



Iran's Tourism Ministry tops Seventh Development Plan in first-year assessment

Arts & Culture Desk

Iran's Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts claimed top-ranking performance in implementing the first year of the Seventh Development Plan, placing ahead of all other ministries, according to a comprehensive parliamentary report on November 11. In a statement, the ministry's Deputy for Parliamentary, Legal and Provincial Affairs, Javad Vahedi, revealed that of the 30 mandates assigned to the min-

istry under chapter 17 of the Plan, 13 (43%) were executed within the deadline and 7 (23%) after the deadline, IRNA reported. The remaining 10 mandates, though uncompleted, showed an average progress rate of nearly 45%. Vahedi stated the overall rating given by the Parliament classified the ministry's output as "very good", emphasizing that "in the first year ... more than 65%" of the mandates were realized. On inbound tourism, the

ministry reported that over 7.4 million foreign tourists entered Iran during the year, a rise from a base of 7.3 million, thus achieving more than 100% of the quantitative target set for the initial year of the plan. Vahedi described inbound visitors as "cultural ambassadors" and said the ministry will in its second year double-down on market segmentation, operational action-plans and a dedicated statistical system to distinguish tourists from general travelers.



20 high-quality films produced in first year of Iran's latest development program: *Minister*



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Iran's Culture and Islamic Guidance Minister Abbas Salehi said on Tuesday that 20 high-quality feature films had been produced in the first year of the country's Seventh Development Plan and that 19 of them had met the approval of the Parliament's Culture Committee. Speaking in the open session of the Parliament on November 11, Salehi said that the plan had provided an "opportunity" for ministry efforts in religion, media and related fields, and that from the outset

of the current administration the ministry had pursued the statutory mandates of the Seventh Plan in earnest, IRNA reported. He noted that all but one of the required cultural documents, regulations and program-based actions had been submitted to the Cabinet and approved by it, with one further plan pending ratification. He said some quantitative targets had been "fully met", "In some cases 100% of the actions and indicators have been realized," he claimed, pointing to the first year of the Seventh Plan as an "unsettled" budget year yet producing

"figures worthy of attention". Salehi also highlighted the expansion of art education institutions, and domestic production of computer games for children and adolescents, adding that the indicator set by the Culture Committee on that front had been fulfilled. On areas such as culture and expectations, mosque-based Qur'anic programs and related fields, he said the commission's target had been 45% achieved and another 25% was in progress, amounts he said were "credible" given the start-up context of the first year. Addressing headwinds, he said that certain directives assigned to the ministry had not been fully met because they rested with councils and committees, and not solely under the ministry's remit. He stressed that the ministry remains "responsible" but that "not all of these tasks sit on its shoulders". He added that the requirement to secure sufficient financing and manpower in sectors such as mosque-based Qur'anic bodies could not be addressed through routine budget lines and would need attention during the remainder of the Seventh Development Plan.

Iranian short film 'Black Scarf' awarded at French festival

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Iranian short film 'Black Scarf,' directed by Iranian filmmaker Alireza Shahhoseini, captured the Public Prize of €500 at the 29th edition of the Écran Libre International Short Film Festival in the historic town of Aigues-Mortes in southern France. The festival ran from November 7 to 9, IRNA reported. Produced by Shah Hosein Film, 'Black Scarf' is a 15-minute Iranian drama, listed in the Torino Film Festival catalogue as a 2024 production. It features actors Pasha Rostami, Tara Majidzadeh, Lotfollah Seifi, Mohanna Seyedi and the late Hatam Mashmooli, among others. The Aigues-Mortes festival, founded in 2011 and now celebrating its 29th iteration, champions emerging cinema and freedom of expression through short films and documentaries. According to the festival's rules, the



"Prix du Public" (Public Prize) carries a cash award of €500. Through its narrative, "Do you know anything about spiders? ... they eat their mates", the film explores ominous and intimate human dynamics, the producer's summary says. The festival said the award "recognizes the film that engages the audience most powerfully". The cash award and public acclaim could help the film "break out into further international circuits," said a spokesperson for Shah Hossein Film Company.


Iranian actor Homayoun Ershadi dies at 78

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Iranian actor Homayoun Ershadi, whose debut in Abbas Kiarostami's Palme d'Or-winning 'Taste of Cherry' (1997) brought him international acclaim, died on Tuesday at age 78 after a battle with cancer, Iran's House of Cinema confirmed. Born on March 26, 1947, in Isfahan, Ershadi studied architecture before relocating to Vancouver in the 1980s, where he worked for over a decade, IRNA reported. He returned to Iran in the 1990s and Kiarostami asked him, saying, "I want to make a film. Would you like to be in it?" In 'Taste of Cherry', Ershadi played a man driving across the outskirts of Tehran, searching for someone to bury him after his planned suicide. The film won the Palme d'Or at the 1997 Cannes Film Festival, establishing Ershadi's late-blooming acting career. He later gained international attention for roles in Marc Forster's Afghanistan-set 'The Kite Runner' (2007), Kathryn Bigelow's 'Zero Dark Thirty' (2012), Alejandro Amenábar's 'Ago-



ra' (2009), and Hassan Nazer's UK-set 'Utopia' (2015). In Iran, he starred in the female racing drama 'Lelah', the mountain village story 'Mahoor', and posthumously in 'The Hill of Kites'. Ershadi amassed over 90 credits in less than three decades, earning a reputation for bringing understated intensity to his characters. The House of Cinema hailed him as "a prominent figure of cinema, theatre and television," extending condolences to the artistic community. Known for his quiet presence and versatility, Ershadi bridged Iranian cinema with global audiences, proving that a late start could still yield a profound and lasting impact. He is survived by his children, who reside in Vancouver.



Notice of tender for export sale No. Z/1404/22
GolGohar Mining and Industrial Company

Hereby Golgohar Mining & Industrial Co. announces selling and export 70.000 metric tons of Iron Ore Concentrate (%Fe:66.50 ave) on basis of F.O.B at Rajaee Jetty Bandar Abbas - Iran. Interested bidders should find tender documents at Golgohar website: www.geg.ir. All bids on conformity to tender instructions must be submitted no later than 09:00 A.M. on 25. Nov.2025 to Golgohar complex in sirjan (50 km in shiraz road). Bidders are invited to the transactions commission department of the seller with an introduction letter of interested buyer and personal identification of the representative. Tender results shall be announced at 09:00 A.M. on 25.Nov.2025 at the office of the Seller.

GOLGOHAR MINING & INDUSTRIAL CO.

Analysis %		
%Fe Ave	66.50	
%FeO	Min 24	Max 28
%P Max	0.04	
%S Max	1	
%SiO2 Max	3.0	
%Al2O3 Max	0.7	
%CaO Max	0.8	
%MgO Max	2.5	
%Moisture Max	5.0	
Size ave	80%<0.46 mm	