand the market for knowledge-based and scientific-based products, commercialization of research and innovative achievements and promoting the role of the private and cooperative sectors in this area, government is bound to take the following measures:
 - a. Designing and setting up a complete system intellectual property right, both national and international, and predicting the required executive fabrics.
 - b. Provide for, and payment of part of the expenses related to the patent registration at the international level and acquisition by the manufactures of domestically registered patents.
 - c. Take initiatives necessary to insure research and technical contracts, productive and service activities performed on the basis of the achievements and outcomes of the domestic research.
 - d. Support all the commission research (applied for) through foreseeing the credit line in the annual budget, on the condition that at least forty percent (40%) of the expenses are met by the work-owner.

- e. Develop organizations and infrastructures necessary for the growth of knowledge-based activities in the government and private sectors, particularly creation and expansion of parks and centers for promotion of science and technology.
- f. Take measures to reform the laws and regulations and creation of the necessary facilities to assign the work and make contract with private and cooperative sectors for research and technical activities of the government, and back up entry of the private and cooperative sectors in the international markets in the area of knowledge and technology.
- g. Take necessary initiatives and tactics direct financial assistance to the centers, small and medium companies in the private and cooperative sector for performing developmental research leading to innovation, invention and enhancement of products and methods.
- h. Assisting establishment and development of non-government funds for research and technology.
- i. Predicting necessary initiatives and mechanisms for evaluation and exchange of invisible knowledge-based products.

- 4) Government is charged with taking the following actions in order to set up a comprehensive research and technological system:
 - a. To design and to implement the national innovation system on the basis of a comprehensive plan for development of technology and expansion of modern industries.
 - b. To re-arrange the country's research and technological system, through assigning priorities, targeting credit lines, structurally reforming the research institutions within the framework of the following task:
 - Training up-to-date human force in research and technological processes.
 - Development of the knowledge frontiers.
 - Conversion of idea into new products and methods.
 - Compilation and production of technical knowledge and performing semi-industrial research works.

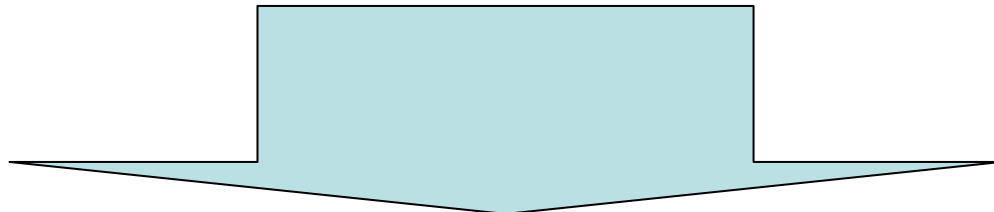
- Transfer and attraction of technology.
- Performing research aiming at increasing competitive capability of the country's productive and service sectors.
- performing applied research works oriented toward solving the country's problems.
- c. Renovation of the management styles in the research sector including: creation of homogenous networks of research and technology units in the executive agencies, with the mandate of targeted and optimal distribution of research funds and supervision and monitoring activities in the relevant scientific fields, with emphasis on the global indicators.
- d. Development of effective international cooperation in the area of research and technology through reforming and simplifying the pertaining laws and regulations.

- e. Sustained increase of the government investment in research and technology (at the level of a minimum of two percent(2%) of GDP, out of the general credit line of executive agencies on one percent(1%) of the operation income of the government companies, banks (except the banking deposits) and profit-making entities affiliated to the government, by the end of the fourth plan, and orienting the above investment toward mandated and demand-based research works.
- 5) In order to create and develop knowledge-based companies and to foster international cooperation, the research, technological and engineering entities located in the science and technological parks, in performing their commissioned undertakings are authorized to entertain the legal advantages of the free zones in conjunction with labor, tax and tariffs exemption, foreign investment and international financial transactions.

- 6) In order to enhance the adherence between educational levels and entrepreneurship in the country, government is bound to take the following measures during the forth plan:
- a. To prepare the ground and provide for necessary supports for creation of non-government companies for technological development and engineering service companies with the mandate of production, transfer and attraction of technology.
 - b. Formulating and compiling criteria and providing for necessary protection of the foreign parties to the international contracts and foreign investors to transfer part of the relevant research and development (R&D) into the country and do the work through partnership with the foreign companies.

- c. To take necessary initiatives toward reforming the country's educational system and the universities entrance examinations, in due consideration of the educational background and including participation of universities in order to enhance productive, innovative, risk taking and entrepreneurial potentials of the educating people and creating the spirit of independent learning and research amongst the young generation.

Cultural ,Educational & Research Indices in
the 4th Plan of Development.



	Existing condition	2009
Technology accessibility indicator.	0.26	0.45
Educational development indicator (percent).	78	84
Percentage of Research funds to GNP.	0.87	2.5
Number of Scientists & Engineers Employed in R&D (in 1,000,000).	336	2000
Number of Registered Scientific License (in 1,000,000).	1	4
Percentage Export of Hi-Tech Goods to Total non-oil export.	2	6
Percentage of the literated 6 years & higher.	85.5	90
Number of Published books Titles (in 100,000 people).	33.7	54.9

And finally:

The present annual budget, being the first executive year of the 4th Plan, owns one unit article and 20 notes, the note 9 of which, in terms of know-how based promotion, financial orders and plan requirements, is applied.